



St Mary's Church, Portchester



Sunday 11th January 2026

The First Sunday of Epiphany

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

Rev Philip Parker-Osler

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

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 Phil Hiscock

9.30am Parish Eucharist

Celebrant: Rev Trevor Hubble Preacher: Rev Elizabeth Pearn
(Rev Ian is at St Peter's Titchfield this morning)

11.30am Later Morning Service with Communion

Leader: Joe Snowden

Scott Brodrick will be sharing his testimony of his recent experiences on board HMS Prince of Wales and in the Far East.

Collect for The First Sunday of Epiphany

Eternal Father,
who at the baptism of Jesus
revealed him to be your Son,
anointing him with the Holy Spirit:
grant to us, who are born again by water and the Spirit,
that we may be faithful to our calling as your adopted
children; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
Amen.

SUNDAY'S READINGS

Isaiah 42: 1-9
Acts 10:34-43
Matthew 3:13-17

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

Isaiah 49: 1-7
1 Corinthians 1:1-9
John 1: 29-42



Dates for This Week



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

Monday 12 January.

MPR: Psalm 2/Matthew 21:1-17

7.30pm Hand Bells Rehearsal - Tea Room

7.30pm Spinnaker Brass Rehearsal

Tuesday 13 January.

MPR: Psalm 9/Matthew 21:18-32

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

10.00am Staff Meeting (Office Closed During This Time)

1.30pm Jennifer's House Group

7.15pm Bible Study - Tea Room

Wednesday 14 January.

MPR: Psalm 20/Matthew 21:33-end

9.00am Morning Prayer

10.3 am St Mary's Lambs

2.00pm Mental Health Friendship Group

6.30pm Holy Communion

7.30pm Standing Committee - The Vicarage

Thursday 15 January.

MPR: Psalm 21/Matthew 22:1-14

9.30am Contemplative Prayer Group

1.30pm Women's Bible Study - The Hub

7.30pm AA Meeting - Tea Room

Friday 16 January.

MPR: Psalm 67/Matthew 22:15-33

9.00am Morning Prayer

10.00am Holy Communion - Parish Hall

2.00pm Friday Friends

2.30pm Prayers for the Persecuted Church- 10 Portchester Heights

6.00pm Newcomers Meal (Invite Only)

Saturday 17 January.

MPR: Psalm 33/Matthew 22:34-end

Sunday 18 January - Epiphany 2

8.00am Holy Communion

9.30am Parish Eucharist

11.30am Later Morning Service

4.00pm Cafe Church

6.00pm Christian Unity Service - Portchester Methodist Church

This Week's Prayers

Please remember the following in your prayers:



For this parish: Give thanks for all those who took copy of J. John 's booklet "More than a Christmas Carol" at the various services, and that seeds of searching will be sown in hearts. Pray for our new Alpha course starting on 20th January, that some from the Christmas services will attend.

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

For our Parish (Portchester and Port Solent) — Froxfield Gardens, Leckford Close, Mullion Close, Harting Gardens and Jubilee Road.

For the world around us:

Pray for peace in our troubled world. Pray that the spirit of peace inspires the hearts of leaders everywhere. Pray for just solutions to the terrors war can bring. Pray for those affected by the tragic fire in the Swiss ski resort.

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.

For those who have died: Glyn Wadey, Joyce Knight and Eileen Parker.





News and Notices



Wednesday 14th January - St Mary's Lambs, return after their Christmas holiday's. Starting at 10.30am in church.

Wednesday 14th January - 2.00pm, Mental Health Friendship Group meet in the church. See poster for more information.

Friday 16th January- Prayers for the Persecuted Church meet at 10 Portchester Heights. All are welcome.

Sunday 18th January- 4.00pm, Cafe Church, Informal worship for all the family.

Sunday 18th January- 6.00pm, Christian Unity Service to be held at Portchester Methodist Church.

Alpha Course- The next Alpha course will start on Tuesday 20 January 2026 at 6.45pm in the church. Please contact Jeff Gennings for further information or to book a place ~ jeffgennings@gmail.com

Friday 23 January- Burns Night Supper. Join us for a celebration of Robert Burns, 6.30pm in church. 3 Course meal with wine or soft drinks. Please see Richard Andrews for more information. There is a sign up sheet on the welcome table. Only 60 places are available and over half have already been taken.

Tuesday 27th January- The funeral of Glyn Wadey will take place at 11.00am in church. All are welcome to attend.

Saturday 7th February- 9.00am, Ladies Breakfast held in the Parish Hall. The guest speaker will be from Home Instead. All Ladies are very welcome.

Sunday 8th February- All Together Service 10.00am at Portchester Community School, White Hart Lane, followed by a bring & share lunch. This will be the only service today.

We are sad to announce the deaths of three of our congregation in the past week. Glyn Wadey and Joyce Knight were both regular attenders at the Parish Hall Friday service and Ian Parker's mother Eileen Parker. May they Rest In Peace and Rise in Glory.

TEARFUND Christmas Card Donations. Thank you all so much for embracing the new venture. It is really exciting to announce that the total raised for Tearfund by your precious donations is a whopping £265.10 !! Bless you for taking part and making this happen and we look forward to doing it again next Christmas. Love Sally Nguyen and Amy Sparks.

Helper needed for the 9.30 junior church on the first Sunday of the month. Would you like to help with our children's ministry once per month? Our 9.30 junior church is often very calm and quiet with most children attending 11.30. As a helper you will be assisting the leader, encouraging the children and helping to pack away. Please contact Amy if you can help childrensworker@stmary-portchester.org.uk

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.

"Word for Today" the popular daily devotional booklet is available free of charge on the welcome table, and includes a copy of the sermon preached by the Vicar to introduce this on Sunday 7th December.

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.