

THE BENEFICE OF STURMINSTER NEWTON, HINTON ST MARY AND LYDLINCH

‘Making Christ's Love Known to All’



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

Sunday 3rd May 2026 – Easter 5

St Mary's

St Peter's

St Thomas'

11:00am Holy Communion

9:30am Holy Communion

No Service

Collect

Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ have overcome death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: grant that, as by your grace going before us you put into our minds good desires, so by your continual help we may bring them to good effect; through Jesus Christ our risen Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Acts 7.55–end

But filled with the Holy Spirit, he gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ‘Look,’ he said, ‘I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!’ But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they

were stoning Stephen, he prayed, ‘Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.’ Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, ‘Lord, do not hold this sin against them.’ When he had said this, he died.

Psalm 31.1–5

- ¹ In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame; ♦ deliver me in your righteousness.
- ² Incline your ear to me; ♦ make haste to deliver me.
- ³ Be my strong rock, a fortress to save me, for you are my rock and my stronghold; ♦ guide me, and lead me for your name's sake.
- ⁴ Take me out of the net that they have laid secretly for me, ♦ for you are my strength.
- ⁵ Into your hands I commend my spirit, ♦ for you have redeemed me, O Lord God of truth.

1 Peter 2.2–10

Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you

may grow into salvation— if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God’s sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in scripture: ‘See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.’ To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe, ‘The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner’, and ‘A stone that makes them stumble, and a rock that makes them fall.’ They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

John 14.1–14

‘Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house there are many dwelling-places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so

that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.’ Thomas said to him, ‘Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?’ Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.’ Philip said to him, ‘Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, “Show us the Father”? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

Post Communion

Eternal God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life: grant us to walk in his way, to rejoice in his truth, and to share his risen life; who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

News and Notices

All events are open to all across the Benefice.

Sturminster Choral Society Concert Saturday 9th May, 7:00pm, St Mary's Church.

The Choral Society with soloists will perform Schubert's Mass in G and Rossini's Stabat Mater. Tickets £12.50 cash on the door or £13 on the Sum-Up machine. Refreshments on arrival. Please come and support us if you are able to!

Christian Aid Week May 10th-16th

There will be no house-to-house collection this year. However, there will be envelopes available at the back of all local Churches. Please take one, donate and then return the envelope to the collection plate on the next Sunday or through the Vicarage letterbox. Thanks for your support. Marilyn

St. Thomas' APCM 11th May 7:00pm in St. Thomas' Church. All welcome.

Salisbury Sudan Partnership Day 16th May

10:00am-4:00pm St. Francis' Church, Salisbury, SP1 3PN. See poster in church with email if you plan to attend.

St. Peter's APCM 19th May 7.30pm in the Village Hall. All welcome.

Sturminster Big Weekend

On Saturday 6th June at the Big Weekend, in the Railway Gardens, St Mary's will be running a tombola to raise money for our church. If you have either non-perishable food or toiletry items we could put in the tombola that would be much appreciated. You can give items to Mary, the church wardens, or Tony and Brenda. There will also be a box in the main entrance to St Mary's church for you to leave items. If you would like your gift to be collected, please email Tony at tandbstables@btinternet.com or ring 01258 471487.

On Sunday 7th June from 12:00 noon in the Railway Garden, our Mother's Union will be running a stall with games for children as part of The Big Lunch.

Salisbury Diocese Volunteers Resource and Celebration Day 5th June

10am onwards Emmaus House. The Avenue, Wilton SP2 0FG. Booking required for drop-in sessions and a celebratory lunch. Contact the Vicar for more information. Open to all who volunteer in any way in our church life.

Services & Events in the Benefice

Tuesday, 5th May

9:30am – Tots & Toast – St
Mary's Church Hall

Wednesday, 6th May

10:00am – Holy Communion –
St Mary's

Friday, 7th May

6:30pm – Choir Practice – St
Mary's

Sunday 10th May – Easter 6

Readings: Acts 17.22–31 | Psalm 66.7–
end | 1 Peter 3.13–end | John 14.15–
21.

St Peter's, Hinton St Mary

9:30am Morning Prayer

St Mary's, Sturminster Newton

9:30am Morning Prayer

6:00pm Evensong

St Thomas', Lydlinch

11:00am Holy Communion

Vicar:

Rev Mary Gubbins
revd.mary.gubbins@gmail.com
☎ 07440 680 387

Benefice Safeguarding Officer

Mrs. Nicole Forbes-Marshall
07960 827108
nicoleforbes@btinternet.com

Administration:

Please pass any notices or news for
the pew sheets to
office.sturbenefice@gmail.com
by noon Wednesday.

Lay Pastoral Assistants:

For Communion at home or
pastoral visits, please contact:
Carol Moody ☎ 01258 721 729
Fiona Norman ☎ 01258 472 693

Find us by putting 'A Church near
you' in your search engine and then
enter Sturminster Newton, Lydlinch
or Hinton St. Mary

Mothers' Union Secretary: Brenda Stables (b.stables@btinternet.com)

Churchwardens:

St Mary's Sturminster Newton

Fiona Norman ☎ 01258 472693

Tony Moody

St Peter's Hinton St Mary

Robin Gibbs ☎ 01258 471493

K Peto-Bostick ☎ 01258 475469

St Thomas a Becket, Lydlinch

John Barrett ☎ 01963 23375

Sarah Frizzle ☎ 077 4165 2713