



A vibrant church serving God and the Community

This Sunday: 29th March (Fifth Sunday of Lent)
***Don't forget to put your clocks forward one hour
– spring has arrived***

**All meetings and public worship have been suspended until
further notice**

**However there are plenty of radio, television and online resources
to help you in your walk with God.**

Here are a selection:

Songs of Praise: Sunday 1.15pm BBC1
(or later on BBC iPlayer)

Aled Jones joins the archbishop of York
designate Stephen Cottrell for Christian hope and
reflection, and recalls the stories of inspiring guests
on the programme.



Prayers for Bolton 11am each Sunday
Bolton FM 96.5FM and online at
www.boltonfm.com

– it is also
available on your smartspeaker and digitally via TuneIn.

Christianity Explored Films

are available free to watch on YouTube until 30th April

Click the link below

www.youtube.com/channel/UCYIPYJLC7NStdAUAoMbuJ4Q



CHRISTIANITY EXPLORED

WHAT'S THE BEST NEWS
YOU'VE EVER HEARD?

Free Christian Resources for this Sunday for families with children.

Click the link below

<https://illustratedmin.s3.amazonaws.com/weekly-resources/Lent-Week5.pdf>



A prayer in our current crisis

Lord Jesus Christ, you taught us to love our neighbour,
and to care for those in need
as if we were caring for you.

In this time of anxiety, give us strength
to comfort the fearful, to tend the sick,
and to assure the isolated
of our love, and your love,
for your name's sake.



#MoreThanSunday A year of discipleship. To receive free monthly emails giving
in spiration and ideas, go to www.manchester.anglican.org/more-than-sunday

#LiveLent: is a free resource from the Church of England offering daily
reflections. There is a free app available for smartphones or you can sign up to receive
the daily reflections by email. See <https://www.churchofengland.org/our-faith/living-out-our-faith/lent-holy-week-and-easter/livelent-care-gods-creation>



*Keep us, good Lord, under the shadow of your
mercy in this time of uncertainty and distress.
Sustain and support the anxious & fearful, and
lift up all who are brought low; that we may
rejoice in your comfort knowing that nothing can
separate us from your love in Christ
Jesus our Lord. Amen.*

Do you need help or can you offer help during this crisis?

At this time it is vital that we offer practical and pastoral support to those who are struggling, perhaps because they are self-isolating. For example if you need someone to pick up some shopping for you, or can offer to do some shopping of help in another way **please contact Michael Behrend (697162) or Pam Smith (699875) or Graham Smith (699875) or Gill Smart (07967585670)**

Urban Outreach urgently need your support to help individuals and families in our community through this challenging period. They are currently short of Rice, Pasta, Cooking Sauces, tinned Vegetables, tinned Meat and tinned Fish and Cereals. If you can donate food to those in need, or make a cash donation please contact Graham Smith on 07505 760859, who can arrange a pick up.

Good Lord, remind us that we are not people of fear: we are people of courage; we are not people who protect our own safety: we are people who protect our neighbours' safety; we are not people of greed: we are people of generosity. Help us to be your people, giving & loving, wherever we are, whatever it costs, for as long as it takes, wherever you call us, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Keep us, good Lord, under the shadow of your mercy in this time of uncertainty and distress. Sustain and support the anxious & fearful, and lift up all who are brought low; that we may rejoice in your comfort knowing that nothing can separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

A Retiring Gift for Stephen & Anne - Sadly, the suspension of our services means that the farewell events arranged for Stephen's retirement in April are postponed until after the current crisis is over. We still want to acknowledge their 19 years of dedicated service to this church & team of churches in Horwich & Rivington, so, if you wish to contribute to a farewell gift, details on how you can do this will become available in due course.

Christians are encouraged to continue to pray #prayersofhope and to show acts of kindness to those around them, whilst ensuring they abide by all government health advice. In sharing his thanks to all who took part in the day of prayer, Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby, one of CTE's Presidents, encouraged Christians to "Please commit to praying each day, as well as taking action to look out for your neighbours."

The planned Team Church Family Weekend Reunion has been cancelled!

This was to take place on Saturday 25th April, from 4–6pm, in St. Elizabeth's Church for those who went to the weekend at Willersley Castle last year. A further weekend is planned for 9th–11th July, 2021, & details will be available soon for anyone interested in going - please let Jill Harley (694611) know of your interest.



Too busy for Bible reading?

Why not download the 'Bible in One Year' App to your smartphone or tablet. You can read or listen to the bible passages & a short commentary on them by Nicky Gumble. If you're busy, you can even listen while traveling or doing other routine tasks.

St. Elizabeth's Warden Vacancy
If you are interested and want to find out more about the role, please speak to Graham or Michael



NUMEROUS DECEASED

In your prayers this week, please ask FOR GOD'S COMFORT for :
 THE RECENTLY BEREAVED FAMILY & FRIENDS OF: **Derek Walsh** (Alison Phillips dad), **Sheila Porter** THE ELDERLY & HOUSEBOUND: **Vera Miller**, Peter Garner (in a care home in Ashford, Middlesex), **those at Greenbank.** FOR GOD'S HEALING for: **THOSE OF ST. ELIZABETH'S:** Peter Harley, **Terry Moore** (Margaret Hannis' brother) **Margaret Hannis**, Dawn Priestley, **Rick Hannis**, Christine Taylor **THE SICK OF THE PARISH & BEYOND:** Debra Thornton
 If you would like to add, remove or return anyone to the SICK lists **please let Sam know.** **Please also pray for families & friends anxious about their loved ones. The wardens, vicar and church council** as they seek to lead our church on in faith. **Stephen Fletcher** our Team Rector, **Peter Harley, Gill Smart** and **Caroline Tracey** (our associate ministers), **Nicola Butterworth** (our team curate), **Gemma Garcete** (our team Youth Minister), and our retired ministers.

Pastoral Care Much of our Pastoral Care involves visiting and we are always looking for people who would be willing to give perhaps an hour a week, or more if you can, to visit some of our sick, lonely and housebound church members. Please speak to Gill or Jill if you can offer any time at all. Many thanks.

CONTACTS AT ST ELIZABETH'S

Vicar: Michael Behrend 697162
 Email: m.behrend@ntlworld.com
Team Curate: Nicola Butterworth 07706979393
 n.butterworth@outlook.com

Associate Minister: **Peter Harley** 694611
 Associate Minister: **Gill Smart** 468271

Church Warden: **Vacancy**
 Church Warden: **Graham Smith** 07505760859

Pastoral Care Co-ordinator:
 Gill Smart 468271
 (Please let Gill/clergy know of any concerns)

Authorised Lay Ministers:
 Pastoral Care **Jill Harley**
 Mission **Jane Thompson**
 Youth **Graham Smith**
 Worship **Wendy Holland**

HIRING the HALL

If you wish to hire/use the HALL space for a meeting or similar (outside of the regular weekly bookings), please contact **Sharon Sharrocks** on **07854130010** or Email: sharonchbookings@yahoo.com

HIRING THE CHURCH

please contact Jill Harley on 01204 694611
 A copy of the times the **Hall and Church** are already regularly booked, is on the notice card in each building.

NEWS LETTER

Updates and new notices to Sam
 by 8 April
samh19358@gmail.com
 or **07739412715**

St Elizabeth's Web site: StLizziesCofE.org.uk
Team Office: Tues, Thurs, Fri 10-12. Tele:692252 Email : churchteamoffice@gmail.com
Team Magazine Editor: Margaret Broadfoot email: mbroadfoot283@btinternet.com
Articles & Event Photos to Margaret by 2nd Friday of month.

Aiming for a nut free zone.

It has come to our attention that a young member of our church has a nut allergy. This is potentially life threatening and we are aiming for the Church & the Hall to be as nut free as possible. Please avoid bringing nut related food or ingredients into either building. Please could you also make any groups of people with whom you mix, organise or supervise aware of this. Thanks.

