

SWANAGE & STUDLAND TEAM MINISTRY

St. Mary's Sunday 4th October 2026 HARVEST



A very warm welcome to St. Mary's

8.00am	HOLY COMMUNION (said)	Revd Ian Bird
10.30am	HARVEST & FAMILY EUCHARIST	Revd Ian Bird & Kevin Burke
6.30pm	CHORAL EVENSONG	Revd Terence Handley MacMath

10.30am – Harvest Festival

Processional:	116(ii)
Gradual:	290
Offertory:	104
Communion:	255
Post Communion:	291
Setting:	<i>Nardone</i>
Motet:	Thou Visiteth the Earth <i>Greene</i>
Voluntary:	Tuba Tune <i>C S Lang</i>

6.30pm Choral Evensong

The Choristers Prayer	<i>Maxim</i>
Responses:	<i>Sumsion</i>
Psalm:	136 v.1-9
Office Hymn:	230
Canticles:	<i>Moeran</i> in D
Anthem:	My Soul there is a Country <i>Parry</i>
Hymns:	288, 289

Readings for 8am & 10.30am

2 Corinthians 9:6-15
Luke 12:16-30

Churchwardens

Avril Harris
Cliff Sutton

Readings for 6.30pm

Proverbs 2:1-11
1 John 2:1-17

Director of Music

Simon Lole

(please contact via the Parish Office)

Collect

Eternal God,
you crown the year with your goodness
and you give us the fruits of the earth in
their season:
grant that we may use them to your glory,
for the relief of those in need
and for our own well-being;
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 Prayer

Lord of the harvest,
with joy we have offered thanksgiving
for your love in creation
and have shared in the bread and the wine
of the kingdom:
by your grace plant within us a reverence
for all that you give us
and make us generous and wise stewards
of the good things we enjoy;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Coming to the 10.30am Sunday service at St Mary's

If you find the chancel steps difficult, please ask a Welcomer to arrange communion at your seat. If you need a gluten-free wafer, please let a Welcomer know. Everyone is welcome for refreshments after the service.

St Mary's Pastoral Team We have a small team of pastoral visitors at St Mary's. If you or someone you know would like a visit, please contact Rector Ian on 01929 422916.

Donations – All donations by whatever payment method are gratefully received. We have a contactless 'donation station' near the West (main) Door with the facility for Gift Aid or you can use the QR Code.



ST MARY'S DIARY FOR THE WEEK

Daily (Mon– Sat)	8.00am	Morning Prayer – All Welcome
Tues 6 th	2.30pm	All Things Bright & Beautiful service
Weds 7 th	10.00am 11.00am	T-Pot in the Rectory Classroom Holy Communion in the chapel
Fri 9 th	5.30/6.30pm	Children/Adults Choir practice

SERVICES FOR NEXT SUNDAY 11th October – Trinity 19

8.00am	HOLY COMMUNION (said)	<i>Revd Ian Bird</i>
10.30am	CHORAL EUCHARIST	<i>Canon Jeremy Oakes</i>
6.30pm	COME & SING EVENSONG	<i>Revd Dave Richards</i>

TEAM NOTICES

Church Harvest Festival Services: . **St Mary's** will celebrate today Sunday 4th October at 10.30am and **St Mark's**; also today, at the later time of 11am. St Mark's service will be followed by a Bring-and-Share Lunch. Drinks provided. Everyone is most welcome to join us at any of our Harvest Services.

'Come & Sing' Choral Evensong next Sunday, 11th October at 6.30pm in St Mary's Church. Our guest this month is Dr Philip Moore, formerly York Minster. *Come and Sing* event is open to all singers. Arrival at St Mary's is for a 4.00pm rehearsal start. Cups of tea are provided between the rehearsal end and the service start at 6.30pm. All Welcome. Music provided. Just come and sing!

Reading Scripture Together – 8 stand-alone sessions exploring the ancient and rich spiritual practice of *lectio divina*. To be held in St Mary's Rooms on Thursday evenings from 1st October – 19th November at 5pm for 5.15pm – 6.30pm. *Please see leaflets in church for more details or speak to Revd Terence Handley MacMath*. There is a sign-up sheet and further details at the back of St Mary's church for anyone interested in attending.

Confirmation - We have a couple of members of the congregation taking part in confirmation preparation. If anyone else is interested in being confirmed, please speak to Ian or one of the church wardens.

Advance Diary Date:

Jonathan Viera – at Emmanuel Baptist Church on Friday 16th October , 7.30pm. Jonathan, renowned singer and musician, will be performing his acclaimed one man show, filled with music, singing, moving and hilarious anecdotes from his professional and personal life. Tickets £10 available from Parish Office or see Rector Ian.

"That Doesn't Happen Here" : Thursday 8th October starting at 10:30am in the Rectory Classroom. The first of our topical discussion meetings using themes from the 2026 Mothers' Union action plan. You will also have the chance to enjoy coffee, cake, and general chat plus a little Origami! Quite an experience, and we look forward to sharing the time with you. Further details from Paul Baird (pauldbaird@aol.com)



All Things Bright and Beautiful takes place in St Mary's Church each Tuesday from 2.30pm – 3.30pm. A short service, which includes well known hymns, is followed by tea and cake. All are welcome.

T-Pot is held every Wednesday from 10.00am to 12.30pm in the Rectory Classroom. Come along for a cuppa and a chat.



Friday Fun Club – meets on Friday evenings 6.30-8pm, during term time, in the Rectory Classroom for school years 4-9 to enjoy food, games and chat. If you would like to join or need more information please contact Trish Clark at jandtclark@hotmail.com or Tel: 01929 425427.

REFLECTION

2 Corinthians 9.6-15 Luke 12.16-30

St Mary's and St Mark's are both celebrating Harvest Festival this week. Our celebrations come at the very end of the Church's **Season of Creation**, a time to reflect on God's wonderful world, and how we relate to it.

Harvest is a time to give thanks for God's provision. In past times, when more people lived closer to the land, it was all about the produce of the land; (when I was a Curate in industrial Wales, in the early 80s, our church Harvest displays included a bag of coal and a gallon of oil – both produced in our local community). Our readings today encourage us to think about more than just food, to recognise God's total provision for us, and our complete dependency on Him.

Our Gospel reading reminds us that we should not be too obsessed with material things. *"For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing"*. There are far more important things in life than our possessions, and of course, we must one day leave them all behind. It's interesting that Matthew tells us that the possessions are temporary, (moth and rust etc.), while Luke reminds us that **we** are temporary. Both emphasise the need for an eternal, rather than a temporal, perspective.

St Paul talks about *"a harvest of righteousness"*, and uses the image of sowing and reaping to encourage generosity. This is, of course, an important part of Harvest. We bring token offerings to decorate the Church, and, hopefully, more substantial offerings to stock up the Foodbank. We are reminded that while we have enough, and sometimes more than enough, others live in poverty. The Old Testament Harvest Celebrations, as described in Deuteronomy, always carry a warning not to forget "the widow, the orphan and the alien" – those most likely to be destitute.

The Harvest message is clear. God has blessed us; we must thank Him for these blessings, which are to be shared, not hoarded. **We thank God for the Creation, but worship the Creator!**

Revd Dave Richards

Team Contact details

Team Rector	Revd Dr Ian Bird Tel: 01929 422916 (normal day off Friday)
Team Vicar	Revd Jo Levasier Tel 07725 343768 (normal day off Monday)
Parish Administrator	Karon Quirey swanage.team@btconnect.com
Parish Office	Tues & Weds 9am-5pm / Friday 9am – 4pm Tel: 01929 421117

Visit our Team website swanageteam.com