

# SWANAGE & STUDLAND TEAM MINISTRY

## St. Mary's Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2026 Candlemas



A very warm welcome to St. Mary's

8.00am	HOLY COMMUNION (said)	Revd John Cooper
10.30am	FAMILY EUCHARIST	Revd Ian Bird
6.30pm	CHORAL EVENSONG	Revd Ian Bird

### 10.30am – Choral Eucharist

Processional: 77 (NHWS)  
Gradual: 17 (NHWS)  
Offertory: 122 (NHWS)  
Communion: 79 (NHWS)  
Post Communion: 179 (NHWS)

Setting: *Halls* Mass

Motet: Psalm 23 *Goodall*

Voluntary: Thema met Varieties  
*Andriessen*

### 6.30pm Choral Evensong

introit: Senex Puerum Portabat  
*Byrd*

Responses: *Sumsion*

Psalm: 132

Office Hymn: 453

Canticles: *Wood* in E flat (2)

Anthem: Nunc Dimittis  
*Gibbons*

Hymns: 314 (omit\*), 483

### Readings for 8am & 10.30am

Malachi 3:1-5  
Hebrews 2:14-end  
Luke 2:22-40

### Readings for 6.30pm

Haggai 2:1-9  
John 2:18-22

### Churchwardens

Avril Harris  
Ray Davis

### Director of Music

Simon Lole

(please contact via the Parish Office)

## Collect

Almighty and ever-living God,  
clothed in majesty,  
whose beloved Son was this day  
presented in the Temple,  
in substance of our flesh:  
grant that we may be presented to you  
with pure and clean hearts,  
by your Son Jesus Christ 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, you fulfilled the hope of Simeon and  
Anna,  
who lived to welcome the Messiah:  
may we, who have received these gifts  
beyond words,  
prepare to meet Christ Jesus when he  
comes to bring us to eternal life;  
for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

## 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
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	2.30pm	All Things Bright & Beautiful service
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	T-Pot in the Rectory Classroom
	11.00am	Holy Communion in the chapel
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup>	5.30/6.30pm	Children/Adults Choir practice
	6.30pm	Friday Fun Club in the Rectory Classroom

## SERVICES FOR NEXT SUNDAY 8<sup>th</sup> February – 2 before Lent

8.00am	<b>HOLY COMMUNION (said)</b>	<i>Revd Dave Richards</i>
10.30am	<b>CHORAL EUCHARIST</b>	<i>Canon Anthony Clegg</i>
6.30pm	<b>COME &amp; SING EVENSONG</b>	<i>Revd Ian Bird</i>

# WELCOME TO ST MARK'S CHURCH

Bell Street, Swanage, BH19 2SA



## THIS SUNDAY: 1<sup>st</sup> February – Presentation of Christ

**10am Holy Communion**     *Rev Dave Richards*

*Bible Theme: Malachi 3.1-5   Hebrews 2.14-18   Luke 2.22-40*

***Followed by Coffee and Cake in the Church Room***

*Gluten/wheat-free: Please talk to the Welcomer if you'd like a gluten-free Communion Wafer. We also have gluten/wheat-free refreshments*

**6pm Swanage Churches "Worship @ 6" at EBC**

## DIARY FOR THIS WEEK:

- **CHURCH & GARDEN OPEN** 10am - 4pm Monday - Saturday
- Mon 2<sup>nd</sup>: **Community Café** 10am - 12noon at Herston Village Hall with Citizens' Advice, Digital Dorset and Community Pantry
- Mon 2<sup>nd</sup>: **St Mark's Choir Practice** 6:15pm - 7pm
- Tue 3<sup>rd</sup>: **St Mark's Junior Singing Club** 3:30pm - 4:20pm
- Tue 3<sup>rd</sup>: **Fortnightly Bible Study** 6:45pm - 8:30pm
- Wed 4<sup>th</sup>: **Prayer & Share** 10am - 10:45am Church Room
- Sat 7<sup>th</sup>: **The Big Quiz Night:** 7pm for 7:30pm start, at All Saints' Church, raising money for Tearfund. Maximum of 8 people per team – come as a team or join others on the night. £5 per person to include nibbles. Soft drinks available, donation bar of wine/lager or bring your own. Please contact Gill.kaiser@aol.com

## NEXT SUNDAY: 8<sup>th</sup> February – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday before Lent

**10am Holy Communion**     *Rev Dave Richards*

*Bible Theme: Genesis 1.1 - 2.3   Romans 8.18-25   Matthew 6.25-34*

***Followed by Coffee and Cake in the Church Room***

**11:15am Team Teddy Planning Meeting in Church**

**Safeguarding Training for St Mark's Church Committee:**  
Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February at 11am in the Church Room.

**Lent Course ("The Prayer Course", based on the Lord's Prayer):** The weekly sessions at St Mark's start on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> February at 7pm in the Church Room. The course will also run on Mondays at 2pm in St Mary's Rooms (starting 16<sup>th</sup> Feb), on Thursdays at 11:30am at St Nicholas Church Hall (starting 19<sup>th</sup> Feb), and on Fridays at 4pm at All Saints' (starting 20<sup>th</sup> Feb). Please sign up on the list on the table near the font.

**Ash Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> February:** Holy Communion at 5:30pm with Rev John Cooper.

**ALTAR FLOWERS IN CHURCH:** If you are able to arrange the main display of flowers at the front of Church one Sunday, perhaps for a special date, please sign the list in the porch (this is different from the separate lists for displays on windowsills for festivals).

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**COLLECT (SPECIAL PRAYER) FOR THE PRESENTATION OF CHRIST**

Almighty and ever-living God, clothed in majesty, whose beloved Son was this day presented in the Temple, in substance of our flesh: grant that we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts, by your Son Jesus Christ 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, you fulfilled the hope of Simeon and Anna, who lived to welcome the Messiah: may we, who have received these gifts beyond words, prepare to meet Christ Jesus when he comes to bring us to eternal life; for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

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**PLEASE let Dave (07779079844) know of anyone who is unwell, in hospital or housebound who would like a visit.**



**For the latest St Mark's News check out our Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/StMarksHerston](https://www.facebook.com/StMarksHerston)**

St Mark's Church, Herston, is part of the Swanage & Studland Team  
[www.swanageteam.com](http://www.swanageteam.com)

St Mark's Website: [www.achurchnearyou.com/St-Mark-Herston](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/St-Mark-Herston)

**Donations for the Work of St Mark's Church are always welcome**

There's a plate for cash donations on top of the font, and a QR code on a poster on the wall near the door if you prefer to give online. Thank you.



**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2026**  
**Holy Communion 10.00am**  
**Revd Tony Edmonds**

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

Today is Candlemas, when the candles were traditionally brought into the Church for blessing. We hope that you enjoy this service, celebrating the Light of the World.

This is a Family Communion Service, and we hope that there will be lots of families with young children in our congregation today. If you are a parent, or a grandparent, please do not worry if children are noisy or want to run around during the service: we are just delighted to have them 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](mailto:eric@thestobarts.co.uk).

After the service, we serve coffee, tea and other refreshments in the Church Hall. Please join us - and get to know us all a little better. For regular updates on Church activities, check [www.achurchnearyou.com](http://www.achurchnearyou.com) You can also follow us on Facebook. (St Nicholas Church Studland) – do give us a like or two!

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

Church Wardens: Barbara Matthews 01929 450218  
Eric Stobart 01929 450222

[barmat18@btinternet.com](mailto:barmat18@btinternet.com)  
[eric@thestobarts.co.uk](mailto:eric@thestobarts.co.uk)

**SWANAGE & STUDLAND TEAM MINISTRY**  
**St. Mary's – St. Mark's – All Saints' – St. Nicholas**  
**Candlemas 1<sup>st</sup> February 2026**

**Reading for this Sunday:** Hebrews 2, 14 to the end

**Gospel Reading:** Luke 2, 22 - 40

<sup>22</sup> When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord <sup>23</sup> (as it is written in the law of the Lord, 'Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord'), <sup>24</sup> and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, 'a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons.' <sup>25</sup> Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. <sup>26</sup> It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. <sup>27</sup> Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, <sup>28</sup> Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

<sup>29</sup> 'Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word;

<sup>30</sup> for my eyes have seen your salvation, <sup>31</sup> which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, <sup>32</sup> a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.'

<sup>33</sup> And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. <sup>34</sup> Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, 'This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed <sup>35</sup> so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.'

<sup>36</sup> There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband for seven years after her marriage, <sup>37</sup> then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped there with fasting and prayer night and day. <sup>38</sup> At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

<sup>39</sup> When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. <sup>40</sup> The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him.

**Collect**

Almighty and ever-living God,  
clothed in majesty,  
whose beloved Son was this day  
presented in the Temple,  
in substance of our flesh:  
grant that we may be presented to you  
with pure and clean hearts,  
by your Son Jesus Christ 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, you fulfilled the hope of Simeon and  
Anna,  
who lived to welcome the Messiah:  
may we, who have received these gifts  
beyond words,  
prepare to meet Christ Jesus when he  
comes to bring us to eternal life;  
for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

# TEAM NOTICES

**321** – a 4 week course to discover life according to Jesus. Starts Tues 27<sup>th</sup> Jan, 6.30pm in All Saints Hall, 26 Ulwell Rd, Swanage. Each week starts with an informal supper, followed by input from films, thought-provoking questions and discussion. All Welcome. For more info contact Revd Jo Levasier at [jo@swanageteam.com](mailto:jo@swanageteam.com) or on 07725 343768.

**Big Quiz Night** - Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2026, 7pm for 7.30pm start at All Saints Church. Max 8 people per team – make your own team or we will introduce you to others on the night. £5.00 per person to include nibbles. Soft drinks will be available – donation bar of wine / lager or bring your own wine/ beer /lager. All funds raised will go to help the work of Tearfund. Please contact Gill Kaiser ([Gill.kaiser@aol.com](mailto:Gill.kaiser@aol.com)) or Roger Arnett ([poshandrog@btinternet.com](mailto:poshandrog@btinternet.com))

**'Come & Sing' Choral Evensong** Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> February at 6.30pm in St Mary's Church. Our guest this month is Carl Jackson, formerly HM Chapel Royal, Hampton Court. *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!

**Lent Groups:** In conjunction with other churches in Swanage we will be running a Lent Course, entitled '*The Prayer Course*'. Based on the Lord's Prayer, this excellent 6 week course will enable us to grow and deepen our prayer lives. Courses will be run in churches across Swanage and Studland. The ones being run in the Team are:

St Mary's (St Mary's Rooms)	Mon 16 <sup>th</sup> Feb	2.00pm
St Mark's Meeting Room	Tues 17 <sup>th</sup> Feb	7.00pm
Emmanuel Baptist Church	Weds 18 <sup>th</sup> Feb	6.00pm
St Nicholas Church Hall	Thurs 19 <sup>th</sup> Feb	11.30am
All Saints	Fri 20 <sup>th</sup> Feb	4.00pm

We will let people know what groups are being run in other Swanage churches soon. We hope you can join us!

**Candle Wax for Ukraine** - Ukraine still needs our support. Candle wax is being collected from local churches and communities to create cooking candles ("trench candles") and candles for villages without electricity. Please donate candles ends, candle wax, and unwanted candles in the box in St Mary's Church porch, from where it will be taken to a Ukraine support group.

**T-Pot is held** every Wednesday from 10am to 12.30pm in the Rectory Classroom. Come along for a cuppa and a chat. Everyone welcome!



**All Things Bright and Beautiful** takes place in St Mary's Church each Tuesday from 2.30pm – 3.30pm. A short service, particularly suitable for carers and those for whom they care and is dementia friendly. All are welcome.

**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](mailto:jandtclark@hotmail.com) or Tel: 425427.

# REFLECTION

## Malachi 3: 1-5, Hebrews 2: 14- 18 Luke 2: 22-40

Today we have a succession of readings that carry us through the Presentation of Christ to human kind. Malachi, tiring of his people's unfaithfulness to God announces that a day of judgement will appear. The Lord will send a messenger. He will have human qualities of skill, using work images to announce Godly images. The Lord will pronounce judgement on those who do not respect him.

Luke has begun to illustrate the earthly mission of Jesus. It is seen through the eyes of the faithful old. We who are old (in years at least!) will recognise that moment of a child being shown to his family, and we wonder, how will he or she develop? What are our own hopes and fears? How much of their lives will we enjoy? Simeon and Anna present a tender and yet powerful image. Simeon narrates the prayer of our own familiarity, "Now Lord let your servant depart in peace, according to your word....." Remember as he spoke these words the embryonic parents were listening and wondering, in both senses to what this all meant. There was for Mary the image of the sword and its purpose. Meanwhile Anna in faithfulness attended each day and in her widowhood of great length also receives this child with joy.

The message of this story was that it was not just for the people of Israel but for everyone, folks just like you and me. In our personal expression of faith these passages of scripture might become a pattern for our own use. It might be especially helpful when we embark on our Lent courses. We will each bring different images of faith, being the Annas and Simeons, or the intercessors and those who secure our lives with their prayers.

I haven't forgotten Hebrews. The author emphasises Jesus' humanity. He had to come, it is written, "That he became like his people in every way, in order to be their faithful and merciful High priest, so that their sins could be forgiven. And now he can help those who are tempted because he himself was tempted and suffered."

With every blessing  
John Cooper

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### **Team Contact details**

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

Visit our Team website [swanageteam.com](http://swanageteam.com)