

News and Notices

Sunday Evening Group— Derek Johnston is leading a discussion group during Advent entitled 'What are you waiting for?' It's held in the New Room at 5.30pm and includes soup, rolls and a time of worship.

Parish Christmas Card— Thank you to all those who have helped distribute this year's card. If you have any spares please bring them back to the Parish Office as just the right amount were ordered!

Keeping in Touch— The next edition is out today, please collect your envelope from the back of church which also has the diary of events in for next year!

Theological Reflection Group— This Thursday will be the last in the series looking at the doctrine of the Eucharist and we welcome Rob Milliken from Paulsgrove Baptist Church. Come along to the Parish Hall at 10.30am to find out more!

Lego— Do you have any lonely Lego that needs a new home? If so please give it to Wendy Castle as it will be a great resource for Kidz Klub and Sunday school.

Organising events— Please be reminded that all events whether they are held in the church, New Room or Parish Hall need to have a Risk Assessment completed. Forms are kept at the Parish Office or speak to Hazel Powlesland for more details.

Thankyou— to everyone from Joyce Knight for their prayers and support whilst she's been in hospital. She is now home and beginning to make progress.

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Christmas Fayre— This year we have raised nearly £3500, which includes the Tea Room takings. The exact final figure has yet to be calculated but once again a HUGE thank you to everyone involved in making it such a success.

Kidz Klub— are holding their Christmas Party and Christingle making on Saturday 9th December, 11.30am—3pm. Christingle making will start around 1.30pm and all ages are welcome! Please speak to Wendy Castle for more details.

Christmas Day Lunch—Ron and Lynn Prior will once again be organising lunch at the Parish Hall for the elderly and those who will be alone. There are still spaces left and there is no charge but please let Wendy Pyatt in the office know if you would like to attend.

Christmas Lunchtime Concert—On Friday 29th December at 1pm a 70 strong choir from Holland will be singing at St. Mary's. Entry is free with a retiring collection and the Tea Shop will also be open.

Christmas Services

Christingle Sunday 10th December at 4.00pm
Carol Service Sunday 17th December at 6.00pm
Monday 18th December at 7.30pm
Christmas Eve Parish Eucharist at 9.30am
Nativity at 4.00pm
Midnight Mass at 11.00pm
Christmas Day Family Service at 9.30am

Fundraising Events

A Musical Feast!— Thank you to everyone who helped to make the evening a success. It certainly was a feast with music of all genres and enjoyed by all!

SUNDAY 3RD DECEMBER 2017

ADVENT SUNDAY

St Mary's



Portchester

At St Mary's we are a people of Prayer, learning and growing in faith together. Our vision is to be a caring and welcoming church family who reach out with the love of God into our local community and the world.

THE CLERGY

Vicar (Priest-in-Charge)

Rev Dr Ian Meredith (*Day off – Monday*)
Tel: 02392 375422 / e-mail: irev@ymail.com

Honorary Assistant Priest

Rev Canon Trevor Hubble (*will cover for Mondays*)
Tel: 02393 781727 / e-mail: tshubble@gmail.com

Honorary Assistant Priest

Rev Anne Boggust
Tel: 01489 573586
e-mail: annieb.boggust@btinternet.com

For Churchwardens, Readers and other contacts see 'Who's Who' on notice board.

PARISH OFFICE

Portchester Parish Hall, Assheton Court PO16 9PY
Tel: 02392 321380
e-mail: stmaryoffice@btconnect.com
Open Monday - Friday 9.30am—2.30pm

Do call in if you'd like information on any aspect of parish life, to buy tickets for an event, or to book a baptism or a wedding.

www.stmary-portchester.org.uk
or follow us on Facebook and Twitter
[facebook.com/stmaryportchester/](https://www.facebook.com/stmaryportchester/)
[@stmaryportch](https://twitter.com/stmaryportch)

This Sunday

Welcome to St Mary's this morning!
Please stay for refreshments in the New Room after the 10 o'clock service.

- 8.00am Sung Matins with hymns
- 10.00am Parish Eucharist with Sunday School
- 12.30pm Baptism of Willow Ware
- 2.15pm Tea and Company (Parish Hall)
- 5.30pm Evening Discussion Group (New Room)
3) 'Prepare the way of the Lord!'

Collect for Advent Sunday

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility; that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

SUNDAY'S READINGS

8am

Isaiah 2. 1-5
Luke 12. 35-48

10am

Isaiah 64. 1-9
1 Corinthians 1. 3-9
Mark 13. 24-end

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

Isaiah 40. 1-11
2 Peter 3. 8-15a
Mark 1. 1-8

Dates for Next Week

Morning Prayer at 9am Monday to Friday

MONDAY 4TH DECEMBER

MPR: Psalm 50/Matthew 12.1-21
6.15pm Bell Ringing

TUESDAY 5TH DECEMBER

MPR: Psalm 80/Matthew 12.22-37

WEDNESDAY 6TH DECEMBER—ST NICHOLAS

MPR: Psalm 7/Matthew 12.38-end
10.30am St. Mary's Lambs (New Room)
2.30pm Woodland Court Service
6.30pm Holy Communion

THURSDAY 7TH DECEMBER

MPR: Psalm 42/Matthew 13.1-23
10.30am Theological Reflection (Parish Hall)
7.30pm Choir Practice

FRIDAY 8TH DECEMBER—CONCEPTION OF THE BVM

MPR: Psalm 25/Matthew 13.24-43
10.00am Holy Communion (Parish Hall)

SATURDAY 9TH DECEMBER

MPR: Psalm 9/Matthew 13.44-end
8am Men's Breakfast (Gavin Collins)
11.30am Kidz Klub Christmas Party followed by...
1.30pm Christingle Making.

SUNDAY 10TH DECEMBER—ADVENT 2

8.00am Holy Communion
10.00am Parish Eucharist with Sunday School
4.00pm Christingle Service
5.30pm Evening Discussion Group (New Room)
4) 'Is time running out?'

This Week's Prayers

Please remember the following in your prayers: for this parish - Let us pray for Rev Ian and all our clergy, for our readers, churchwardens, members of the PCC and all the people involved in preparing services and activities for the Christmas period.

for other churches in the Fareham Deanery - For our own Parish especially for guidance for 2018 and the possibility of starting an alternative Sunday service. For the new Steps to Recovery group possibly starting in Fareham and resourced by us and the possibility of starting a new group to support people with mental health issues. Let us give thanks for another successful Alpha course and pray regarding the future of further discipleship courses.

for our Parish (Portchester and Port Solent) - Heritage Gardens, Caer Peris View, Portchester Heights and Cadgwith Place

for the world around us— As we enter Advent let us pray for all those who find this time of year and especially Christmas, difficult for any reason.

for those who are ill - Vic Charles, Gerald Lucas, Bobbie Nicholson, Hannah Palmer, Pat Poil, Jill Pyatt, Dorothy Whittingham and John Wills.

for those who have died— Majorie Couzens and Kenneth Evans

If you know of anyone in the parish who is ill, please let one of the Ministry Team know.

'Waiting is a period of learning.
The longer we wait the more we hear about him
for whom we are waiting'

(Henri Nouwen)