

15th March 2026



Editorial

4th Sunday of Lent – Mothering Sunday

Reading: John 19 v 23-27

Mothering Sunday: Love That Sees and Entrusts

Mothering Sunday is a gentle pause in the church year, inviting us to give thanks for the love that has shaped us and sustained us. While it is a day to honour mothers, it also celebrates the wider calling of *mothering*—care that nurtures, protects, teaches, and releases others to grow.

At the heart of this day stands the cross. In John 19:23–27, as Jesus hangs in deep suffering, his attention turns outward. He sees his mother standing nearby and entrusts her into the care of the beloved disciple. Even in his final moments, Jesus models a love that notices, provides, and creates new family bonds. The cross becomes not only a place of pain, but also of compassion and responsibility.

This moment speaks powerfully to us today. Mothering takes many forms: biological mothers, fathers who nurture, grandparents, foster carers, godparents, teachers, friends, and church members who quietly hold others in prayer and love. It also holds space for those for whom this day is complicated or tender.

As we mark Mothering Sunday, may we give thanks for those who have cared for us, and may we be inspired to reflect Christ's attentive love—seeing one another, standing together, and entrusting ourselves to God and to one another.

**Tony Whitehead – Licensed Lay Minister
(Reader)**



Please Pray for...

| | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| Minti R | Emma H |
| David V and family | Chloe |
| Barbara S | Rachael B |
| Brenda & Ken | John H & Debs |
| Betty | Sue S |
| Lee A | Vinny H |
| Stuart & family | Bishop David † |
| Jackie | Michael F |
| Isaac | Joanne |
| Jodie | Pauline G & family |
| Anne H | David P |
| Ross | Tania |
| Belinda K | Irene S |
| Phil & Sue B | Donna |
| Norma M | Re-Ordering Project |
| Freda | WoW & Beyond WoW |
| Samantha W | Pause Café |
| Anna B | |

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



This week at St Bede

Sunday 15th March

10am Holy Communion

Join us on Mothering Sunday as we reflect on the example of Jesus on the cross with his mother Mary. Our children's ministry group 'Church Rocks' will be meeting this week.

Monday 16th March

1pm School Visit

Taking place in church

Tuesday 17th March

1pm School Visit

Taking place in church

7.30pm The Bible Course Lent Course (at St Andrews)

Our Joint Lent Course continues this evening as we continue our journey through the Old Testament by looking at the Kings of the Old Testament: The Story of Power. Do come along and join us

Wednesday 18th March

6.15pm WOW

Join us for our weekly interactive all-age service as we continue our 'Encounters' series by exploring Jesus' encounters with one of his closest disciples Peter. Our youth group **Beyond WOW** also meets this week.

Sunday 22nd March

10am Baptism Service

Today we welcome the family and friends of Lenny Hodgson-Kimblin who is being baptised this morning at our all-age service as we reflect on Jesus' encounter with Lazarus.





 THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND
Diocese of Manchester

St Bede Charity Partner 2026.



COLLECT

God of love, passionate and strong, tender and careful: watch over us and hold us all the days of our life; 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



MAUNDY THURSDAY SUPPER AND INFORMAL COMMUNION SERVICE

Thursday 2nd April 7pm

This year we are continuing our tradition of gathering for a joint Maundy Thursday Supper and Communion Service with our friends from St Andrews at 7pm.

The supper includes a 2 course meal consisting of meat + potato pie or vegetarian option and then a selection of desserts. Tickets are £5. To book your place please write your name on the sign up sheet at the back of church and Kathleen Carrodus is collecting money beforehand.

Please do join us for what is always a very special occasion.

REVISION OF ELECTORAL ROLL

For those members of our congregation who are not already on the electoral roll (the membership list of our church) the roll will be revised from the 15th March.

If you have been attending St Bedes for over 6 months and would like to join the electoral roll then application forms are available at the back of church. Completed forms should be passed to Elaine Almond by **Sunday 29th March**.

You must be on the electoral roll in order to vote at our forthcoming APCM which is being held on **Sunday 26th April** as part of our morning service.

If you have any queries then please do speak to Elaine.

UPCOMING FUNDRAISING & SOCIAL EVENTS @ ST BEDE

Your Fundraising and Social Committee have been planning the events for 2026.

Easter Egg Bingo – Friday 27th March at St Bede Academy School Hall. Bring your own drinks but soft drinks will be available on the night. **Get your tickets now!**

Easter Egg Hunt – Easter Day at Church. Find the hidden eggs for a chance to win a chocolate egg

Race Night – Friday 5th June at St Bede Academy School Hall. Donations required for the prizes please!

American Independence Day Themed Afternoon Tea – Saturday 4th July in the Community Room

Pudding Night – following the success of our 1st pudding night last year, we are trying it again on Friday 18th September

Annual Harvest Supper Quiz – Friday 9th October at the Ellesmere Club.

Tropic Night – Thursday 22nd October in the Community Room

Annual Christmans Fayre – Saturday 21st November at St Bede Academy School Hall

DONATIONS REQUIRED

We are still looking for donations of Easter Eggs for our annual Easter Egg Bingo in March 2026.

A THANK YOU

† Julie Waller would like to extend hers and her family's thanks to the St Bede family for their prayers, support and kind wishes during her recent bereavement

WHAT IS SAFEGUARDING?

Safeguarding is exactly what it says - guarding the safety of the members of our Church Community and as such it has its roots very firmly in our Christian duty to **love one another.**



There will be vulnerable people in most congregations, including ours, who need us to look out for them.

We all have a responsibility for Safeguarding, that is looking out for each other's wellbeing.

We tend to think of the abuse of children when we think of Safeguarding, but people can be vulnerable at any age and in a number of different ways (we'll explore these in another article).

Your Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) works alongside and on behalf of the PCC to ensure that all who worship with us and visit us are as safe as they can be.

You should speak to your PSO if you see or hear anything that doesn't feel right - because if it doesn't feel right it probably isn't.

Your Parish Safeguarding Officer is:

Carol Hardman



The Bible Course

NEW EDITION

Want to feel more connected to God's word?

Join *The Bible Course* New Edition

biblesociety.org.uk/thebiblecourse



Lent Course 2026



We are delighted to be running the Bible Course as our joint Lent Course for 2026. Join us every Tuesday during Lent as we reflect on the big picture of God's Word through short films and discussion

Our Lent Course begins on Tuesday 24th February,, 7.30pm at St Andrews Church

WOW

Worship On Wednesday

Join us for our
new all-age
worship experience
at St Bede Church

Join us for fun, food, songs, games,
and activities as we explore faith and life together.

We meet every Wednesday
6.15pm-7pm
St Bede Church Community Room



ST. BEDE PARISH INVITE YOU TO OUR
ANNUAL

EASTER EGG BINGO



FRIDAY 27TH MARCH 2026

AT ST. BEDE ACADEMY SCHOOL HALL

DOORS OPEN 6.45PM • EYES DOWN 7.15PM

**ADULTS £6 • CHILDREN £3 ENTRY AND 6 GAMES OF
BINGO (3 FOR CHILDREN)**

SOFT DRINKS WILL BE AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE ON THE NIGHT

FEEL FREE TO BRING YOUR OWN BOTTLE

**TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM CHURCH OR BY EMAILING
FUNDRAISING@ST-BEDE.ORG.UK**



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

Associate Priest – Rev Malcolm Bristow – 01204 659816

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

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

Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) – Carol Hardman – 07904 928614

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

Organist – David Platt

Newsletter Editor – Tony Whitehead 07967223380

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Administrator – Elaine Almond – 07757099862

St Bede Primary Academy Headteacher – Anna Black – 01204 61899

Chair of Governors – Tony Whitehead Vice Chair – David Almond

ST BEDE'S CHURCH, MORRIS GREEN, BOLTON-LE-MOORS

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