

5th April 2026



Editorial

Easter Sunday

Reading: John 20 v 1-18

Easter Sunday stands at the very heart of the Christian faith. It is the day when sorrow gives way to joy and fear is transformed into hope. The resurrection does not erase the pain of the cross, but it redeems it, reminding us that suffering and death are never God's final word. The empty tomb proclaims that love is stronger than violence, and that life can emerge even from the darkest places.

The angel's words to the women at the tomb still speak powerfully today: *"He is not here; he has risen, just as he said"* (Matthew 28:6). These words call us to trust in God's faithfulness, even when the world feels fragile and uncertain. As we watch news headlines shaped by conflict and fear—whether through ongoing tensions and hostilities between Iran and the United States or wars closer to home—Easter confronts us with a different narrative. It reminds us that cycles of retaliation are not inevitable, and that peace is possible where the world expects only despair.

Easter hope is not naïve optimism; it is courage rooted in God's promise of renewal. To live as Easter people is to embody resurrection faith in a broken world: choosing compassion over hatred, prayer over despair, and hope over resignation. The risen Christ greets his followers with the words, *"Peace be with you"* (John 20:19). On Easter Sunday, that peace is offered again—to a wounded world longing for healing, reconciliation, and new life.

Tony Whitehead - Licensed Lay Minister



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 5th April (Easter Sunday)

10am Easter Sunday Celebration with Easter Egg Hunt

Celebrate that Jesus is Risen as we join together for our all-age Easter Celebration Service. Don't forget to also join us after the service for our annual tradition of an Easter Egg Hunt in the church grounds.

Tuesday 7th April

7pm PAUSE Cafe

Our monthly PAUSE Cafe returns this week. PAUSE Cafe is a support group for anyone who is struggling with their mental health, wanting support, or a safe place to come and chat. All welcome.

Sunday 12th April

10am Holy Communion

Join us as we continue in this Easter season by reflecting on the people the Risen Jesus encountered after He rose from the dead. This week we are exploring Jesus' encounter with Thomas. Our children's ministry group 'Church Rocks' meets this week.





 THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND
Diocese of Manchester

St Bede Charity Partner 2026.



COLLECT

God of glory, by the raising of your Son you have broken the chains of death and hell: fill your Church with faith and hope; for a new day has dawned and the way to life stands open in our Saviour Jesus Christ.

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



St Bede APCM (Annual Meeting)

Sunday 26th April at 10am

Please join us for our APCM on Sunday 26th April as we celebrate what God is doing here at St Bede and appoint church officers to serve for the coming year.

Our Annual Report, where we reflect back over 2025, is now available to download and read on our website. There are also hard copies at the back of church. We have much to be thankful for as we continue our journey of 'Living for Jesus at the Heart of our Community'.

Nominations are now open for our church officer roles for the coming year. This year we are electing wardens, PCC members, sidespeople and Deanery Synod reps. If you are interesting in standing for any of these roles and you would like a conversation about these roles then please speak to Vinny, a member of the Ministry Team or the Wardens.

THE BIBLE COURSE

Even though the season of Lent has finished; our Lent Course 'The Bible Course' has not finished!

Don't forget to join us as we conclude the Bible Course with the final 2 sessions on Tuesday evenings, 7.30pm - 9pm at St Andrews Church.

14th April - Acts: The Story of Mission

28th April - Revelation: The Story Completed.

BW PIZZA NIGHT

Come and join us for pizza, games, and activities.

It's a chance to catch up with friends and make new ones - whether you've been before or it's your first time, everyone's welcome!

Just bring your appetite and your best game-playing skills!

Where: St Bede's church, Normanby Street Bolton BL3 3OR

When: Wednesday 20/04/26 @ 6:15-7pm

Who: Anybody aged 11-16

We can't wait to see you there!

Any enquiries please contact:
Ciara: ciarastott@manchester.anglican.org | Rev Vinny: vinny@st-bede.org.uk

If you have any dietary requirements please let us know beforehand.



BW PIZZA + GAMES NIGHT

Our new youth group, Beyond WOW (BW) are holding an open pizza and games night to anyone aged 11-16 who wants to come and join us.

If you are a teenager - why not come and give it a try? For more information contact Ciara Stott or Vinny.

SOCIAL & FUNDRAISING

Our next event is our annual **Race Night** – Friday 5th June at St Bede Academy School Hall. Further details will be published soon.

We are looking for new or 'not used' gifts for the prizes please!



Celebrate Easter at St Bede Church



Monday 30th March

7pm Journey to the Cross: Holy Week Reflection

Take time out and join us for a time of contemplation and prayer as we prepare for Easter

Maunday Thursday - 2nd April

7pm Maundy Thursday Meal and Communion

Join us for our shared Maundy Thursday Meal and Communion Service at St Andrews Church, Over Hulton. Please book your place by Palm Sunday

Good Friday - 3rd April

10am Reflective All-Age Good Friday Service

Join us as we remember what Jesus did for us on the cross. Hot Cross Buns will be served after the service.

Easter Sunday - 5th April

10am Easter Sunday Celebration with Easter Egg Hunt

Celebrate that Jesus is Risen by joining us for our all-age Easter Celebration Service followed by an Easter Egg Hunt in the church grounds after the service



A LOT CAN HAPPEN IN SEVEN DAYS

An Evening of Theatre
Fundraising for Create Bolton

TALKING HEADS

A CHIP IN THE SUGAR

BY ALAN BENNETT

18th April 2026 at 7:30_{pm}

Cafe Create, Claremont House
Bark Street, Bolton BL1 2AX

Tickets £5.00



BOOK ONLINE:
createbolton.org.uk



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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

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

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

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