

THE BENEFICE OF STURMINSTER NEWTON, HINTON ST MARY AND LYDLINCH

‘Making Christ's Love Known to All’



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

Sunday 04 October 2026 – Harvest Festival

St Mary's

St Peter's

St Thomas'

11:00am – Harvest Holy
Communion

9:30am – Holy Communion

6:00pm – Harvest Evensong

Collect

Almighty God,
to whose glory we celebrate the
dedication of this house of prayer:
we praise you for the many blessings you
have given to those who worship you
here:
and we pray that all who seek you in this
place may find you, and, being filled with
the Holy Spirit, may become a living
temple acceptable to 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.

Deuteronomy 28.1-14

28 If you will only obey the Lord your
God, by diligently observing all his
commandments that I am
commanding you today, the Lord your
God will set you high above all the nations
of the earth; all these blessings shall come
upon you and overtake you, if you obey
the Lord your God:

Blessed shall you be in the city, and
blessed shall you be in the field.

Blessed shall be the fruit of your womb,
the fruit of your ground, and the fruit of
your livestock, both the increase of your
cattle and the issue of your flock.

Blessed shall be your basket and your
kneading-bowl.

Blessed shall you be when you come in,
and blessed shall you be when you go out.

The Lord will cause your enemies who
rise against you to be defeated before
you; they shall come out against you one
way, and flee before you seven ways. The
Lord will command the blessing upon you
in your barns, and in all that you
undertake; he will bless you in the land
that the Lord your God is giving you. The
Lord will establish you as his holy people,
as he has sworn to you, if you keep the
commandments of the Lord your God
and walk in his ways. All the peoples of
the earth shall see that you are called by
the name of the Lord, and they shall be
afraid of you. The Lord will make you
abound in prosperity, in the fruit of your
womb, in the fruit of your livestock, and
in the fruit of your ground in the land that
the Lord swore to your ancestors to give

you. The Lord will open for you his rich storehouse, the heavens, to give the rain of your land in its season and to bless all your undertakings. You will lend to many nations, but you will not borrow. The Lord will make you the head, and not the tail; you shall be only at the top, and not at the bottom—if you obey the commandments of the Lord your God, which I am commanding you today, by diligently observing them, and if you do not turn aside from any of the words that I am commanding you today, either to the right or to the left, following other gods to serve them.

Psalm 65:8-13

- ⁸ You visit the earth and water it; ♦
you make it very plenteous.
- ⁹ The river of God is full of water; ♦
you prepare grain for your people,
for so you provide for the earth.
- ¹⁰ You drench the furrows and smooth
out the ridges; ♦
you soften the ground with showers
and bless its increase.
- ¹¹ You crown the year with your
goodness, ♦
and your paths overflow with plenty.
- ¹² May the pastures of the wilderness
flow with goodness ♦
and the hills be girded with joy.
- ¹³ May the meadows be clothed with
flocks of sheep ♦
and the valleys stand so thick with
corn
that they shall laugh and sing.

I Timothy 6.6-10

Of course, there is great gain in godliness combined with contentment; for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it; but if we have food and clothing, we will be content

with these. But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains.

Matthew 13.24-30

He put before them another parable: ‘The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, “Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?” He answered, “An enemy has done this.” The slaves said to him, “Then do you want us to go and gather them?” But he replied, “No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.” ’

Post Communion

Father in heaven,
whose Church on earth is a sign of your heavenly peace, an image of the new and eternal Jerusalem:
grant to us in the days of our pilgrimage that, fed with the living bread of heaven, and united in the body of your Son, we may be the temple of your presence, the place of your glory on earth, and a sign of your peace in the world;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

News and Notices

All events are open to all across the Benefice.

St. Mary's Sides Team

We urgently need some new members to join our Sides Team. Thank you to Isobel who has agreed to organise the rota on a temporary basis.

St Mary's Churchyard Volunteers

Our last session of 2026 will be as planned on 8th Oct at 2pm. Please come along if you are able to help.

Harvest at St Thomas'

St Thomas' has its Harvest Evensong followed by refreshments and auction of produce on Sunday 4th Oct.

Pet Blessing Service

At 9:30am on Sunday 11th October in St Peter's Kevin will lead a service to ask God's blessing for pets and companion animals. All pets are welcome.

Pilgrim Praise

All are warmly welcome to a Pilgrim Praise Service (with a healing theme as on the eve of St. Luke's Day) at St. Mary's on 17th October. Refreshments 6.30pm and service at 7:00pm. Any musicians including singers, are invited to join a rehearsal at St. Mary's at 5.15pm. Please let me know if you plan to come, so any music can be shared with you in advance.

St Mary's Big Autumn Clean

On Thursday 22nd October at 2:00pm we will be cleaning the high areas of the church using ladders and long brushes. On Friday 23rd October at 10:00am we will clean the lower areas. Please contact Vivien Floyd on 07713285067 or vilascka@gmail.com if you are able to help.

New Benefice Local Pastoral Assistants

Marilyn Stansfield and Dawn Tickle will be commissioned (alongside 5 people from the Stour Vale Benefice) as Benefice Local Pastoral Assistants by Bishop Karen on 22 October at 7pm at Kington Magna Church. Parking and refreshments in the barn next door. If you'd like to attend, please tell the Vicar, so we can know about any lifts available or needed.

Services & Events in the Benefice Mon, 5 Oct 7:00pm – St Thomas' PCC Tue, 6 Oct 9:30am – Tots & Toast – St Mary's Church Hall Wed, 7 Oct 10:00am – Holy Communion – St Mary's Fri, 9 Oct 6:00pm – Choir Practice – St Mary's	Sun 11 Oct – Trinity 19 Readings: Isaiah 25.1–9 Psalm 23 Philippians 4.1–9 Matthew 22.1–14 St Peter's, Hinton St Mary 9:30am Blessing of Pets 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	Find us on A Church Near You (www.achurchnearyou.com) and then enter Sturminster Newton, Lydlinch or Hinton St. Mary												
Lay Pastoral Assistants: For Communion at home or pastoral visits, please contact: Carol Moody ☎ 01258 721 729 Fiona Norman ☎ 01258 472 693	Administration: Please pass any notices or news for the pew sheets to office.sturbenefice@gmail.com by noon Wednesday.												
Mother's Union Brenda Stables (b.stables@btinternet.com)													
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