



St Mary's Church, Portchester



Sunday 4th January 2026

Feast of the Epiphany

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 Phil Hiscock

Rev Adam Gay
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
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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



St Mary's Church, Portchester



This Sunday

8.00am Holy Communion

Celebrant & Preacher: Rev Phil Hiscock

9.30am Parish Eucharist for the Feast of the Epiphany

Celebrant & Preacher: Rev Elizabeth Pearn

11.30am Later Morning Service with Communion

Leader & Preacher: Rev Elizabeth Pearn

Collect for The Feast of Epiphany

O God,
who by the leading of a star
manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth:
mercifully grant that we,
who know you now by faith,
may at last behold your glory face to face;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
Amen.

SUNDAY'S READINGS

Isaiah 60:1-6
Ephesians 3:1-12
Matthew 2:1-12

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

Isaiah 42: 1-9
Acts 10:34-43
Matthew 3:13-17



Dates for This Week



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

Monday 5 January

MPR: Psalm 48/Ruth 4:1-17

10.00am Pastoral Visitors Meeting - The Hub

7.30pm Hand Bells Rehearsal - Tea Room

7.30pm Spinnaker Brass Rehearsal

Tuesday 6 January

MPR: Psalm 132/John 1:29-34

9.00am Prayer Meeting @ Joe & Kathy Snowden's Home

10.00am Staff Meeting (Office Closed During This Time)

7.00pm Bible Study - Tea Room

Wednesday 7 January

MPR: Psalm 99/Matthew 20:1-16

9.00am Morning Prayer

12.00 Funeral of Janet Lynn

2.00pm Slow Stitch Club - Parish Hall

6.30pm Holy Communion

Thursday 8 January

MPR: Psalm 46/Matthew 20:17-28

9.30am Contemplative Prayer Group

1.30pm Women's Bible Study - The Hub

Friday 9 January

MPR: Psalm 148/Matthew 20:29-end

9.00am Morning Prayer

10.00am Holy Communion - Parish Hall

2.00pm Friday Friends

6.00pm Skittles Evening

Saturday 10 January

MPR: Psalm 149/Matthew 23:1-12

8.00am Men's Breakfast

Sunday 11 January - Epiphany 1

8.00am Holy Communion

9.30am Parish Eucharist

11.30am Later Morning Service

This Week's Prayers

Please remember the following in your prayers:



For this parish: Give thanks for all those who took copy of J. John 's booklet "More than a Christmas Carol" at the various services, and that seeds of searching will be sown in hearts. Pray for our new Alpha course starting on 20th January, that some from the Christmas services will attend.

For other churches in the Fareham Deanery: this Sunday, we will be praying for the parish of **St Mary's Warsash.**

For our Parish (Portchester and Port Solent) — Steep Close, Castle Grove, Cornaway Lane, Lock Approach and Merton Avenue.

For the world around us:

Pray for the worsening conditions in Sudan where millions have been displaced and half the population faces acute hunger. For Gaza, facing catastrophic conditions, widespread destruction, and blocked humanitarian aid. For Ukraine where millions have been displaced and infrastructure is devastated.

For those who are ill or recovering – Shirley Stewart, Eileen Parker, Thelma Lewis, 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



TODAY - Feast of the Epiphany, we return to our normal three services today, 8.00am Holy Communion, 9.30am Parish Eucharist and 11.30am Later Morning Service

Tuesday 6th January - A new Bible Study group will commence today, starting at 7.00pm in church. Please contact Steve Oliver for more details.

Wednesday 7th January - 12.00 noon. The funeral will be held of Janet Lynn in church. All welcome.

Wednesday 7th January - Slow Stitch Club meet at The Parish Hall at 2.00pm. Contact Marilyn Nash for details.

Friday 9th January - Skittle Evening - Tickets are now on sale for our first social event of the new year. Starting at 6.00pm, enjoy an evening of skittles. with a bring & share buffet. Just £5 a ticket, available from the Tea Room, Parish Office or the QR code on the poster.

Saturday 10th January - Men's Breakfast, starting at 8.00am in church,. Guest speaker with be Ian Millet. All Men are welcome.

Wednesday 14th January - St Mary's Lambs, return after their Christmas holiday's. Starting at 10.30am in church.

Wednesday 14th January - 2.00pm, Mental Health Friendship Group meet in the church. See poster for more information.

Friday 16th January- Prayers for the Persecuted Church meet at 10 Portchester Heights. All are welcome.

Sunday 18th January- 4.00pm, Cafe Church, Informal worship for all the family.

Sunday 18th January- 6.00pm, Christian Unity Service to be held at Portchester Methodist Church.

Alpha Course- The next Alpha course will start on Tuesday 20 January 2026 at 6.45pm in the church. Please contact Jeff Gennings for further information or to book a place ~ jeffgennings@gmail.com

Friday 23 January- Burns Night Supper. Join us for a celebration of Robert Burns, 6.30pm in church. 3 Course meal with wine or soft drinks. Please see Richard Andrews for more information. There is a sign up sheet on the welcome table. Only 60 places are available and over half have already been taken.

"Word for Today" the popular daily devotional booklet is available free of charge on the welcome table, and includes a copy of the sermon preached by the Vicar to introduce this on Sunday 7th December.

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.