



St Mary's Church, Portchester

Sunday 1st February 2026



Candlemas

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 Canon 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

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
www.stmary-portchester.org.uk

www.facebook.com/St-Marys-Church-Portchester

[Instagram @stmaryschurchportchester](https://www.instagram.com/stmaryschurchportchester)

St Mary's Tea Room

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

St Mary's Church,
Portchester
This Sunday



8.00am Holy Communion

Celebrant & Preacher: Rev Ian Meredith

9.30am Parish Eucharist

Celebrant: Rev Adam Gay Preacher: Carol Gay

11.30am Later Morning Service

Leader: Rev Elizabeth Pearn Preacher: Joe Snowden

2.15pm Tea & Company - Parish Hall

Collect for Candlemas

Almighty Father,
whose Son Jesus Christ was presented in the Temple
and acclaimed the glory of Israel
and the light of the nations:
grant that in him we may be presented to you
and in the world may reflect his glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
Amen.

SUNDAY'S READINGS

Malachi 3: 1-5
Hebrews 2: 14-18
Luke 2: 22-40

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

Genesis 1: 1-2.3
Romans 8: 18-25
Matthew 6: 25-end

Dates for This Week

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



Monday 2 February

MPR: Psalm 48/Romans 12:1-5

7.30pm Hand Bells Rehearsal - Tea Room
7.30pm Spinnaker Brass Rehearsal

Tuesday 3 February

MPR: Psalm 5/Matthew 27:27-44

9.00am Prayer Meeting @ Joe & Kathy Snowden's Home
12.15pm Funeral of Pauline Kilgannon
1.30pm Jennifer's House Group
6.45pm Alpha Course - Tea Room
7.15pm Bible Study - Church

Wednesday 4 February

MPR: Psalm 119:1-32/Matthew 27:45-56

9.00am Morning Prayer
10.3 am St Mary's Lambs
2.00pm Mental Health Friendship Group
2.00pm Slow Stitch Club - Parish Hall
6.30pm Holy Communion

Thursday 5 February

MPR: Psalm 15/Matthew 27:57-end

9.30am Contemplative Prayer Group
11.00am Funeral of Martyn Barker
1.30pm Women's Bible Study - The Hub
7.30pm AA Meeting - Tea Room

Friday 6 February

MPR: Psalm 19/Matthew 28:1-15

9.00am Morning Prayer
10.00am Holy Communion - Parish Hall
2.00pm Friday Friends
6.15pm Youth Groups - Parish Hall

Saturday 7 February

MPR: Psalm 23/Matthew 28:16-end

9.00am Ladies Breakfast

Sunday 8 February - 2nd Before Lent

10.30am All Together Service - Portchester School

This Week's Prayers

Please remember the following in your prayers:



For this parish: For the first of our marriage preparation sessions held this week, we give thanks. Pray for the couples who are planning for their wedding here at St Mary's this year, that God would guide their conversations, deepen their love, and strengthen the foundations of their life together. May our church be a place of welcome, wisdom, and blessing for them as they take these important steps toward their future.

For other churches in the Fareham Deanery: this Sunday, we will be praying for the parish of **Holy Trinity & St Columba, Fareham**

For our Parish (Portchester and Port Solent) — King George Road, Dore Avenue, Westbrook Road, Tudor Close and Port Way.

For the world around us:

We lift to the Lord the suffering where there is war, hunger, disaster or injustice. The weary and afraid where people feel forgotten, overwhelmed or without hope. For those with power. Guide leaders, decision makers and all in authority that they may choose what is right. Pray for our broken world trusting that the love of God is stronger than the news worldwide.

For those who are ill or recovering — Shirley Stewart, Jim Moore, Ethan Smith, Caroline Cosgrove, Peter Battley, Stuart Tyler, Hazel Young, Malcolm Greenall, Gwen Meatyard, Julian Cole, Sophie Carnaghan, Baby River Fry, Jackie Scadden and Paul Wallen.



News and Notices



Monday 2nd February- 7.00pm, Licensing of Rev Phil Parker-Osler at All Saints Church, Thurlestone.

Wednesday 4th February- 6.00pm, Licensing of Rev Penny Thatcher as Vicar of St Peter's Titchfield.

Saturday 7th February- 9.00am, Ladies Breakfast held in the Parish Hall. The guest speaker will be from Home Instead. All Ladies are very welcome.

Sunday 8th February- All Together Service 10.30am at Portchester Community School, White Hart Lane, followed by a bring & share lunch. **This will be the only service today.**

Saturday 14th February- 8.00am, Men's Breakfast The guest speaker will be Bryan Jerrard on the Origins of Words and Phrases. All men are very welcome.

Saturday 14th February- 4.30pm Join us for an afternoon of activities and pancake-themed games. This is a free event and everyone is welcome. We're also looking for volunteers to make pancakes ahead of time so they can be warmed and served during the party. If you're able to help, please speak with Dillon in the Tea Room.

Sunday 15th February- 9.30am, Rev Ian will start a series of sermons on The Lord's Prayer. Everyone who attends will receive a FREE copy of J.John's 40-Day Devotional book on the Lord's Prayer.

Sunday 15th February- 4.00pm, Cafe Church, Informal worship, crafts and food. Everyone is welcome.

Wednesday 18th February- Ash Wednesday. Rev Ian will be leading a service at St Peter & St Paul, Fareham at 10.30, which anyone from St Mary's is welcome to attend. We will have a said Eucharist at 1.00pm here at St Mary's and a Sung Eucharist at 7.30pm.

Sunday 1st March - Our Evening Services commence at 6.00pm in The Parish Hall. This series will be entitled "The Devil Wants You Back", based on The Screwtape Letters by CS Lewis. All are welcome to attend.

Safeguarding Training - we have arranged two training sessions for those who need to renew their training. Foundation Safeguarding course will be held on Wednesday 18 February starting at 1.00pm at The Parish Hall. Domestic Abuse Safeguarding will be held on the same day, starting at 3.00pm again in The Parish Hall. Please use the sign up sheet on the notice board or contact The Parish Office to book your place.

Rev Ian's book on the Creed - Pleased to say that we now have further copies of Rev Ian's book which are available on the welcome table. Only £10, if paying by card please write your name on the sheet next to the books.

News and Notices



Eileen Parker's Funeral will be held on Tuesday 3 February at Holy Rood Church, Stubbington, 10.30am,. All are welcome to attend.

Christian Kurdish friendship group: Judith Kerby is looking for some support to run a group on Saturday mornings. Either learning support with English or welcoming young mums

Christian Aid - after decades, Valerie Agar has tirelessly ran this but is looking for someone with a little more energy to take up the baton on behalf of St Mary's .Please contact Cheryl on 07939 010331 for more information on this and the Kurdish friendship group.

Could You Be a Welcomer/Sidesperson? Being a welcomer/sidesperson is a vital part of our church life— it's about offering a smile, a friendly greeting, handing out notices and hymn sheets, and most importantly helping new friends feel at home. If you can spare a little time once a month, we'd love to hear from you. Please speak to one of our churchwardens or deputies to find out more.

Support St Mary's and the Environment! We're excited to share that St Mary's is now part of Recycle4Charity. By bringing your empty printer cartridges to the Parish Office, you'll be helping to protect the planet while also raising funds for the church. Every box of returned cartridges generates valuable income for our parish. We have already received £25 from Recycle4Charity.



Want to make a donation? You can now [click here](#) to make an online donation to St Mary's Church.