



Sunday 22nd February 2026
Holy Communion 10.00am
Revd Tony Edmonds

**A very warm welcome to our
service this morning in
St Nicholas Church, Studland**

... and a special welcome if you are a visitor to our Church! This is a Holy Communion service, and you are most welcome to take Communion with us. If you need a gluten-free wafer, please ask. Or if you would prefer to have a blessing, just bring this Notice Sheet with you to the communion rail, to give an indication to the priest. And, if you would prefer to receive communion in your seat, just mention this to the sides person (the person who welcomed you when you came into church).

Children are most welcome in our church. Do not worry if they are noisy or make a break for freedom: we are just delighted to have the children in Church with us. There are toys in the two green boxes at the back of the Church - and everyone is welcome to use them.

We do not pass around a collection plate at St Nicholas' Church, but we are most appreciative of donations to help maintain both the Church and its ministry. We have a traditional plate for cash donations with Gift Aid envelopes available as well as a contactless card payments station at the exit to the Church. If you would like to make regular donations, please consider setting up a Standing Order with your bank: if this is of interest, please contact the Treasurer, Eric Stobart at eric@thestobarts.co.uk.

After the service, we serve coffee, tea and other refreshments in the Church Hall. Please do join us - and get to know us all a little better.

For regular updates on Church activities throughout the week, please find us on www.achurchnearyou.com You can also follow us on Facebook. (St Nicholas Church Studland) – do give us a like or two!

For additional information about St Nicholas Church and its services, please contact:
Associate Minister: Revd Dr Tony Edmonds 01929 450097 revtonyedmonds@outlook.com

Church Wardens: Barbara Matthews 01929 450218
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SWANAGE & STUDLAND TEAM MINISTRY
St. Mary's – St. Mark's – All Saints' – St. Nicholas
22 February 2026 – First Sunday of Lent

Reading for this Sunday is: Romans 5, 12 – 19

Gospel Reading: Matthew 4, 1 - 11

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. ² He fasted for forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. ³ The tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.' ⁴ But he answered, 'It is written,

"One does not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God."

⁵ Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, ⁶ saying to him, 'If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written,

"He will command his angels concerning you",
and "On their hands they will bear you up,
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone."

⁷ Jesus said to him, 'Again it is written, "Do not put the Lord your God to the test."'

⁸ Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour; ⁹ and he said to him, 'All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.' ¹⁰ Jesus said to him, 'Away with you, Satan! for it is written,

"Worship the Lord your God,
and serve only him."

¹¹ Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

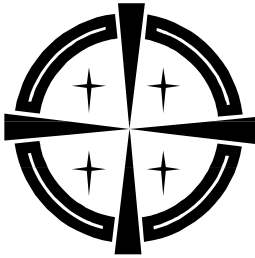
Collect

Almighty God,
whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days
in the wilderness, and was tempted as we
are, yet without sin: give us grace to
discipline ourselves in obedience to your
Spirit; and, as you know our weakness,
so may we know your power to save;
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 God,
you have renewed us with the living bread
from heaven;
by it you nourish our faith,
increase our hope,
and strengthen our love:
teach us always to hunger for him who is
the true and living bread,
and enable us to live by every word
that proceeds from out of your mouth;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

REFLECTION



On the wall in my study, I have certain pictures, documents and other items which mean something to me. I have some framed certificates reminding me of the significant stepping stones of my life. I have one or two group photographs of past gatherings with colleagues and friends; and I have the inevitable pictures of loved ones. As I look around the walls, they all transport me to bits of what I am.

I have long cherished a small book I first read whilst at Theological College called *"Becoming What I Am"*. The book is a compilation of short talks given by its author (Fr. Harry Williams) about *prayer*. I liked the book because it was simple and down to earth, and I have re-read it many times over the years. It talks to me about *where I was*...and not necessarily as if I was already *"there"*. A young ordinand appreciated that kind of approach...and I still do!

Not without humour, the book used the day to day experiences of life - the important and the trivial - to illustrate great truths about the *"spiritual"* that are common to us all. It also had a title that caught my eye! By using the word, *"becoming"* the author pointed to a journey to a future point. But by qualifying it with, *"Becoming...what I am"* we are reminded of the futility of always looking for some distant peak of spirituality to which we shall all doubtless ascend 'one day'...if we do our homework!

This ought to be the attitude to accompany us into the season of Lent. **Do not** adopt airs and graces about what you ought to be. **Do not** enter it with unrealistic expectations of your own application to rigorous routines. **Do** give yourself one or two simple goals; and **do** come regularly to church to be with God and his other very fallible people. In other words, enter it with *simplicity* and *openness*...and you will not be disappointed at its end. It's a bit like life really!

Rev Canon Jeremy Oakes

St Nicholas Church in Studland is part of the Swanage and Studland Team

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|-----------------------------|--|--|
| Team Rector | Revd Dr Ian Bird | Tel 01929 422916 (normal day off Friday) |
| Team Vicar | Revd Jo Levasier | Tel 01929 208217 (normal day off Friday) |
| Parish Administrator | Karon Quirey | swanage.team@btconnect.com |
| Parish Office | Tues & Weds 9am-5pm / Friday 9am – 4pm Tel: 01929 421117 | |

Visit our Team website www.swanageteam.com

TEAM NOTES

Studland Community Coffee Morning Thursday 26th February. The village coffee morning is back in the Church Hall from 10am to 11ish. It's a great opportunity to meet old friends and make new ones. Everyone is welcome – so please join us for great coffee (or tea) and cake – and for great conversations with friends old and new!

Studland Men's Breakfast –Saturday 7th March 2026 at 8.30 to 10 am in the Church Hall. The Men's Breakfast runs on a café style – so come any time between 8,30am – 10am for a great breakfast – and great conversation. You will be welcomed by Chef, Tony Edmonds, and Sous Chef, Peter Hawsworth, who will be cooking up a gastronomic treat of bacon rolls, sausages and black pudding, together with toast and marmalade (or honey) - and unlimited tea and coffee. They cater for vegetarians and vegans too – and, of course, offer gluten free options. There is no charge for the breakfast, but we are grateful for donations. The important thing is that you join us! Any queries, just email Stnicksbreakfast@yahoo.com

It's never too late to pray! St Nicholas, Lent Study Group on Prayer is meeting on Thursday mornings at 11.30am in the Church Hall in Studland, followed by a simple soup lunch. You can still join – and we guarantee you'll enjoy both the session and the lunch

Lent Lunches 2026 Everyone is welcome to join us for delicious soup, rolls and cheese at the following venues during Lent as we raise funds for the invaluable work of Christian Aid in our troubled world.

Friday 27th February 12:00 - 1:30 in the Rectory Classroom

Thursday 5th March 12:00 - 1:30 at All Saints' Church

Friday 13th March 12:00 - 1:30 at St. Mark's Church

Friday 20th March 12:00 - 1:30 at URC Church

You are assured of a warm welcome in good company!

'Come & Sing' Choral Evensong Sunday, 8th March at 6.30pm in St Mary's Church. Our guest this month is David Ogden, conductor and composer. *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!

Any Questions? – Tues day 24th February at All Saints Church, Ulwell Rd. Doors open at 6.30pm tea/coffee. Presentation 7.00pm by Kevin Burke – 'All done by kindness – Magic, Performance and Faith'. An intriguing evening awaits! All welcome.

Parables from Palestine. Open meeting and talk by The Very Revd Nick Papadopoulos. Tues 10th March, 7.30pm at Sandford School, Wareham, BH20 7BN. Come and hear first hand experiences and perspectives from the Holy Land. Free event. No booking required.

Funerals in our churches:

Barrie Green

Fri 27 Feb

12.00pm

St Mary's