



Welcome to
**St Stephen's Church
Elton Bury**
Sunday 2nd August 2026

This Week

Today

9.00 Holy Communion
with Junior Church

Next Sunday

9.00 Holy Communion
with Junior Church

6.00 Choral Evensong

Post Communion Prayer

Holy Father, who gathered us here around the table of your Son to share this meal with the whole household of God: in that new world where you reveal the fullness of your peace, gather people of every race and language to share in the eternal banquet of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Collect for the Ninth Sunday after Trinity

Almighty God, who sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your Church: open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit in love and joy and peace; through 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.

In our Prayers

This week we pray for the members of our community who live or work in Ainsworth Road, Bolton Road, Ewood Drive and Henley 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 John the Baptist Bircle, especially their priest, Rev. Janet Lyssejko.

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

This Week's Readings

1st	Genesis 32: 22 - 31	OT page	31
2nd	Romans 9: 1 - 5	NT page	154
Gospel	Matthew 14: 13 - 21	NT page	15
Psalm	17: 1 - 7, 16	OT page	507

Flower Donations

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 14: 13 - 21

13 Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. **14** When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. **15** When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves." **16** Jesus said to them, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." **17** They replied, "We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish." **18** And he said, "Bring them here to me." **19** Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. **20** And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. **21** And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

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

Genesis 32: 22 - 31

22 The same night he got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. **23** He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. **24** Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. **25** When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket; and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. **26** Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me." **27** So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." **28** Then the man said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans, and have prevailed." **29** Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. **30** So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved." **31** The sun rose upon him as he passed Peniel, limping because of his hip.

This is the word of the Lord: ***Thanks be to God***

What's on

Monday 3rd

2.00pm

Craft Group

7.00pm

Study Group - NO MEETING

Wednesday 5th

1.30pm

Midweekers - Newmarket

7.00pm

Mothers' Union

The PCC wish to set up a small working group to oversee the work required following our recent quinquennial inspection. Please would you consider getting involved and give your name to Carol Heyes.

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.

Cream Tea

The annual cream tea will be held on the afternoon of Saturday 15th August. Tickets are £5 available from June. If you have any raffle prizes please let June know.

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.

How to Contact Us

Vicar - Rev Sam Eccleston

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