

THE BENEFICE OF STURMINSTER NEWTON, HINTON ST MARY AND LYDLINCH

‘Making Christ's Love Known to All’



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

Sunday 25 October 2026 – Bible Sunday

St Mary's

St Peter's

St Thomas'

11:00am – Holy Communion
6:00pm – Evensong

9:30am – Holy Communion

11:00am – Morning
Prayer

Collect

Blessed Lord,
who caused all holy Scriptures to be
written for our learning:
help us so to hear them, to read,
mark, learn and inwardly digest them
that, through patience, and the
comfort of your holy word, we may
embrace and for ever hold fast the
hope of everlasting life, which you
have given us in our Saviour Jesus
Christ, who is alive and reigns with
you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Nehemiah 8.1–4a, 8–12

8 All the people gathered together
into the square before the Water
Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to
bring the book of the law of Moses,
which the Lord had given to Israel.
Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought
the law before the assembly, both men
and women and all who could hear
with understanding. This was on the
first day of the seventh month. He read
from it facing the square before the

Water Gate from early morning until
midday, in the presence of the men and
the women and those who could
understand; and the ears of all the
people were attentive to the book of
the law. The scribe Ezra stood on a
wooden platform that had been made
for the purpose; and beside him stood
Mattithiah, Shema, Anaiah, Uriah,
Hilkiah, and Maaseiah on his right hand;
and Pedaiah, Mishael, Malchijah,
Hashum, Hash-baddanah, Zechariah,
and Meshullam on his left hand. So they
read from the book, from the law of
God, with interpretation. They gave
the sense, so that the people
understood the reading.

And Nehemiah, who was the governor,
and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the
Levites who taught the people said to
all the people, ‘This day is holy to the
Lord your God; do not mourn or
weep.’ For all the people wept when
they heard the words of the law. Then
he said to them, ‘Go your way, eat the
fat and drink sweet wine and send

portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our Lord; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength.’ So the Levites stilled all the people, saying, ‘Be quiet, for this day is holy; do not be grieved.’ And all the people went their way to eat and drink and to send portions and to make great rejoicing, because they had understood the words that were declared to them.

Psalms 119.9–16

- ⁹ How shall young people cleanse their way •
to keep themselves according to your word?
- ¹⁰ With my whole heart have I sought you; •
O let me not go astray from your commandments.
- ¹¹ Your words have I hidden within my heart, •
that I should not sin against you.
- ¹² Blessed are you, O Lord; •
O teach me your statutes.
- ¹³ With my lips have I been telling •
of all the judgements of your mouth.
- ¹⁴ I have taken greater delight in the way of your testimonies •
than in all manner of riches.
- ¹⁵ I will meditate on your commandments •
and contemplate your ways.
- ¹⁶ My delight shall be in your statutes •
and I will not forget your word.

Colossians 3.12–17

As God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with

compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Matthew 24.30–35

Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see “the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven” with power and great glory. And he will send out his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

‘From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see all these things, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place.

Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

Post Communion

God of all grace,
your Son Jesus Christ fed the hungry
with the bread of his life and the word
of his kingdom:

renew your people with your
heavenly grace, and in all our
weakness sustain us by your true and
living bread;
who is alive and reigns, now and for
ever.

News and Notices

All events are open to all across the Benefice.

St Mary's Church Boiler

St. Mary's Church Boiler has died. It will take a while to find the right solution, for now and the future. So, if you're coming to St. Mary's, wrap up well.

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.

Can you help?

Could you volunteer once a month to print off our Benefice Pew sheets using the photocopier in St. Mary's Church Hall. Training will be provided. Many will be grateful. Contact the Vicar.

New Benefice Local Pastoral Assistants

Marilyn Stansfield and Dawn Tickle were commissioned as Benefice Local Pastoral Assistants by Bishop Karen on 22 October. Please remember them in your prayers as they start in their ministry.

Light Party

31 October 3.30pm-5.30pm Stur Methodist Church. Crafts, games, party food and prizes for best 'non-scary' costume. Free. All ages welcome. Children must be accompanied

Bible Study

The 28 October Bible Study is cancelled.

All Souls Memorial Services

St Peter's Church, 1 November 9.30am names of loved ones who've died will be read out in the Holy Communion Service. Sheet at the back of church or please let the Vicar know

All Souls Memorial Service to remember loved ones who've died is at St. Mary's Church 1 November 4pm (refreshments from 3pm in the Church Hall). Sheet at the back of church or please let the Vicar know.

Services & Events in the Benefice Wed, 28 Oct 10:00am – Holy Communion – St Mary's Fri, 30 Oct 6:00pm – Choir Practice – St Mary's	Sun 01 Nov – All Saints' Readings: Revelation 7.9–end Psalm 34.1–10 1 John 3.1–3 Matthew 5.1–12 St Peter's, Hinton St Mary 9:30am Holy Communion St Mary's, Sturminster Newton 11:00am Holy Communion with Holy Baptism 4:00pm All Souls Memorial St Thomas', Lydlinch No Service		
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 Marilyn Stansfield ☎ 01258 472 534 Dawn Tickle ☎ 07579 091 110	Administration: Please pass any notices or news for the pew sheets to office.sturbenefice@gmail.com Mother's Union: Brenda Stables(b.stables@btinternet.com)		
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