

Parish Magazine September 2026



**Suggested
Donation: 50p**

www.allsaintsandstjames.com



We are the Anglican Parishes of St Stephen's Elton and Kirklees Valley, which is comprised of All Saints Brandlesholme and St James Woolfold. We exist to worship God in the Anglican tradition, to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and to serve our neighbour in thought, word, and deed. We are warm, welcoming, and friendly communities in the Liberal Catholic to central tradition of the Church of England. We are proud to be the spiritual home of people of a variety of backgrounds and ages, and we love to welcome newcomers to our services and community events. We also host a variety of non Church-based activities in our buildings, and are always keen to support and welcome new community initiatives and activities.

Our **Sunday Services:**

All Saints 11am

St James 11am

St Stephens 9am

We share a single Vicar, Rev. Sam Eccleston, who can be contacted on brsecclestonop@gmail.com. Our Curate is Rev. Ellise O'Hara. We are also served by a team of very generous and able Clergy, Readers, and ALMs, to whom we are greatly indebted.

www.ststephenelton.com

Vicar's Letter

In this month's issue you will find some poetry from Emily Brontë, lots of news of forthcoming events, news about former incumbents and about new community activities in our church halls and much more.

Every month there are thanks due to those who work so hard to contribute to the life of our churches. Of particular note are Lynne for her work on hall bookings, Sue for her work on the graveyard, Ellise for her work engaging with Acts 435, Tony for his work on the Fletcher Trust, June for the wonderful Cream Tea, and Rev. Paul Sanderson for covering services over the summer.



Liturgy Part 3

Last month we looked in a little more detail at how liturgy works and what it does; how it uses natural symbols to help shape our experience, and through our experience, our values, habits, and identities. This, you might say, is all fine, but what does it have to do with God? Well, you may be unsurprised to hear this, but I think quite a lot! Let's start with scripture. Perhaps the most important imperative in scripture is the Great Commandment:

'Hear, O Israel: the Lord is our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.'

The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.' – Mark 12:28-31

One question we can ask about this commandment is how is it possible? How do we come to love God with all of our hearts, souls, and minds and strength? There is perhaps not a single or simple answer. Part of it is clearly to do with effort, part of it is to do with prioritising God, part of it is to do with resisting temptation, and all of that is to some degree up to the Holy Spirit and to some degree our co-operation and commitment.

However, part of it is also about loving, worshiping, and obeying God with the different faculties of our minds and the *different parts* of our nature. We can separate these in lots of different ways; mind, body, and soul; imagination, intellect, and will; emotion, cognition, intuition etc. The point is, the process is clearly one of engaging, educating, disciplining, and refining the various faculties, instincts, organs, capacities (etc) that make the complex human whole. In a sense, this is a task as endless and complex as we ourselves are, but it is nevertheless one which permits of progress. St Paul seems to have something similar in mind in his letter to the church in Corinth, where he urges his readers to *'take every thought captive to obey Christ.'* (2 Corinthians 10).

Liturgy is part of this process. As we have seen over the last few months, liturgy engages the human person on a very deep level, using the body itself, the sounds we hear, the sights we

Vicar's Letter

see, the aromas we smell, and the grammar of height and depth, loud and quiet, near and far, to encourage us to experience, with the whole of our person, a different kind of reality to ordinary life.

Take the classic medieval division of the human mind into imagination, will, and intellect. In liturgy, the will is engaged through deliberate action or inaction- standing, sitting, kneeling, bowing, genuflecting, singing, reciting, observing silence etc. The imagination is engaged both by the reading of scripture, which we are invited to imagine, the lyrics of the hymns, which are also prompts to the imagination, and the decoration of the space and the shape of the building itself, which prompt certain kinds of imaginative associations. The intellect is engaged principally in the sermon, which ought to try to explain something of scripture and the theology that the church uses to make sense of it, the creed, and the complex wording of some of the prayers.

Another way to think of this issue is in terms of discrete emotions; at the beginning of the service, we engage with a spirit of penitence. We receive absolution with relief. We intercede with compassion. We receive the eucharist with thanksgiving. We go out with hope.

Looking at it in this way, we can see that different forms of liturgy emphasise different emotions, different intensities of response, and different faculties. Traditional Calvinist liturgy is highly intellectual, involving a long sermon aimed at inculcating penitence and moral conviction. This is deliberate- it is a reaction to what were perceived as the excessive ritualism and inadequate preaching tradition of late medieval Catholicism. Pentecostal worship is highly emotive, aimed at releasing repressed emotion, speaking unacknowledged truth, and cathartic forms of healing. Again, this is deliberate; it represents a theology which sees Pentecost as definitive of Christian conversion and discipleship, and understands the Holy Spirit to work principally through healing, speaking in tongues, and dramatic emotional/moral change. Traditional Anglican liturgy is a bit more balanced but a bit less intense than either of these forms; it moves through repentance, education and exhortation, to compassion and thankfulness, and it does it in a muted emotional tone meant to emphasise personal humility and intra-group equality rather than foregrounding the individual and the biographical. Again, this is deliberate- it reflects a theology which claims that the medieval Catholic tradition only needed a course correction, rather than outright overhaul; a missiology which embraces all of the people of a nation (in this case England) and tries to find space for them and their varied experiences in the service, rather than on a minority of people experiencing dramatic conversion. Thus, Anglican liturgy is supposed to contain elements of joy, elements of lament, some degree of intellectual and moral challenge, ritual, beauty, repentance etc. It is liturgy aimed at everyone, in all of the diversity that that entails.



Vicar's Letter

So now we are a bit closer to answering the question 'what does any of this have to do with God?'. The answer is something like the following. God is very big, very subtle, in some ways very complicated to understand but in himself very simple, he is infinite, he tends to exceed our expectations. We are commanded to love him, and it is appropriate that we are asked to do so with our whole being, because it is likely to take our whole being and more, rather than one faculty or idea or feeling, to give us some comprehension of the vastness of God. Liturgy is a set of practices which aim to bring all of these different faculties into dialogue with God; it is a repertoire of art-forms which permit scripture and theology to begin to percolate into who we are; it is a process of character formation which is aimed at co-operating with the Holy Spirit in the work the spirit undertakes in us.

Given this, it is important that we get liturgy right— not in the slightly fussy and compulsive way that people sometimes imagine; we don't have to do every gesture precisely the same way all the time in order for the liturgy to 'work' -liturgy is not magic and the way it works is more robust than is sometimes suggested. Rather, we have to enter into the liturgy in the right spirit; with reverence, paying attention to what is being offered, opening our minds to find something new in the words, the music, and the gestures each time; trying, when we come to the Eucharist, to travel in our imaginations back to the upper room, to Calvary, to the empty tomb, to enter into the events we are gathered to give thanks for.

An important and helpful way to try to do this is to spend time in silence and prayer before the service, gradually focussing the mind on what is about to happen, and then continuing to pray through the service, so that the liturgy becomes expressed in us rather than merely in front of us. I would encourage anyone to give this a try, and see how much more meaningful the experience becomes.

Backpack Service

On Sunday the 6th of September St Stephen's will be hosting a backpack service to bless the new backpacks of all those children heading up to Yr7 this year— please encourage your new Yr7 to join us!



Faith Online

There is a lot of fantastic Christian content online; it comes from Christians of different denominations, traditions, and languages, and encompasses everything from Bible Study and Theology to Christian music, architecture, and art. Every month I will aim to share some of it with you.

The Church of England has published statistics related to the life and mission of our Cathedrals here: [link](#)

The Christian Century asks if worship is becoming a luxury good here: [link](#)

Britmapped introduces us to a modern gargoyle here: [link](#)

Greg Locke describes the experience of pastoring a Megachurch which lost 90% of its congregation here: [link](#)

The Daily Wire explores the link between denominational loyalty and personality type here: [link](#)

The
Christian
Century



New Testament scholar **Dr Paula Gooder** introduces us to 'Body Theology' here: [link](#)

Church Support Hub offers some of the latest research into young adults' journey to faith commitment here: [link](#)

Voces8 perform the hymn 'Ubi Caritas' arranged by **Ola Gjeilo** here: [link](#)

Christianity Today explore what the average American thinks a church should look like here: [link](#)

Ripon Cathedral offer us a look behind the scenes here: [link](#)

Aleph Beta offers an insightful exegesis of the **Ten Commandments** here: [link](#)

The **School of Contemplative Life** as the question 'who am I really?' here: [link](#)



THE SCHOOL OF CONTEMPLATIVE LIFE

Fruitfully Living explores the Biblical Literary Technique known as 'chiasm' here: [link](#)

Curator Tom explores **St Mary's Bloxham** here: [link](#)

Neil Degrasse Tyson discusses the Christian symbolism in the Matrix with star **Laurence Fishburne** here: [link](#)

Alice Roberts and **Dan Snow** explore the architectural archaeology of **early Christianity** here: [link](#)

Dominican Oblate **Fr Richard Green** talks us through a priest's vestments here: [link](#)



MUM AND BABY CLASSES

BABY YOGA
10:30 - 12:00

BRING BABY - SUITABLE FROM 6 WEEKS

FOCUS ON BABY - SONGS, MOVEMENT, GENTLE MOBILISATIONS

FOCUS ON YOU - SOME GENTLE STRETCHES, PELVIC FLOOR AWARENESS AND BREATHWORK

CAKE, TIME FOR CHAT, COMMUNITY BUILDING AND SUPPORT

£12 PER CLASS/ALL EQUIPMENT PROVIDED

POSTNATAL YOGA
12:20 - 13:10

BRING BABY - SUITABLE FROM 8 WEEKS

FOCUS ON YOU - PELVIC FLOOR AND DEEP CORE RESTORATION

FIND EASE IN TIRED SHOULDERS AND ACHEY BACKS, GENTLE STRENGTHENING AND BREATHWORK

£7.50 PER CLASS/ALL EQUIPMENT PROVIDED



MONDAYS
ST JAMES CHURCH
CENTRE
BL8 1TD



 **THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND**
Diocese of Manchester

 **CHURCH FOR A DIFFERENT WORLD**

Reader Licensing Service

MANCHESTER CATHEDRAL

Sunday, 27th September, 3pm



Reader Licensing Service– 27th Sept

Sue Stonestreet will be licensed as a reader in a service at Manchester Cathedral on the 27th of September. Please do come along and join with us on this joyful occasion. There is no booking process (at the time of writing!) so just turn up!

Intercultural Kingdom Conference '26

"From every nation, tribe, people and language...
a great multitude that no one could count."

Revelation 7:9



Trinity High School Manchester Saturday, November 14 • 9:30 AM - 3:30 PM

Join us for this years **Intercultural Kingdom Conference** as we explore the theme of **'Intercultural Discipleship.'** This inspiring gathering will bring people from diverse cultures, churches, and communities together to learn, worship, share stories, and discover how following Jesus across cultures can deepen our faith, strengthen unity, and equip us for God's mission in today's world.

• Explore what Intercultural Discipleship means for the Church today—Be inspired by stories of faith, culture, mission and transformation—Learn how to build deeper relationships across cultural backgrounds—Discover practical ways to grow diverse and welcoming worshipping communities—Engage in prayer, worship, teaching and shared reflection—Connect with church leaders, disciples and communities from different cultures—Be equipped to follow Jesus and join in God's mission across cultures

Book your place today and be part of a movement growing intercultural discipleship for the Kingdom of God

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/intercultural-kingdom-conference-2026-tickets-1993530657862?aff=oddtcreator>

**Friday 11th
September
10am - 2pm**

Mothers' UNION
Diocese of
Manchester

Looking Inward 
Looking Outward 
Looking Forward 

Join members and friends for a retreat to be held in the new ground floor facility at St John's House, Bury

The day will be led by Rochdale and Bolton Archdeaconry Chaplains Revd Canon Kirsty Screeton and Revd Karen Owen

There will be an opportunity to meet some of the Diocesan staff including Phil Cansdale Director of Mission and Ministry and Ni-Cola Scott from the Shades Project

Refreshments, including cake will be available during the day. Please bring a packed lunch.



Booking is not essential, but it would be helpful to know the numbers attending. Please register your interest by emailing mucomms.manchester@outlook.com

HeartEdge Conference St Helens

For fans of the work of St Martin-in-the-Fields there is a chance to engage with HeartEdge closer to home— book using the QR code.

Living God's Future Now

A day of inspiration, worship and practical ideas for church renewal

Saturday 24 October, 10.00am - 4.00pm

St Helen's Minster, Church Square, St Helens



Featuring Revd Dr Sam Wells (joining by Zoom). Founder of HeartEdge and Vicar of St Martin-in-the-Fields

Explore:

- Practical workshops
- Worship and music
- Fresh ideas for mission and ministry
- HeartEdge's Course of Discovery
- Networking with clergy and lay leaders

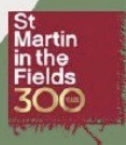
**BOOK
NOW**



£20 per person (Bring a friend for just £10 extra)

Refreshments and Registration from 9.30am

Ticket includes: Lunch, refreshments and a complimentary copy of the Course of Discovery book



Sign up here if
you would like
to know more:



1st – 14th

February 2027

Save the date!

**We are inviting churches to
join us for a “Love Your
School” fortnight in 2027
across the deaneries of
Bolton, Bury and Rossendale.**

Love Your School 2027

Book using the QR code or this link: [link](#)

Wayne Rides for Charity

All Saints and St Stephen's regular Wayne Entwistle is taking on a heroic 700 mile bike ride in support of Bury Tandem Club and Smile train. Please do share and support this fantastic effort!



Churches Together Annual Assembly

Including a talk from the Bible Society on the controversial topic of the 'Quiet Revival'- all welcome.

WAYNE'S WILD ATLANTIC RIDE!

A CONTINUOUS 2-WEEK CHALLENGE!

MINIMUM 700 MILES OVERALL

Commencing Sept 6th, Concluding 19th/20th September.

1. Manchester 100k (with Bury Tandem Club)
2. Ireland Wild Atlantic Way
3. Bury FC to Stadium of Light (Final Stage)

RAISING FUNDS FOR TWO CHARITIES

WILD ATLANTIC WAY RIDE

ALSO SUPPORTING

BURY TANDEM CLUB
Providing opportunities and support for visually impaired cyclists, allowing people to enjoy cycling as part of a welcoming and inclusive community.

SmileTrain
Changing the world one smile at a time by providing cleft lip and cleft palate surgery and comprehensive care to children in need.

Aspiring Football Talent
Supporting and developing young footballers, helping aspiring players access opportunities to develop their skills and progress within the game.

This ride is raising funds for two charities, while also supporting Aspiring Football Talent. If you can spare a few pound to support the ride, please use the link below!

Please kindly note on the JustGiving page which of the three organisations you'd like your donation to support.
<https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/wayne-entwistle-17>

• LIKE, COMMENT & SHARE TO SPREAD THE WORD! •

Hym of the Week

Every week at St Stephen's we are going to sing someone's favourite hymn— if you have a request please contact the Vicar.

GREATER MANCHESTER CHURCHES TOGETHER

ANNUAL ASSEMBLY

OCTOBER 14TH 6.30PM-9.00PM

THE QUIET REVIVAL

A PRESENTATION BY THE BIBLE SOCIETY WITH Q&A

Sessions on
Engaging with Young People
Engaging with Children

SALFORD CATHEDRAL CENTRE
3 FORD STREET M3 6DP
Parking on site

Watch a fascinating discussion of Buddhist and Christian perspective on contemplation here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pwvDGuwaGUQ>

Join us for Tree Maintenance

When:

Thursday 10th
September
10am-3pm

Where:

Whitehead Park, Bury



City
of Trees

Scan to book



**Citizen
Forester**

Scan to book or visit
[www.cityoftrees.org.uk/
events](http://www.cityoftrees.org.uk/events)

Mystics of England Pilgrimage

Join the Rev. Dr. Kevin Goodrich OP on a pilgrimage around England exploring the spirituality of the English mystics—scan the QR code for more info.

A Pilgrimage with the Mystics of

England

May 18 – 27, 2027

Pilgrimage Hosts

Rev. Dr. Kevin Goodrich, OP &
Rev. Dr. Susan Forshey SCP



*"All shall be well, and
all manner of thing
shall be well"*

— Julian of Norwich

Space is limited. Register Today!

Download a brochure at portal.myfaithjourneys.com
Group Number 27008



A Buddhist nun
enriched by Christianity.

A Christian teacher
enriched by Buddhism.

Listen to their conversation.



Sister Chân Đức &
Chris Whittington



Watch the recording
free on YouTube



Including 20 minutes
of silent meditation



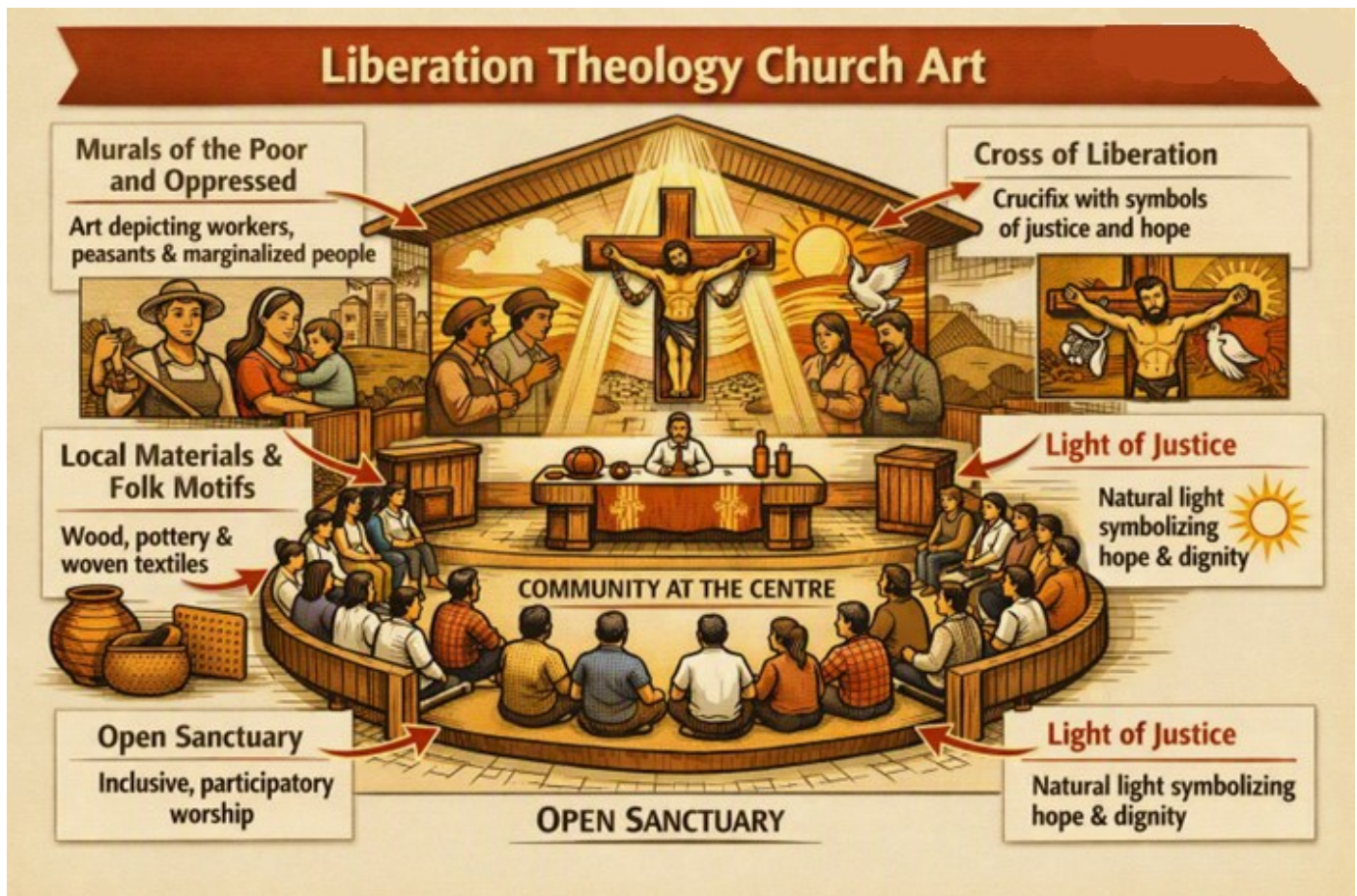
THE SCHOOL OF
CONTEMPLATIVE LIFE

Being Peace
PRACTICE CENTRE

Tree Maintenance— Whitehead Park

Scan the barcode to sign up!

Exploring Church Architecture



Much 20th century Latin American Church architecture (above) was influenced by Liberation Theology. What is Liberation Theology?

Liberation theology is a Christian movement that interprets the Gospel through the lived experience of the poor and oppressed. It emerged in Latin America in the 1960s and 1970s, calling for social justice and active transformation of unjust structures.

1. **Core Principles** ▪ **Preferential Option for the Poor** - God's love is revealed most clearly among the poor; Christians must prioritise their needs. ▪ **Structural Sin** - Sin is not only personal but embedded in social and economic systems that perpetuate inequality. ▪ **Active Liberation** - Faith demands concrete action to dismantle oppression and promote justice.
2. **Historical Roots** ▪ **Vatican II (1962-1965)** - Encouraged the Church to engage with the modern world and social realities. ▪ **Medellín Conference (1968)** - Latin American bishops affirmed the Church's mission to stand with the poor. ▪ **Political Context** - Widespread poverty, dictatorship, and social inequality shaped the theology's urgency.
3. **Key Practices** ▪ **Base Ecclesial Communities (BECs)** - Small lay-led groups studying Scripture and organising social action. ▪ **Nonviolent Resistance** - Advocacy for justice through peaceful means. ▪ **Community Empowerment** - Building local capacity for self-determination and solidarity.



Bury and Rossendale Lay Leadership Conference 2026

Saturday, 12th September 2026
Speaker: Bishop Mark Davies

Time: 9:45am - 12:30pm
Venue: St John's House, Bury
Theme: Wellbeing

To book, scan the QR code or visit:
<https://brconf2026.eventbrite.co.uk/>

A Message from Ima Lomax

Dear Lay Leader,

We are writing to invite you to the second Bury and Rossendale Lay Leadership Conference. Following the success of our first conference in March 2025, the next conference will take place on **Saturday 12th September**, from 9:45am-12:30pm, at St John's House, Bury. Open to all laity across the deanery, the theme of the conference is '**Wellbeing in Leadership**' and our speaker is Mark Davies, Bishop of Middleton. The aims of the conference are:

- To ensure that lay leaders feel valued, thanked and supported in their various roles.
- To explore the theme of wellbeing, understand its importance in everyone's ministry and consider practical steps to improve our approach to this.
- To introduce the theme of succession planning and how to encourage and develop others in their calling.

To register your place, sign up on Eventbrite here: <https://BRConf2026.eventbrite.co.uk>

FAIRTRADE ECOFEST

Saturday 3rd October 2026
10:30am – 1:30pm | Manchester Cathedral

FREE ENTRY!

Celebrate sustainability with music, stalls, crafts and refreshments

Iona Afternoon

All are welcome to join Fr. Derek and the All Saints prayer group for an afternoon inspired by the Celtic spirituality of the Iona community. Those for whom this is an unfamiliar idea may want to come along to find out more, and those who know the Iona tradition may wish to join in with this much-loved style of prayer.

The Power of Story with Bob Hartman

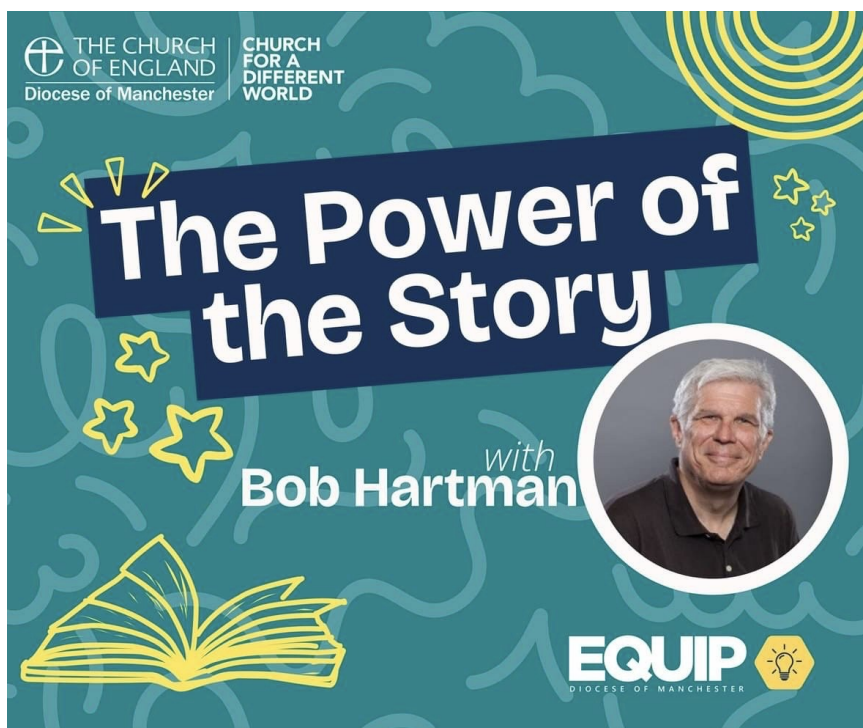
We're delighted to welcome Bob Hartman to the Diocese of Manchester for an inspiring evening exploring The Power of the Story. Bob is an ordained minister, professional storyteller, and award-winning author of more than 100 books. For over 30 years, he has helped people of all ages engage with the Bible and discover the God who inspires its story. During these evening sessions, Bob will share stories, offer practical insights into communicating God's story across the generations, and answer your questions.

You can choose to attend either of the following events:

Wednesday 14 October 2026 St Andrew's Hillock 7:00pm to 9:00pm (Doors open at 6:30pm) **or** Thursday 15 October 2026

St Werburgh's, Chorlton 7:00pm to 9:00pm (Doors open at 6:30pm)

Open to clergy, children's and youth workers, and anyone passionate about sharing God's story and helping others engage with faith across the generations. A selection of Bob Hartman's books will be available to purchase on the evening, giving you the chance to take home some of his inspiring storytelling resources. Book here and select your preferred venue: [link](#)



St James' Yoga Class Schedule Autumn 2026

Study Group Re- sumes

St Stephen's continue with the book of Samuel and Kirklees Valley begin an exploration of Ethics— all welcome.

SCHEDULE

SEPT/OCT 2026

MON

10:30 - 12:00 -
MUM AND BABY
12:20 - 13:10 -
POSTNATAL YOGA
(BABIES WELCOME)
18:15: PREGNANCY
20:00:
SLOW FLOW

TUES

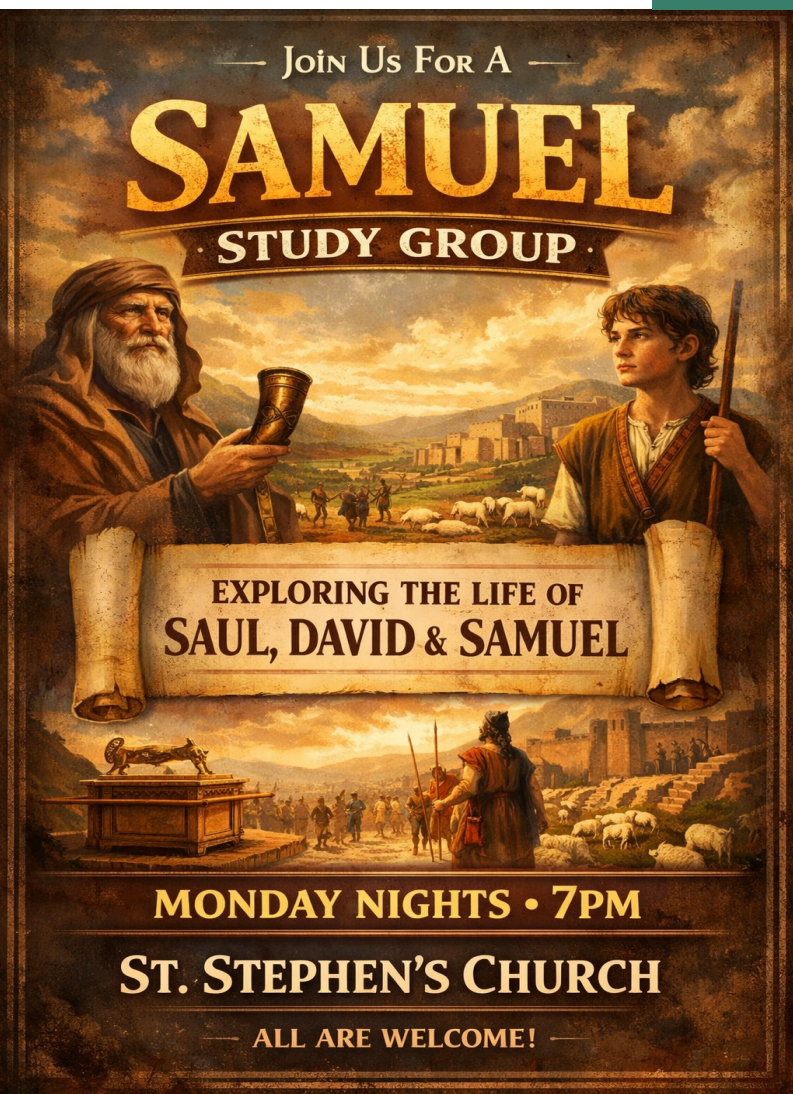
09:50 -CHAIR
BASED
11:10: CHAIR BASED
18:45: SLOW FLOW
20:00- BEGINNERS

SAT

07:00: VINYASA FLOW
08:10: FREEDOM FLOW
09:20: YOGA HIIT

SUN

YIN (MONTHLY)
RESTORATIVE (EVERY 6
WEEKS)



Ethics Study Group

Wednesdays • 1.30pm
At the Vicarage



See Vicar for details

Northern Places of Worship Forum - 9 September 2026 - 10am-1pm

*"Connecting places of worship across the North of England to share knowledge, tackle challenges and build a stronger future **together**."*

National Churches Trust – Churches Together – National Heritage Lottery Fund – Historic England

The Northern Places of Worship Forum aims to bring together volunteers, clergy, trustees, staff and supporters from churches, chapels and meeting houses across the region to share ideas, discuss common challenges and learn from one another. Established through

the National Churches Trust's Cherish Project, funded by the National Lottery heritage Fund, the Forum aims to create a supportive network where places of worship can connect, exchange good practice and build relationships that help strengthen the long-term sustainability of our historic buildings and faith communities. The Forum is intended to continue beyond the Cherish Project as a collaborative network for the sector.

The First meeting will focus on the new Places of Worship Renewal Fund and identifying suitable sources of funding for your Church, Chapel or Meeting House. We will focus on building connections across the Northwest, exploring practical approaches to caring for places of worship and discussing the challenges and opportunities facing churches and other faith buildings today. There will be opportunities to hear from a guest speaker from Historic England, share experiences, network with peers and help shape the future direction of the Forum. Whether you are responsible for maintenance, fundraising, project management, community engagement or simply care about the future of your place of worship, you are warmly invited to join us.

Creationtide Bible Study

BASED ON MATTHEW SLEETH'S BOOK

REFORESTING FAITH

Explore how trees are present throughout the Bible and discuss the stories in the Old and New Testament where trees feature

**Tuesdays on Zoom 7-9.30pm
8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th September**

email Canon Grace Thomas:

**canon.missioner@manchestercathedral.org
for zoom link**

Who should attend? Volunteers, clergy, churchwardens, trustees, building committees, heritage groups, faith organisations and anyone involved in caring for or managing a place of worship. There is a church focus, but places of worship of all faiths are welcome.

Venue: St John's House, the offices of the Diocese of Manchester, in Bury. Located close to Bury town centre, the venue is easily accessible from across the North West. Address: St John's House, 155-163 The Rock, Bury, BL9 0ND.

Lunch and refreshments will be provided.

Book online here: <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=g-Lefjx8vEqfaVnQsT7rzqJlKKUKzKRCpjUkffTfzm-FURVNLQlVIVEFGUVIHR0k3VEdETjEzM0hOTC4u>



St Luke's Church Heywood

Will be open on

Heritage Open Days

Saturday 19th September: 10am - 2pm

Sunday 20th September 2pm - 3.30pm

Free Entry

Refreshments Available



Please feel free to come in and wander round.

Artefacts will be on display.

Stewards will be available to answer questions.

You are welcome to take pictures with your own camera.

JOIN US

FOR AN EVENING

QUIZ NIGHT

OF FUN &

FELLOWSHIP

Organised by
Bury Mission Community

Friday, 18 September
7pm

Tickets £12, Concessions £6
includes supper

St John with St Mark Hall
Parkinson Street, BL9 6NY

Proceeds to The Christie with opportunities to make a donation at the event

Join the Fun!

St Stephen's DUSTBUSTERS!

THIRD FRIDAY OF THE MONTH • 9AM

Come Along & Help Out!



Keep Our Church Sparkling!

heritage open days

HERITAGE WEEKEND

St Hilda's Parish Church

Whittaker Lane
Prestwich
Manchester
M25 1HA

Saturday 12 September
10am – 2pm

Sunday 13 September
11am Parish Mass,
Church open until 4pm



Find out more: www.heritageopendays.org.uk

QR code

f /heritageopendays
@heritageopendays
@heritageopendays

In partnership with
National Trust

PEOPLE'S POSTCODE LOTTERY
EARTH TRUST



Anglicanism has a rich heritage of poetry to draw on; one that is arguably much neglected. This month we look at a poem by Emily Brontë (1818-1848) author of 'Wuthering Heights' and the fifth of six Brontë children, all of whom tragically predeceased their father Patrick, the curate of Haworth.

No Coward Soul is Mine

*No coward soul is mine
No trembler in the world's storm-troubled sphere
I see Heaven's glories shine
And Faith shines equal arming me from Fear*

*O God within my breast
Almighty ever-present Deity
Life, that in me hast rest,
As I Undying Life, have power in Thee*

*Vain are the thousand creeds
That move men's hearts, unutterably vain,
Worthless as withered weeds
Or idlest froth amid the boundless main*

*To waken doubt in one
Holding so fast by thy infinity,
So surely anchored on
The steadfast rock of Immortality.*

*With wide-embracing love
Thy spirit animates eternal years
Pervades and broods above,
Changes, sustains, dissolves, creates and
rears*

*Though earth and moon were gone
And suns and universes ceased to be
And Thou wert left alone
Every Existence would exist in thee*

*There is not room for Death
Nor atom that his might could render void
Since thou art Being and Breath
And what thou art may never be destroyed*



The Church of Saint Peter, Bury

The Churchwardens & Parochial Church Council
invite you to the

WELCOMING & LICENSING

of

THE REV'D CANON DONNA WILLIAMS

**as Interim Priest in Charge
at St Peter's, Bury**

by the Bishop of Bolton
& the Archdeacon of Salford & Bolton

Wednesday 2nd September 2026 at 7.00pm

Clergy & Readers are invited to robe
Refreshments after the service please join us
Directions: St Peter's Church, St Peter's Road, Bury BL9 9QZ

IN SEPTEMBER ON THURSDAYS AND FRIDAYS

St. James' Church - Walshaw

St Stephen's Gift Day

On Sunday 20th September we will be having our annual gift day— please take the time to prayerfully discern your own support for church.

Welcome Archdeacon Simon!

It was a busy first day for the new Archdeacon of Salford and Bolton this week! The Ven. Simon Cook was licensed by Bishop David during the Cathedral's lunchtime Eucharist, before going on to present candidates at the afternoon's ordination services in his first official duties as Archdeacon.

Speaking after the service, Simon said:

"I am honoured, humbled and excited to begin this new ministry today. I am also hugely grateful for the prayers and good wishes of so many of you over the time leading up to this new season. I am all too aware I have a steep learning curve to come with many surprises ahead, but I am thankful and encouraged by everything I know of the grace and love of the people, churches, chaplaincies and schools of the archdeaconries of Salford and Bolton - and I can't wait to serve alongside you to see what God has in store for us together!"

Simon succeeds Archdeacon Rachel Mann, who retired last week, and brings a wealth of experience in parish leadership and collaborative ministry. Simon has served in Manchester Diocese since his ordination in 2008, after training in Durham as an ordinand for Carlisle Diocese. His ministry here includes his curacy in the Broughton Team in Salford, ten years in parish ministry in Kirklees Valley and latterly as Area Dean in Bury, and then five years as full-time Area Dean of Bolton.

A special service of Choral Evensong to welcome Simon to his new role will take place at Manchester Cathedral on **Monday, 28th September at 5.30pm**. Everyone is welcome.



CHINESE BRUSH PAINTING CLASSES
COMMENCING FRIDAY MORNINGS

St. James' Church - Walshaw

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

JUDY BELL: 0161 764 8890 mob: 07885841285



Free Community Café



At Brandleshome Community Centre
375b Brandlesholme Road
Bury

Everyone
welcome!
♡



We are open every
Monday from 11.00 to 1.30pm

Join us for free...



Tea



Coffee



Hot Chocolate



Cakes & Biscuits



Hot Soup



and a chat!

Good company, warm drinks and a friendly welcome. ♡

0-5 Baby and Toddler Group

EVERY WEDNESDAY

9:30AM-11:30AM

ALL SAINTS CHURCH

HEBBURN DRIVE, BURY, BL8 1ED

ALL WELCOME
FREE TO ATTEND



CHORAL EVENSONG

According to the Book of Common Prayer



Second Sunday of the Month

6pm

— O Lord, open thou our lips... —

FAITH, FRIENDS, FUN

St Stephen's Sunday School

All Welcome

Weekly during the main service

Speak to Leanne or the Vicar

Parish Information

Pastoral Teams

Visiting those who are infirm and providing home communion. If you would like to receive home communion, or join the team please contact the Vicar or:

All Saints

Mark Cresswell

Lynne Williamson

St James

Ann Redding

St Stephens

Rev. Ellise O'Hara

Study Group



Regular Events/Groups

Mon: Community Café Brandlesholme Community Ctr. 11am-1pm, **Ladies Club** 2nd Mon of Month 2.00pm St Francis House

Wed: St Stephen's (Centenary Room) **Midweekers** 1.30pm weekly, **Mothers' Union** 1st Weds of the Month 7.00pm, **Games evening** 7.30 pm 2nd Weds of the month, **Prayer meeting** 7pm 4th Weds of the month.

Thurs: Prayer Group 4th Thurs of month All Saints Church 10am **Arts and Crafts** Group weekly 2pm St Francis House

Children's Activities and Uniformed Organisations

St Stephen's Junior Church: every Sunday **Toddler Group:** Wednesdays 9.30 All Saints

Beavers: Mon 5.45 **Cubs/Scouts:** Mon 6:45 St Stephen's School **Rainbows:** Wednesdays 5.45pm St Stephen's School

Thursdays 4.30 St James' Centre **Brownies:** Wednesdays 6.45pm St Stephen's School

Drama Group: Thursdays 7pm at St Stephen's Church

September Rota

06.09.26		Pres	Preach	Deacon	Colour	Green	
	AS	11 S. Eccleston			Readings	Exodus 12:1-14 Matthew 18:15-20	Backpack service
	SS	9 E. O'Hara	S. Eccleston				
	SJ	11 E. O'Hara					
13.07.26	AS	J. Par- 11 tridge	E. O'Hara		Colour	Green	
	SS	9 E. O'Hara	S. Eccleston		Readings	Exodus 14:19-end Matt 18:21-35	
		6 E. O'Hara			Evensong		
	SJ	11 S. Eccleston					
20.09.26	AS	S. Ec- 11 cleston	D. Akker		Colour	Green	Gift day SS
	SS	S. Ec- 9 cleston	E. O'Hara		Readings	Exodus 16:2-15 Matt 20:1-16	
	SJ	11 E. O'Hara					
27.09.26	AS	11 G. Joyce	E. O'Hara		Colour	Green	
	SS	9 E. O'Hara	S. Eccleston		Readings	Exodus 17:1-7 Matt 21:23-32	
	SJ	11 S. Eccleston					

October Rota

04.10.26		Pres	Preach	Deacon	Colour	Green	KV Harvest-Alternate readings
	AS	11 S. Eccleston			Readings	Exodus 20:1-4,7-9,12-20 Matt 21:33-end	
	SS	9 E. O'Hara	S. Eccleston				
	SJ	11 E. O'Hara					
11.10.26	AS	11 E. O'Hara	J. Patridge		Colour	Green	SS Harvest Parade- alternate readings
	SS	9 E. O'Hara	S. Eccleston		Readings	Exodus 32:1-14 Matt 22:1-14	
		6 E. O'Hara			Evensong		
	SJ	11 S. Eccleston					
18.10.26	AS	11 D. Akker	S. Eccleston		Colour	Green	
					Readings	Exodus 33:12-end	
	SS	S. Eccleston	E. O'Hara			Matt 22:15-22	
	SJ	11 E. O'Hara	F. Nuttall				
25.10.26	AS	11 E. O'Hara	G. Joyce		Colour	Green	
					Readings	Deut 34:1-12	
	SS	S. Eccleston	P. Sanderson			Matt 22:34-end	
	SJ	P. Sanderson	S. Eccleston				

Contact Details

Vicar: Fr. S. Eccleston O.P. brsecclestonop@gmail.com 07851121800

All Saints' Contacts:

Warden: Sue Stonestreet 07763 147598

Art and Craft Group: Joyce Abraham 0161 764 2247

Bible Study: The Vicar

Pastoral Visiting: Mark Cresswell 07521087791 Lynne Williamson 07722 624847

Choir: Stuart McArthur 07821 287018

Prayer Group: Joyce Abraham 0161 764 2247 Lynne Williamson 07722 624847

St Francis' Ladies Club: Lynne Williamson 07722 624847

Room Hire at All Saints/St Francis: allsaints.kirkleesvalley@gmail.com 07368 460378

Website: www.achurchnearyou.com/church/16034/

www.allsaintsandstjames.com

<https://www.facebook.com/allsaintsbury>

St James' Contacts:

Mothers' Union Ann Redding 0781 112 9355

Room hire at St James' Centre Ann Redding 0781 112 9355

Website: www.achurchnearyou.com/church/16046/

www.allsaintsandstjames.com

St Stephen's Contacts:

Warden: Carol Heyes 07354902873

Email: ststephenelton@gmail.com

News sheet/rotas: Tony Parsons tony.parsons67@gmail.com

Room Hire: Keith Hughes hughes_k4@sky.com

Website www.ststephenelton.com

<https://www.facebook.com/people/St-Stephens-Church-Elton/61575109828589/>