



St Mary's Church,  
Portchester  
**Sunday 9 March 2025**



## **1st Sunday Of Lent**

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**

Rev Dr Ian Meredith  
02392 375422 / irev@ymail.com  
Vicar's day off: Monday

#### **Curate**

Rev Elizabeth Pearn  
curate@stmary-portchester.org.uk

### Honorary Assistant Priests

Rev Anne Boggust

Rev Adam Gay

Rev Phil Hiscock

Rev Canon Trevor Hubble

Rev Philip Parker-Osler

Contact details for all assistant clergy are in the Parish Directory or via the Parish Office

***For Churchwardens, Readers and other contacts see 'About Us' on our website***

#### **PARISH OFFICE**

#### **Parish Administrator**

Chris Hayes

Portchester Parish Hall, Assheton Court PO16 9PY  
02392 321380 / [office@stmary-portchester.org.uk](mailto:office@stmary-portchester.org.uk)  
[www.stmary-portchester.org.uk](http://www.stmary-portchester.org.uk)

[www.facebook.com/St-Marys-Church-Portchester](https://www.facebook.com/St-Marys-Church-Portchester)  
[Instagram @stmaryschurchportchester](https://www.instagram.com/stmaryschurchportchester)

#### **St Mary's Tea Room**

[facebook.com/stmarystearoom](https://facebook.com/stmarystearoom)



# St Mary's Church, Portchester



## This Sunday

Welcome to St. Mary's Church

### 8.00am Holy Communion

Celebrant and Preacher:  
Rev Ian Meredith

### 9.30am Parish Eucharist

Celebrant: Rev Anne Boggust  
Preacher : Rev Ian Meredith

(Anyone who wishes can receive one-to-one prayer in the north transept during communion or after the service has ended)

### 11.30am Later Morning Service

Leader: Carol Gay  
Preacher: Rev Ian Meredith

### 1.30pm Baptism of Sophie Goddard

6.00pm Evening Service  
(Parish Hall)

## Collect for 1st Sunday in Lent

Almighty God,  
whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness, and  
was tempted as we are, yet without sin: give us grace to  
discipline ourselves in obedience to your Spirit;  
and, as you know our weakness,  
so may we know your power to save;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, Amen

### SUNDAY'S READINGS

Deuteronomy 26.1-11  
Romans 10.8b-13  
Luke 4.1-13

### NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

Genesis 15.1-12,17-18  
Philippians 3.17 - 4.1  
Luke 13.31-35

# Dates for This Week



**St. Mary's will be open daily from 10am –4pm**

## **Monday 10 March**

*MPR: Psalm 11/ John 5.1-18*

7.30pm Hand Bells (Tea Room)

7.30pm Spinnaker Brass

## **Tuesday 11 March**

*MPR: Psalm 44/ John 5.19-29*

10.00am Staff Meeting (Office Closed During This Time)

1.30pm Jennifer's House Group

7.00pm Lent Alpha Course (Tea Room)

## **Wednesday 12 March**

*MPR: Psalm 6/ John 5.30-end*

9.00am Morning Prayer

10.30am St Mary's Lambs

6.30pm Holy Communion

7.00pm The Drama of Scripture (The Hub)

7.30pm Standing Committee (The Vicarage)

## **Thursday 13 March**

*MPR: Psalm 42/ John 6.1-15*

9.30am Contemplative Prayer Group

11.30am Funeral of Gerald Hoddinott

12.00 noon Lent Service & Lunch (Methodist Church)

1.00pm Women's Bible Study (The Hub)

3.30pm Messy Church (Methodist Church)

7.30pm AA Meeting (Tea Room)

## **Friday 14 March**

*MPR: Psalm 22/ John 6.16-27*

9.00am Morning Prayer

10.00am Holy Communion (Parish Hall)

2.00pm Friday Friends

6.00pm International Food Evening (Parish Hall)

7.00pm High Tide

## **Saturday 15 March**

*MPR: Psalm 63/ John 6.27-40*

## **Sunday 16 March – 2nd Sunday of Lent**

8.00am Holy Communion

9.30am Parish Eucharist

11.30am Later Morning Service

4.00pm Family Café Church

6.00pm Evening Service (Parish Hall)

# This Week's Prayers



*Please remember the following in your prayers:*

**For this parish:** Please pray for Rev Ian, our clergy, readers, PCC, church staff, for all those who give their time to help the ministry and mission of our church and Tea Room.

**For other churches in the Fareham Deanery:** this Sunday, all churches in the Deanery will be praying for the **Parish of St John's, Locks Heath. The parish gives thanks for:** the engagement of those attending our first CAP (Christians Against Poverty) course and those running it. **The parish seeks prayer for:** the right person apply for our Youth & Families Team Leader post.

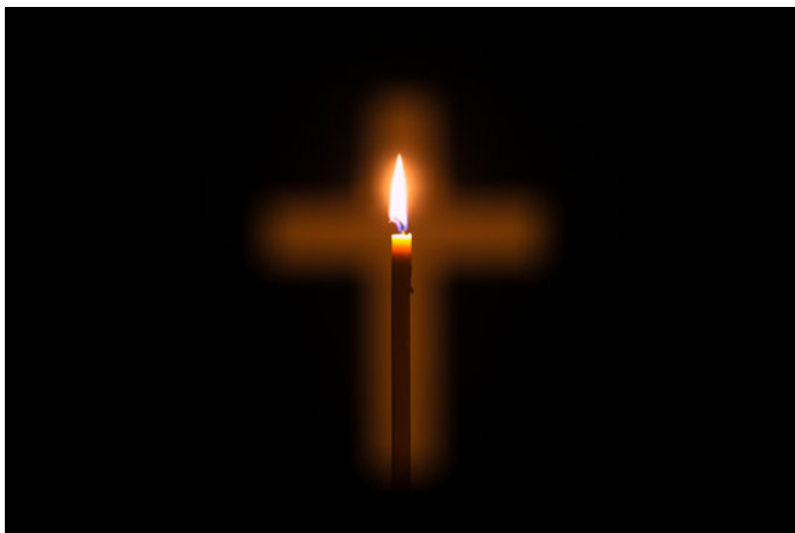
**For our Parish (Portchester and Port Solent) –** Kenya Road, Olive Crescent, Portsvie Avenue, Coverack Way and Conifer Mews.

## **For the world around us:**

Psalm 32:7 says. " You are my hiding place; You will protect me from trouble." Many Afghans, who fled from Afghanistan to Pakistan after the return of the Taliban in August 2021, are now facing the daily danger of being sent back there. Of about 3 million people, only around 50% have the correct paperwork required by Pakistani authorities. These documents are often ignored. Many families are in hiding and move from place to place to escape deportation and certain death in Afghanistan. Let's pray for them! *Dear LORD, how terrifying this must be! Please keep safe all those who fear being sent back to Afghanistan, especially whole families. Soften the hearts of the Pakistani authorities so that they act with compassion. We pray the UN will speed up their work ; the lack of action is worsening the situation. And we lift to You, our Afghan Brothers and Sisters who face this too. In Jesus' Name we pray. Amen.*

**For those who are ill or recovering –** Janet Browning, Crystal Stone, Clive Knott, Felicity Mellows, Vic Bosse, Joyce Clegg, Timothy Gardner, Sue Morgan, Julian Cole, Baby Ethan Smith, Lennox, Sophie Carnaghan, Violet Scott, Russell Ferne, Hazel Bunker, Gary and Paul Wallen.

**For those who have died—** Stanley Harwood



**TONIGHT**— Our evening service at The Parish Hall will look “Through the wardrobe” (Parallel universe, worldviews). The worship will be Celtic. Starting at 6.00pm all are welcome.

**Thursday 13th March**— Midday Services & Lent Lunches, start today at the Methodist Church. A 30 minute service taken each week by a different church, followed by a soup, bread and cheese lunch in aid of Christian Aid and CAFOD. St Mary’s are responsible for the 3rd April, if anyone can help in preparing and/or serving on that day, please contact Valarie Agar or the Parish Office.

**Sunday 16th March**— Family Café Church, 4.00pm. Suitable for all ages. Fun, Games, Informal Worship and Food.

**Saturday 22nd March**—Family Fun at The Parish Hall, 3pm till 5pm with a bouncy castle and buffet. Open to all families of St Mary’s Church. For more information please contact Jenny Olding at [jolding@ymail.com](mailto:jolding@ymail.com)

**Tuesday 25th March** –The Annunciation of our Lord to the Blessed Virgin Mary. A Eucharist will be held at 7.30pm. Please note that there will be NO Wednesday Communion service on the 26th March.

**Sunday 30th March**—Mothering Sunday. We are having an ‘All Together’ Service at 10.30am at Portchester Community School. Please remember that British Summer Time starts today so the clocks go forward one hour.

**Saturday 5th April**— Ladies Breakfast at The Parish Hall, starting at 8.30am. The speaker this month will be Rev Jill Phipps, author of “Messy Church” & Messy Vintage”.

**Saturday 5th April**—The first in the ‘Spirituality: Something Understood’ course will be held at The Hub from 10.00am led by Rev Celia Jones. Please sign up on the sheet in church or via the Church website, My ChurchSuite or contact the Parish Office.

**Sunday 6th April**—We will be holding an Immersion Baptism during the 11.30am Later Morning Service today.

**Lift to 9.30am Service**— We have another lady who would like a lift to the 9.30am service. If you think you may be able to undertake this, could you please contact Sue Oliver who will give you further details. Many thanks.

**Volunteers for St Mary's Tea Room**— We are looking for volunteers to join our team in the Tea Room. If you have a few hours to spare and would love to contribute to our community, we would be delighted to have you. No prior experience is needed, just a positive attitude and willingness to help. Please have a word with Ron in the Tea Room.

**Parish Office Closure**—Please note that the Parish Office will be closed all day on Wednesday 19th March.

**Haunted Portchester**— As we totally sold out the first print run, we have had some more books printed. Priced at £10 these are available from the Tea Room and Parish Office.

**Want to make a donation but forgotten your cash? You can now scan the QR and make an online donation to St Mary's Church.**

