



Welcome to
**St Stephen's Church
Elton Bury**
Sunday 4th October 2026

This Week

Today

9.00 Holy Communion
with Junior Church

Next Sunday

9.00 Harvest Festival
6.00 Choral Evensong

Post Communion Prayer

We praise and thank you, O Christ, for this sacred feast: for here we receive you, here the memory of your passion is renewed, here our minds are filled with grace, and here a pledge of future glory is given, when we shall feast at that table where you reign with all your saints for ever.

**The Pastoral Team are available in the Lady Chapel
after the service for prayer and support.**

This Week's Readings

1st	Exodus 20: 1-4, 7-9, 12-20	OT page	68
2nd	Philippians 3: 4b - 14	NT page	195
Gospel	Matthew 21: 33 - end	NT page	22
Psalm	19	OT page	510

In our Prayers

This week we pray for the members of our community who live or work in Bank Hall Close, Lyons Drive, Stapleford Grove and Withnell Drive.

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 Bury Metro Centre, especially their pastor Tristan Sherwin.

Collect for the Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity

Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us your gift of faith that, forsaking what lies behind and reaching out to that which is before, we may run the way of your commandments and win the crown of everlasting joy; 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.

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.

How to Contact Us

Vicar - Rev Sam Eccleston

brsecclestonop@gmail.com - 07851 121800

Warden - Carol Heyes - Tel: 07354902873

Email: ststephenelton@gmail.com

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

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 21: 33 - end

33 "Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. **34** When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. **35** But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. **36** Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. **37** Finally he sent his son to them, saying, "They will respect my son." **38** But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, "This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance." **39** So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. **40** Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" **41** They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time." **42** Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures: "The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is amazing in our eyes"? **43** Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. **44** The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls." **45** When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realised that he was speaking about them. **46** They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

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

Exodus 20: 1-4, 7-9, 12-20

1 Then God spoke all these words: **2** I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; **3** you shall have no other gods before me. **4** You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. **7** You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name. **8** Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. **9** Six days you shall labor and do all your work. **12** Honour your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you. **13** You shall not murder. **14** You shall not commit adultery. **15** You shall not steal. **16** You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour. **17** You shall not covet your neighbour's house; you shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbour. **18** When all the people witnessed the thunder and lightning, the sound of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking, they were afraid and trembled and stood at a distance, **19** and said to Moses, "You speak to us, and we will listen; but do not let God speak to us, or we will die." **20** Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid; for God has come only to test you and to put the fear of him upon you so that you do not sin."

What's on

Today	
2.00pm	Children's Panto rehearsal.
Monday 5th	
1.30pm	Craft Group
7.00pm	Study Group
Wednesday 7th	
1.30pm	Midweekers - Beetle
7.00pm	Mothers' Union
Thursday 8th	
7.00pm	Drama group
Friday 9th	
6.00	Children's' Drama Group
Sunday 11th	
2.00	Children's Panto Rehearsal

Favourite Hymns

Since September we have introduced 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.

Harvest Supper on Friday 9th October in the Centenary Room. Pie & Peas supper, sing-a-long with The Dodgers. Tickets £10 available from Barbara. Raffle prizes to Barbara please.

100 Club. The annual renewal letters are available in the porch which confirms your numbers. The payment of £12 per number is due by 31st October to retain them in the draw. If you no longer wish to keep some or all of your numbers please let Anne or Tony know so they can be offered to new members. Numbers 50 & 86 are available.

Annual Income Survey

The annual Income Survey starts today. Forms are at the back of church. Please fill in a form after the service and place in the box provided. This survey helps decide our Parish Share contribution for 2027. The wardens are available if you have questions or need further assistance.

The Christmas Fayre date is Saturday 5th December. There will be a meeting in the Lady Chapel on Sunday 18th October after the 9am service. This is one of our major fund raisers in the year. Please attend if you wish to volunteer for this event. Lots of various posts to fill. See the wardens for more information.