



# St Mary's Church, Portchester



## Sunday 8th February 2026

### 2nd 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](mailto:irev@ymail.com)  
Vicar's day off: Monday

##### **Curate**

Rev Elizabeth Pearn  
[curate@stmary-portchester.org.uk](mailto: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  
Portchester Parish Hall, Assheton Court PO16 9PY  
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[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

## 10.30am All Together Service

Celebrant: Rev Elizabeth Pearn Preacher: Rev Ian Meredith

### Collect for 2nd Sunday Before Lent

Almighty God,  
you have created the heavens and the earth  
and made us in your own image:  
teach us to discern your hand in all your works  
and your likeness in all your children;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
Amen.

#### SUNDAY'S READINGS

Psalm 122:1-9  
1 Corinthians 12:12-27  
Luke 4:14-21.

#### NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

Exodus 24: 12-18  
2 Peter 1: 16-21  
Matthew 17:1-9

#### **9.30am Service**

Psalm 20  
Ephesians 1: 16-19  
Matthew 6:7-13

# Dates for This Week

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

## **Monday 9 February**

*MPR: Psalm 30/2 Timothy 4:1-8*

- 10.00am Pastoral Visitors Meeting - The Hub
- 7.30pm Hand Bells Rehearsal - Tea Room
- 7.30pm Spinnaker Brass Rehearsal

## **Tuesday 10 February**

*MPR: Psalm 36/2 Timothy 4:9-end*

- 9.00am Prayer Meeting @ Joe & Kathy Snowden's Home
- 10.00am Staff Meeting (Office Closed During This Time)
- 1.30pm Jennifer's House Group
- 6.45pm Alpha Course - Tea Room
- 7.15pm Bible Study - Church

## **Wednesday 11 February**

*MPR: Psalm 34/Titus 1*

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

## **Thursday 12 February**

*MPR: Psalm 37/Titus 2*

- 9.30am Contemplative Prayer Group
- 12.30pm Funeral of Joyce Knight
- 1.30pm Women's Bible Study - The Hub
- 7.30pm AA Meeting - Tea Room

## **Friday 13 February**

*MPR: Psalm 31/Titus 3*

- 9.00am Morning Prayer
- 10.00am Holy Communion - Parish Hall
- 2.00pm Friday Friends
- 7.00pm High Tide

## **Saturday 14 February**

*MPR: Psalm 42/Philemon*

- 8.00am Men's Breakfast
- 12.00noon Wedding of Kiefer Port & Rayne Skora
- 4.30pm Pancake Party

## **Sunday 15 February - Sunday Before Lent**

- 8.00am Holy Communion
- 9.30am Parish Eucharist
- 11.30am Later Morning Service
- 4.00pm Family Cafe Church

# This Week's Prayers

*Please remember the following in your prayers:*



## For this parish:

Pray for our house groups and the homes that open in your name and the people who gather to learn, share, and grow. Bless each group with your peace, your wisdom, and your joy. May conversations be honest, friendships deepen, and your Spirit guide every moment.

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

**For our Parish (Portchester and Port Solent) —** Jute Close, Vincent Grove, King John Avenue, Albion Close and Carne Place

## For the world around us:

Give thanks and praise for Gazans returning and for the opening of the Rafah crossing. Pray that the fragile ceasefire continues. Pray for Ukraine where freezing temperatures are causing severe health issues to many without heating. Pray for peace 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



**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.**

**Thursday 12th February**- 12.30pm The funeral of Joyce Knight will take place in church. All are welcome to attend

**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.

**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.



**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

**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.**