



St Mary's Church, Portchester



Sunday 15th February 2026

Sunday Before 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 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

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
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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

Celebrant Rev Trevor Hubble Preacher: Rev Ian Meredith

11.30am Later Morning Service

Service Leader Carol Gay Preacher: Rev Ian Meredith

Collect for Sunday Before Lent

Almighty Father,
whose Son was revealed in majesty
before he suffered death upon the cross:
give us grace to perceive his glory,
that we may be strengthened to suffer with him
and be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory;
Amen.

SUNDAY'S READINGS

Exodus 24: 12-18

2 Peter 1: 16-21

Matthew 17:1-9

9.30am Service

Psalms 20

Ephesians 1: 16-19

Matthew 6:7-13

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

Genesis 2: 15-17 3.1-7

Romans 5: 12-19

Matthew 4: 1-11

9.30am Service

Isaiah 64:6-9

Romans 8: 14-17

Matthew 6:25-33

Dates for This Week

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

Monday 16 February

MPR: Psalm 44/Genesis 37: 1-11

7.30pm Hand Bells Rehearsal - Tea Room

7.30pm Spinnaker Brass Rehearsal

Tuesday 17 February

MPR: Psalm 48/Genesis 37: 12-end

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

1.30pm Jennifer's House Group

6.45pm Alpha Course - Tea Room

Wednesday 18 February - Ash Wednesday

MPR: Psalm 38/Daniel 9: 3-6, 17-19

10.30am Ash Wednesday Eucharist at St Peter & Paul Fareham

1.00pm Ash Wednesday Eucharist (Said)

1.00pm Foundations Safeguarding Training - Parish Hall

2.00pm Mental Health Friendship Group

3.00pm Domestic Abuse Safeguarding Training - Parish Hall

7.30pm Ash Wednesday Eucharist

Thursday 19 February

MPR: Psalm 77/Genesis 39

9.30am Contemplative Prayer Group

1.30pm Women's Bible Study - The Hub

7.30pm AA Meeting - Tea Room

Friday 20 February

MPR: Psalm 3/Genesis 40

9.00am Morning Prayer

10.00am Holy Communion - Parish Hall

2.00pm Friday Friends

2.30pm Prayers for the Persecuted Church at Sally Nguyen Home

Saturday 21 February

MPR: Psalm 71/Genesis 41: 1-24

9.30am Leaders Discipleship Conference- Parish Hall

Sunday 22 February - 1st Sunday of Lent

8.00am Holy Communion

9.30am Parish Eucharist

11.30am Later Morning Service

1.30pm Baptism of Hattie Willett

This Week's Prayers

Please remember the following in your prayers:



For this parish:

As we gather for our Leaders Discipleship Conference this week, we ask for Your Spirit to rest upon Rev Ian and every leader within our church. Grant them wisdom, unity, and renewed vision. May this time be filled with Your presence, Your encouragement, and Your leading

For other churches in the Fareham Deanery: this Sunday, we will be praying for the parish of **Hope Church, Whitely.**

For our Parish (Portchester and Port Solent) — Solent View, Neville Avenue, Cadour Drive, Lock View and The Hillway

For the world around us:

Storms and flooding are affecting Spain, Portugal and Morocco. There is exceptionally cold weather in Gdansk, Poland, Lithuania, Sweden and Ukraine. Pray that those affected have access to food and clothing and a warm, safe place to stay.

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





News and Notices



TODAY- 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.

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.

Saturday 21st February- Leaders Conference half day event starting at 9.30am at The Parish Hall. Further details are in the latest "St Mary's News" Please confirm with Rev Ian your attendance if you have not already done so.

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.

Thursday 5th March - Start of a 4 week series led by Andy Economides entitled "What the World Needs". 7.00pm at The Portchester Hub (Entrance via Car Park). Sign up via Church Notice board, Parish Office, Rev Ian or QR code on the poster.

Friday 6th March - 'World Day of Prayer' service to be held at Portchester Methodist Church, 2.00pm followed by tea & cake. All are welcome to attend.

Family Celebration - Saturday 14 March 12.00 noon - 2.00pm at The Parish Hall. We are inviting all families connected to St Mary's to come to the Parish Hall for a family party. Details from Jennie Olding. RSVP to the Parish Office

Saturday 21st March - Lent Quiet Day, 10.00am at St John's Church (Shedfield Study Centre) led by Sister Mary Joy from the Sisters of Bethany. Sign up via Church Notice board, Parish Office or QR code on the poster

Lent Lunches - St Mary's is hosting three Lent Lunches this year on Feb 25, March 4 and March 25. We need volunteers to help prepare a simple lunch, set up tables, and clear away afterwards. If you can assist on any of these dates, please contact Valerie Agar.

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.

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.

Palm Crosses- Please bring your old palm crosses back to the church or Parish Office, so they can be burnt for the Ash Wednesday service

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.