



St Mary's Church,
Portchester



Sunday 22nd March 2026

5th Sunday of Lent ~ Passiontide

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

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



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: Rev Ian Meredith

11.30am Later Morning Service

Service Leader: Joe Snowden Preacher: Richard Gunton

4.00pm Cafe Church

6.00pm Evening Service ~ Parish Hall

Collect for 5th Sunday of Lent

Most merciful God,
who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus
Christ
delivered and saved the world:
grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross
we may triumph in the power of his victory;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
Amen

SUNDAY'S READINGS

Ezekiel 37: 1-14

Romans 8: 6-11

John 11: 1-45

9.30am Service

Isaiah 2: 1-5

James 4: 13-17

Luke 22: 39-46

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

Isaiah 50: 4-9a

Philippians 2: 5-11

Matthew 21:1-11

Dates for This Week



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

Monday 23 March

MPR: Psalm 73/Exodus 8:1-19

7.30pm Hand Bells Rehearsal - Tea Room

7.30pm Spinnaker Brass Rehearsal

Tuesday 24 March

MPR: Psalm 35/Exodus 8:20-end

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

1.30pm Jennifer's House Group

6.45pm Alpha Course - Tea Room

Wednesday 25 March - Feast of the Annunciation

MPR: Psalm 111/1 Samuel 2:1-10

9.00am Morning Prayer

10.30am St Mary's Lambs

12.00 Lent Service & Lunch at Methodist Church

2.00pm Mental Health Friendship Group

6.30pm Eucharist for the Feast of the Annunciation

7.30pm PCC Meeting - Tea Room

Thursday 26 March

MPR: Psalm 40/Exodus 9:13-end

9.30am Contemplative Prayer Group

1.30pm Women's Bible Study - The Hub

7.00pm School of Ministry Course - The Hub

7.30pm AA Meeting - Tea Room

Friday 27 March

MPR: Psalm 22/Exodus 10

9.00am Morning Prayer

10.00am Holy Communion - Parish Hall

1.30pm Wicor School visit to Church

2.00pm Friday Friends - Darcy's Coffee Shop

6.15pm Youth Groups - Parish Hall

Saturday 28 March

MPR: Psalm 23/Exodus 11

Sunday 29 March - Palm Sunday

8.00am Holy Communion

9.15am Palm Sunday Procession

9.30am Palm Sunday Service

11.30am Later Morning Service

6.00pm Evening Service with Communion- Parish Hall

This Week's Prayers

Please remember the following in your prayers:

For this parish:

Please pray for Rev Ian, our clergy team, our readers, the PCC, and all our church staff. Pray also for everyone who generously gives their time, gifts, and energy to support the ministry and mission of our church, and for all who serve so faithfully in our Tea Room. May God strengthen, guide, and encourage them in all they do.

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

For our Parish (Portchester and Port Solent) — — Leith Avenue, Pentland Rise, Anson Grove, Carlton Road, Portobello Grove.

For the world around us:

Pray for leaders and authorities to open doors to reconciliation where there is war and unrest. Pray for the people of South Sudan as civil war develops there. Pray for North Sudan where civil unrest escalates. Pray for the people in Afghanistan affected by the bombing of the rehab centre. Pray for Lebanon and its people being displaced and looking for shelter as the war in the Middle East continues.

For those who are ill or recovering – Val McDermott, Baby Emily Herd, Ethan Smith, Caroline Cosgrove, Jim Moore, Stuart Tyler, Hazel Young, Malcolm Greenall, Julian Cole, Sophie Carnaghan, Baby River Fry, Jackie Scadden and Paul Wallen.



Today - We welcome back Emma Kolina who is home for a couple of weeks from her work with the YWAM in Albania .

Today - Cafe Church starting at 4.00pm.

TONIGHT - Evening Service at 6.00pm in The Parish Hall. The forth in the series entitled “The Devil Wants You Back”, based on The Screwtape Letters by CS Lewis. All are welcome to attend.

Wednesday 25th March - Eucharist for Feast of the Annunciation will take place at 6.30pm. All are welcome.

Sunday 29th March - Palm Sunday. We will have our procession to church starting at the Oak Tree in Castle Street at 9.15am, please join us if you are able. Remember to put your clocks forward as British Summer Times starts on the 29 March.

Easter Holiday Club - Tuesday 31 March and Wednesday 1 April 1.00pm to 4.00pm at The Scout Hut Chalky Walk for Years R to Year 6. Please contact Amy for more information and registration forms, childrensworker@stmary-portchester.org.uk

Wednesday 1st April - 6.30pm Holy Communion, followed at 7.15pm by a Theology talk by Rev Ian on “Theories of The Atonement”

Children’s Film Show - Thursday 2 April 2.00pm in church. We will be showing the animated film The King of Kings. Please contact Amy for more information, childrensworker@stmary-portchester.org.uk

Thursday 2 April, 7.30pm Maundy Thursday Eucharist of the Last Supper and Vigil of Repose.

Friday 3rd April, Good Friday Procession of Witness, 9.30am at Portchester Precinct followed at 12.00 noon Meditations On The Cross at St Mary’s Church.

Sunday 5th April, Easter Sunday, 6.00am Easter Vigil, 8.00am Holy Communion, 9.30am Parish Eucharist & 11.30am Later Service

“Time Out for Parents”- A four part course run by Care for the Family. Starts on Thursday April 16th at The Hub at 7.00pm. Sign up on the sheet or QR code or via the Parish Office

Preachers Workshop- Rev Ian will lead four sessions on preaching, starting on Thursday 21 May, 7.00pm at The Hub. Sign up on the sheet or QR code or via the Parish Office

Chilli & Curry Night – Join us on Saturday 18 April at 6.00pm (6.30pm start) in church. Tickets are £10, including a meal and disco. A raffle will also be held. Buy your tickets from the Tea Room, Parish Office, or via the QR code on the poster

Annual Parochial Church Meeting – will be held on Tuesday 26 May starting at 7.00pm in church.

St Mary's Prayer Chain - If anyone would like to become part of the prayer chain, please contact Marilyn Nash or Valerie Agar

People asking for money. If anyone attending the services or hanging around outside asks you for money (or a loan) please do not in any circumstances give it to them. We have a fund in the church called "The Farmer & Ruel Fund" where help can be given to those in genuine need. Please refer anyone who asks you, to the Vicar.

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.

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.