



Sunday 24 August 2025
Holy Communion 10.00am
Revd Tony Edmonds

**A very warm welcome to our
service this morning in
St Nicholas Church, Studland**

... and a special welcome if you are a visitor to our Church! This is a Holy Communion service, and you are most welcome to take Communion with us. If you need a gluten-free wafer, please ask. Or if you would prefer to have a blessing, just bring this Notice Sheet with you to the communion rail, to give an indication to the priest.

Children are really welcome in our church. Please don't worry if the children with you are noisy: we are just delighted to have them in Church with us. There are two green toy boxes at the back of the Church - and everyone is welcome to use them.

We do not pass around a collection plate at St Nicholas' Church, but we are most appreciative of donations to help maintain both the Church and its ministry. We have a traditional plate for cash donations with Gift Aid envelopes available as well as a contactless card payments station at the exit to the Church.

After the service, we serve coffee, tea and other refreshments in the Church Hall. Please do join us - and get to know us all a little better.

For regular updates on Church activities throughout the week, please find us on www.achurchnearyou.com You can also follow us on Facebook (St Nicholas Church Studland

For additional information about St Nicholas Church and its services, please contact:
Associate Minister: Revd Dr Tony Edmonds 01929 450097 revtonyedmonds@outlook.com
Church Wardens: Barbara Matthews 01929 450218 barmat18@btinternet.com
Eric Stobart 01929 450222 eric@thestobarts.co.uk

SWANAGE & STUDLAND TEAM MINISTRY
St. Mary's – St. Mark's – All Saints' – St. Nicholas'
24th August 2025 – Trinity 10

Reading for this Sunday is: Hebrews 12, 18 - 29

Gospel Reading: Luke 13, 10 - 17

Now he was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, "Woman, you are set free from your ailment." When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God. But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the Sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured and not on the Sabbath day." But the Lord answered him and said, "You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the Sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger and lead it to water? And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the Sabbath day?" When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame, and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things being done by him.

Collect:

Let your merciful ears, O Lord,
be open to the prayers of your humble servants;
and that they may obtain their petitions
make them to ask such things as shall please you;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Post Communion:

God of our pilgrimage,
you have willed that the gate of mercy
should stand open for those who trust in you:
look upon us with your favour
that we who follow the path of your will
may never wander from the way of life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

REFLECTION

Isaiah 43:8-14 Acts 5:12-16 Luke 22:24-30

24th August is celebrated as the **Feast of St Bartholomew the Apostle** in the Western Church. We know very little about Bartholomew, aside from the fact that he is listed as one of the 12 in the gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke, and in the book of Acts. He is, also, usually identified as the Nathanael of John chapter 1, of whom Jesus said: *"Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!"* The later Christian traditions associated with Bartholomew are historically questionable. Not surprisingly, therefore, our readings today concentrate on the wider ministry of Apostleship.

In Luke 22, we read of a dispute among the 12 about who is the greatest. Jesus quashes this dispute in no uncertain terms! *"The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them; and those in authority over them are called benefactors. But not so with you; rather the greatest among you must become like the youngest, and the leader like one who serves. ... I am among you as one who serves".* (Luke 22:26-27)

In Acts 5, we see an example of the apostles undertaking this humble service - an extensive ministry of healing, ministering to the deepest needs of the people around them. The apostles might appear to be celebrities, but, as anyone who has been involved in this sort of ministry will testify, it is an exhausting and emotionally draining service.

The key word here is **service**. Isaiah reminds us that God's people are **witnesses**, but also **servants**. All that we do, as His people, should be done in a spirit of service to Him and, as He leads us, in service to those around us.

Although we know little of Bartholomew, we can be certain that Jesus chose him, "...truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit", to be a faithful witness to the Good News of Jesus, and a servant, as Jesus himself served.

Revd David Richards

TEAM NOTES

Volunteers needed to help pack down the Christian Camp at Studland on Wednesday 27th August in the morning. Please contact Andrew Fleming (flemingswanage@yahoo.co.uk) for more information.

Calling Pet Lovers ... all pets (and their well-behaved owners) will be welcome at the St Nicholas Pet Service at 10am on Sunday 31st August, to be led by Rev Natalie Davies and Rev Tony Edmonds. Refreshments (and treats) will be served after the service.

Community Coffee Down on the Farm Studland's Community Coffee Morning has moved to Manor Farm for the summer. Join us on Thursday mornings from 10am to 11am – for coffee, scones and conversation. We'd love to see you there.

Come and be part of the **National Week of Prayer for the UK, Sat 6th – Sun 14th September**: Gather. Remember. Return: The nationwide vision is: "As the body of Christ, we are gathering across the UK and beyond; to humble ourselves, repent and pray for lives to be transformed by Jesus, as a spiritual awakening continues in the nations.". During the week there will be a range of prayer opportunities across all the different churches in Swanage and Studland. See the posters or flyer in the Sept magazine for full details.

St Nicholas Church, Studland will be holding prayer in the Northumberland tradition from 6-7pm on Monday 8th September. Everyone is welcome.

Studland Church Online. St Nicholas Church in Studland website is phasing out the studlandchurch.com site <https://studlandchurch.com/> All our information, services, news and notices can be found on the Studland site on the "A Church near you" platform <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/9423/>. If you enter St Nicholas Studland into your search engine, the link should be near the top of the list, depending on your browser.

Ride & Stride, raising money for Dorset Historic Churches Trust, Saturday 13th September 2025. Join in a Swanage & Studland Team walk (option of 4 miles, 6 miles or 8 miles) starting at St Mark's Church at 10:30am. Contact Anne Roper 01929 427890 / anne.roper@outlook.com for further information. 50% of money raised will come back to the Swanage & Studland Team.

Funerals in our churches:

Valerie Scott	Weds 3 Sept	1.00pm	St Nicholas, Studland
----------------------	-------------	--------	-----------------------

St Nicholas Church in Studland is part of the Swanage and Studland Team

Team Rector	Revd Dr Ian Bird	Tel 01929 422916 (normal day off Friday)
Team Vicar	Revd Jo Levasier	Tel 01929 208217 (normal day off Friday)
Parish Administrator	Karon Quirey	swanage.team@btconnect.com
Parish Office	Tues & Weds 9am-5pm / Friday 9am – 4pm Tel: 01929 421117	

Visit our Team website www.swanageteam.com