



Welcome to
**St Stephen's Church
Elton Bury**
Sunday 23rd August 2026

This Week

Today

9.00 Holy Communion
with Junior Church

Next Sunday

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Collect for the Twelfth Sunday after Trinity

Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray and to give more than either we desire or deserve: pour down upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid and giving us those good things which we are not worthy to ask but through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Post Communion Prayer

God of all mercy, in this eucharist you have set aside our sins and given us your healing: grant that we who are made whole in Christ may bring that healing to this broken world, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

In our Prayers

This week we pray for the members of our community who live or work in Bexley Drive, Greenway Close, Proctor Street and Turton Close.

We pray for the healing and comfort of those who are ill whether in mind, body or spirit.

We pray today for all who mourn the recent loss of a loved one and those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

As part of Churches Together in Bury we pray for our brothers and sisters at St Thomas's, especially the wardens as they await their new Priest in Charge.

Gluten free host (communion wafers) are available. If you require one please let the Sidespersons or warden know.

This Week's Readings

1st	Exodus 1: 8 - 2 ; 10	OT page	50
2nd	Romans 12: 1 - 8	NT page	157
Gospel	Matthew 16: 13 - 20	NT page	17
Psalm	124	OT page	583

**Flower Donations
Altar**

Pat Lay with fond memories of Lilian Bentley.

Book of Remembrance

Jane & Tony Parsons in memory of David Whiteley

If you would like to celebrate an anniversary or commemorate a loved one by placing flowers on the Altar, Lady Chapel, lectern or Book of Remembrance please speak to a member of the flower team, or contact June Berry on 0161 761 2643.

Children

There is a creche area at the back of the Lady Chapel on the left for you and your parents to use during our services. There is a Junior Church for children in the Centenary room during the 9.00am service, on most Sundays. There will be songs, readings and crafts for all ages. Speak to Leanne or Carol for more details.

Please join us in the Centenary Room after the 9.00am service for refreshments and fellowship.



Fire Notice - In the event of fire go through the marked fire exit doors and assemble on Stephen Close.

Hear the holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St Matthew - *Glory to you O Lord.*

Matthew 16: 13 - 20

13 Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" **14** And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." **15** He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" **16** Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." **17** And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. **18** And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. **19** I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." **20** Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

This is the gospel of the Lord - *Praise to you O Christ.*

'The Agonie'

Philosophers have measur'd mountains,
Fathom'd the depths of seas, of states, and kings,
Walk'd with a staffe to heav'n, and traced fountains:
But there are two vast, spacious things,
The which to measure it doth more behove:
Yet few there are that sound them; Sinne and Love.

Who would know Sinne, let him repair
Unto Mount Olivet; there shall he see
A man so wrung with pains, that all his hair,
His skinne, his garments bloudie be.
Sinne is that presse and vice, which forceth pain
To hunt his cruell food through ev'ry vein.

Who knows not Love, let him assay
And taste that juice, which on the crosse a pike
Did set again abroach; then let him say
If ever he did taste the like.
Love is that liquour sweet and most divine,
Which my God feels as bloud; but I, as wine.
George Herbert (1593 - 1633)

How to Contact Us

Vicar - Rev Sam Eccleston

brsecclestonop@gmail.com - 07851 121800

Warden - Carol Heyes - Tel: 07354902873

Email: ststephenelton@gmail.com

What's on

Monday 24th

2.00pm Craft Group

7.00pm Study Group - NO MEETING

Wednesday 26th

1.30pm Midweekers - NO MEETING

Thursday 27th

7.00pm Drama group

Thank you to everyone who came to the cream tea last Saturday and to everyone who supported it, especially those without whose help it would not have been possible. It turned out to be a lovely afternoon and raised £423.00. Thank you, June.

The PCC need someone to take over the booking and cleaning of the Centenary Room on a temporary basis. As the Centenary Room is a source of vital income we need to ensure that the room is clean and tidy for users who hire it. If you can spare some time each week to help with this please let us know. For all details regarding both roles please speak to Carol Heyes, Warden, thank you.

Favourite Hymns

From September we want to introduce a favourite hymn selection for the recessional hymn. A member of our congregation will choose a hymn and introduce it to the congregation after the notices. If you would like to choose your favourite hymn please let the vicar, Sam, know as soon as possible.

Children's Society

Please can you return your box to Jane Parsons for counting as soon as you can. If you are interested in getting involved please speak to Jane.

Bowling Day 19th September at Rose n Bowl

The sign up sheet is in the Centenary Room. Please put your name down as either a player or spectator. The bowling will be followed by a carvery. Please give a £5 deposit to Anne Broadrick or Heather Caudwell.

100 Club August Winners

£25 - 60 - Jane Bunn; £10 - 79 - Paul Sanderson £5 - 18 Ann Sullivan; £5 - 62 - Celia Dutton.

Back Pack Service

We are holding a special Sunday service in September to celebrate a new school year and those transferring to new schools. As part of this we are looking for donations of stationery, pens, pencils etc. Please see Ellise for more details.

News sheet deadline - please send all your news items to Tony Parsons by 7.00pm each Thursday.
Email tony.parsons67@gmail.com