



St Mary's Church, Portchester



Sunday 20th September 2026 Harvest Festival

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

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St Mary's Tea Room

facebook.com/stmarystearoom



St Mary's Church, Portchester



Sunday 20th September

8.00am Holy Communion

Celebrant & Preacher: Rev Phil Hiscock

9.30am Parish Eucharist

Celebrant: Rev Phil Hiscock Preacher: Rev Ian Meredith

11.30am Later Morning Service - All Age Service

6.00pm Evening Service - Parish Hall

Collect for Harvest Festival

God of the living, with all your creatures great and small we sing
your bounty and your goodness,
for in the harvest of land and ocean,
in the cycles of the seasons, and the wonders of each creature, you
reveal your generosity.

Teach us the gratitude that dispels envy,
that we may honour each gift as you cherish your creation, and
praise you in all times and places.

Amen.

SUNDAY'S READINGS

Deuteronomy 8: 7-18
2 Corinthians 9:6-15
John 6:31-38

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

Exodus 17:1-7
Philippians 2:1-13
Matthew 21:23-32

Dates for This Week

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

Monday 21 September

MPR: Psalm 49/2 Timothy 3:14-end

7.30pm Hand Bells Group Rehearsal

7.30pm Spinnaker Brass Rehearsal

Tuesday 22 September

MPR: Psalm 48/Acts 19:21-end

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

1.30pm Jennifer's House Group

7.00pm Praise & Worship - Mission Guatemala

Wednesday 23 September

MPR: Psalm 119:57-80/Acts 20:1-16

9.00am Morning Prayer

10.30am St Mary's Lambs

2.00pm Mental Health Friendship Group

6.30pm Holy Communion

7.30pm Special Time for Prayer

Thursday 24 September

MPR: Psalm 57/Acts 20:17-end

9.30am Contemplative Prayer Group

1.30pm Ladies Bible Study - The Hub

5.00pm Young Disciples - Parish Hall

7.00pm Preaching Workshop - The Hub

7.00pm PVMB Practice

7.30pm AA Meeting - Tea Room

Friday 25 September

MPR: Psalm 51/Acts 21:1-16

9.00am Morning Prayer

10.00am Holy Communion - Parish Hall

2.00pm Friday Friends at Darcy's Coffee Shop

2.00pm Wedding of Samuel Pettifor & Jessica Keeley

Saturday 26 September

MPR: Psalm 68/Acts 21:17-36

2.00pm Wedding of Anthony Parrott & Anita Hinton

Sunday 27 September - Trinity 17

10.30am All Together Service - Portchester Community School with Special Guest Speaker J. John

6.00pm Evening Service with Communion - Parish Hall

This Week's Prayers

Please remember the following in your prayers:



For this parish:

Special Service with J. John – 27th September:

We thank You for this unique, once-in-a-generation opportunity before us. We pray for all the practical arrangements, for stewarding, welcoming, and the sound system, that everything may work smoothly and bring glory to You. Lord, may many people be drawn to know and follow Jesus through this service. We pray for Your protection, wisdom, and anointing upon John as he prepares and leads. Bless all the welcomers and counsellors, giving them grace, discernment, and hearts full of Your love. And we pray that Your people would come not simply to be entertained, but with a desire to bring friends and share the good news of Christ. May Your Holy Spirit be at work in every detail, and may Your name be honoured throughout.

For other churches in the Fareham Deanery: we will be praying for the parish of **St Paul's Sarisbury Green**

For our Parish (Portchester and Port Solent) — Upper Cornaway Lane, Wellington Grove, Moraunt Drive, Hamilton Road and Sennen Place.

For the world around us:

Pray for Sudan and Syria where daily life continues to be a struggle due to lack of food and housing. Pray that governments find ways to relieve the stress of life for all involved in these circumstances. Pray for the people of Myanmar, and for the Democratic Republic of Congo where the Ebola virus persists. Pray that world leaders can work together to find ways to relieve these and all hardships worldwide.

For those who are ill or recovering—Carol Farmer, Russell Ferne, Elaine Johnson, Thelma Lewis, Hugh Sach, Richard Burgess, Marilyn Nash, Ethan Smith, and Sophie Carnaghan.

For those who have died – Cathy Richardson, Geoffrey Young and Eugene Mullen.



Today - Harvest Festival our All Age Service will be at 11.30am, where we welcome members of the uniformed organisations to St Mary's.

This Evening - The Evening Service at 6.00pm at The Parish Hall. The series on the Book of Daniel continues. All are welcome.

Tuesday 22nd September - Mission Guatemala now starting at 7.00pm, we welcome the Humphries Family as they share their experiences from Guatemala at a Praise & Worship service. Marmalade made by Joe Snowden. No cost, just a donation and all proceeds will go to Mission Guatemala.

Saturday 26th September - Harvest Supper starting at 6.00pm. Tickets on sale from the Tea Room, Parish Office or QR code

Sunday 27th September - All Together Service. We will be meeting at Portchester School at 10.30am. We are pleased to welcome the well known minister, speaker, broadcaster and writer, J. John as our guest speaker for this service. There will be **NO** services in church on this date.

Friday 2nd October - Friday Friends will once again be hosting a Macmillan Tea Afternoon in the church on Friday 2nd October, from 2-3.30pm. Please make a note of the date in your diary and come along to share delicious cake, a cup of tea or coffee and good company-everyone is most welcome. Any donations of cake, homemade or bought, will be gratefully received on the day. Last year our event raised £285 for the Macmillan cause through your generosity, which was fantastic, so we look forward to seeing you again this year!

Monday 5th October - Faith & Doubt Discussion Group will meet at 7.00pm at the home of Hilary Dawson, where they will continue to discuss the book 'Discernment' by Henri Nouwen. All are welcome.

Thursday 8th October - Discovering & Developing Your Spiritual Gift - Andy Economides will be leading a four week course starting at 7.00pm at The Hub. Please sign up via the sheet in church or contact the Parish Office or scan the QR code on the poster.

Sunday 11th October - 10.30am. We will be holding a commemorative service for the 230th anniversary of the first Caribbean prisoners of war arriving at Portchester. We will be joined by "True Steel Band" who will start playing at 10.15am.

An Extraordinary, Ordinary Love Story An Exhibition by Rev Celia - 12th to 18th October. Your chance to be part of the exhibition, design and make a heart and dedicate it to someone special.

Trafalgar Day Dinner - Friday 23rd October, Trafalgar Day Dinner - Friday 23rd October, If you have given your name to Richard Andrews, tickets are now available. Payment can be made using the QR code, and tickets may be collected from Richard or from the Parish Office.

Christmas Fayre - Saturday 28th November. Bookings for tables are now being taken. Please contact Dillon for more information.

Cathy Richardson - we are sad to announce that Cathy died on Monday evening in Bristol. Remembering her with thanksgiving and praying for her sons Tom & Sam and her sisters.

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.



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