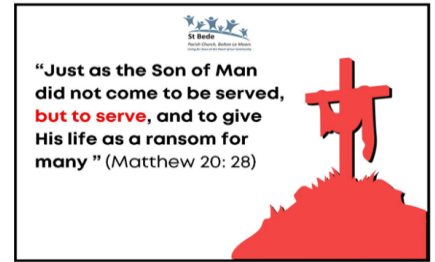


3rd August 2025



Editorial

7th Sunday after Trinity

Reading: Exodus 3 v 1-14

Moses, while tending the flock of his father-in-law Jethro in the wilderness near Mount Horeb (also called the mountain of God), encounters a burning bush that is not consumed by the flames. This miraculous sight draws him in, and from the bush, God speaks to him.

Moses is doing a mundane task—tending sheep—when he encounters the divine. This suggests that God often meets people in the midst of ordinary life, not just in sacred spaces.

God calls Moses by name and instructs him to remove his sandals, for he is standing on holy ground. This emphasizes the holiness and otherness of God, and the reverence required in His presence.

God reveals Himself as the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, affirming continuity with the patriarchs. He expresses deep concern for the suffering of the Israelites in Egypt and commissions Moses to lead them out of bondage. This shows God as both transcendent and intrinsic—He sees, hears, and acts.

Moses questions his own worthiness: “Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh?” God responds not by boosting Moses’ self-esteem, but by promising His presence: “I will be with you.” The focus is on God’s sufficiency, not Moses’ ability.

When Moses asks what name he should give to the Israelites, God replies: “I AM WHO I AM” (Hebrew: *Ehyeh Asher Ehyeh*). This profound statement reveals God as self-existent, eternal, and unchanging. It also implies that God is actively present—not just a being, but Being itself.

Exodus 3:1–14 is a foundational text for understanding God's character, His relationship with His people, and the nature of divine calling. It invites reflection on how God calls individuals, equips them despite their doubts, and reveals Himself in ways that challenge and transform.

**Tony Whitehead – Licensed Lay
Minister**



Please Pray for...

Minti R
David & Norma V
Barbara S
Brenda & Ken
Betty
Lee A
Stuart & family
Jackie
Isaac
Jodie
Anne H
Ross
Belinda K
Phil & Sue B
Norma M
Freda
Samantha W
Emma H
Chloe
Rachael B
John H & Debs
Sue S
Vinny H
Bishop David †
Michael F
Rev Malcolm
Joanne
Brian G
David P
Pat W



Remember, this list is for those who need our prayers, not just the sick or bereaved.

This week at St Bede

Sunday 3rd August

10am All-Age Service

Worship with us as we continue our summer sermon series 'God Calls Everyone' by exploring how God called Moses through the Burning Bush.

Monday 4th August

11am BL Lunch Project

Our team of volunteers will be available today between 11am-12pm with free lunches for children aged 4-18.

Tuesday 5th August

11am BL Lunch Project

7pm Pause Café

Our monthly PAUSE Cafe meets again this week PAUSE Cafe is a safe place open to anyone who simply wants to come and talk. Pop in anytime between 7pm-8pm

Wednesday 6th August

11am BL Lunch Project

12.30pm St Bede Luncheon Club

Our Luncheon Club returns this week. Come and join us for a delicious 2 course meal and meet old and new friends. To book your place contact Elaine Almond

Thursday 7th August

11am BL Lunch Project

7pm Prayer at 7

Join us for our monthly prayer meeting in the community room as we pray for ourselves, our church and our community.

Friday 8th August

11am BL Lunch Project

Sunday 10th August

10am Family Communion

Join us for our all-age family communion service as we continue our series 'God Calls Everyone' by looking at how God called Joshua to lead the people of Israel.



 THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND
Diocese of Manchester

St Bede Charity Partner 2025.



COLLECT

Generous God, you give us gifts and make them grow: though our faith is small as mustard-seed, make it grow to your glory and the flourishing of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Our Church depends very heavily on fundraising as well as regular giving to keep our Church afloat.

We ask that you do continue to give by setting up a Standing Order from your bank. Please contact our Treasurer, Simon Brooks for further details – brooks_simon@hotmail.co.uk

visit our website www.st-bede.org.uk or scan the QR code below



BL LUNCH PROJECT

At St Bede we are delighted to be partnering with Urban Outreach to be a host venue for the BL Lunch Project this summer - where we give out free lunches to children aged 4-18 who need a lunch.

Our team of volunteers will be available at the main church entrance between 11am-12pm each day, Monday to Friday, ready to give out lunches

Please do spread the word and if you know of any children or families who you think would be interested, do encourage them to come along.



CONGRATULATIONS TO REV BEN, LEANNE & ETHAN

As mentioned at the service last week, massive congratulations to Rev Ben (our previous curate) who welcomed his new daughter, Eloise, into the world on Tuesday 15th July @ 3pm

Mother and baby are doing well.



MISSION ENABLER

I'm delighted and deeply humbled to be appointed as Mission Enabler Evangelism for the Archbishop of York's Mission Team, serving across the Northern Province.

I will be working in this role on Mondays.

I'm excited to support and journey with churches and communities — helping to inspire and empower gospel-shaped mission and bold, compassionate evangelism.

It's a real privilege to serve in this way — to help spark and support gospel witness across the region. Please do pray as I step into this role, that God would use it to bear fruit for His Kingdom.

For more information, pls contact me on sweetline.burnell@archbishopofyork.org

Thank you

Sweetline

PAUL SAXON

Paul Saxon, chaplain at Canon Slade School, has now written and released a number of worship songs which are available on all major streaming platforms by searching for 'Paul Saxon'. His latest tracks include themes such as 'dealing with grief', 'trusting in God' and 'finding healing through spending time in "God's Good Earth"'. Feel free to listen to and share with those you may feel would enjoy them and find them helpful.



Bolton Back 2 School Sunday

**Sunday 7th September
10am, St Bede Church**

You are invited to join us as we mark Bolton Back 2 School Sunday where we can pray for our children, young people and staff as they return to school.

If you are going back to school, or even starting a new school, come along and bring your school bag too as we pray for you! We'll also be joined by Mrs Black, headteacher of our church school St Bede Academy.



Summer Series

'God Calls Everyone'

Join us this summer as we reflect on how God called particular people through the Bible for important roles and how God also calls us today to serve Him!



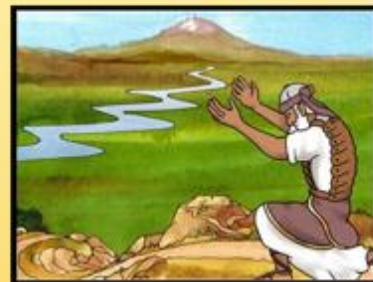
Noah
20th July



Abraham
27th July



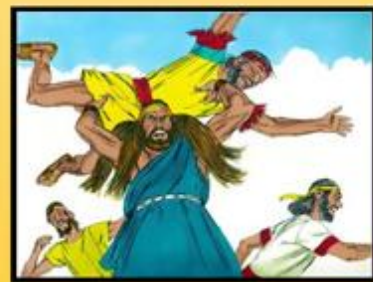
Moses
3rd
August



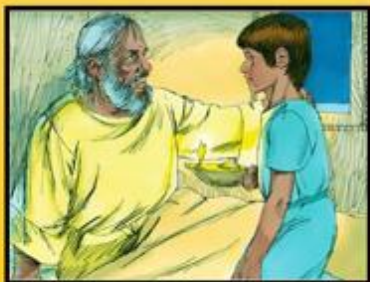
Joshua
10th
August



Gideon
17th
August



Samson
24th
August



Samuel
31st
August





St Bede's is a living Church, and its people are The Church. The Church's only financial support is its own Church family.

Please try to support our social and fundraising events as they are vital not only to the financial wellbeing of our Church but are great opportunities to get to know one another better.

Your Church thanks you for your gifts of money, time and talents.

Contacts

Vicar– Rev Canon Vinny Whitworth – 01204 658921 vinny@st-bede.org.uk

Curate – Rev Sweetline Burnell – revd.sweetlineburnell@gmail.com 07423084946

Associate Priest – Rev Malcolm Bristow – 01204 659816

Licensed Lay Minister (Reader) – Tony Whitehead – 07967 223380 – tony@st-bede.org.uk

Reader Emeritus – Pat Bristow

Authorised Lay Ministers – Gillian Blackburn, Carol Hardman

Church Wardens – Jean Philips – 01204 451676 Gill Blackburn – 01204 660396

PCC Secretary and Church Administrator– Elaine Almond – 07757099862 elainealmond22@gmail.com

Treasurer – Simon Brooks - brooks_simon@hotmail.co.uk

Organist – David Platt

Newsletter Editor – Tony Whitehead 07967223380

Social Media Team – Kirsty Critchley 07763 495009 & Tony Whitehead 07967223380

Administrator – Elaine Almond – 07757099862

St Bede Primary Academy Headteacher – Anna Black – 01204 61899

Chair of Governors – Tony Whitehead Vice Chair – David Almond

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