

# SWANAGE & STUDLAND TEAM MINISTRY

## St. Mary's Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2026 Next before Lent



A very warm welcome to St. Mary's

8.00am HOLY COMMUNION (said)  
10.30am CHORAL EUCHARIST  
6.30pm CHORAL EVENSONG

Revd Ian Bird  
Canon Jeremy Oakes  
Revd Dave Richards

### 10.30am – Choral Eucharist

Processional: 2  
Gradual: 238  
Offertory: 96  
Communion: 252(i)  
Post Communion: 262  
Psalm: 99  
Setting: *Halls/Darke* Mass  
Motet: *Ave Verum* Mozart  
Eucharistic Prayer: E, pg 30  
Voluntary: Carillon *Vierne*

### 6.30pm Choral Evensong

If Ye Love Me *Tallis*  
Responses: *Sumsion*  
Psalm: 84  
Office Hymn: 166  
Canticles: *Dyson* in F  
Anthem: *Ave Verum* Byrd  
Hymns: 318, 19 (omit\*)

### Readings for 8am & 10.30am

Exodus 24:12-end  
2 Peter 1:16-end  
Matthew 17:1-9

### Readings for 6.30pm

2 Kings 2:1-12  
Matthew 17:9-23

### 7.30pm – Ash Weds Choral Eucharist

Processional: 237  
Gradual: 129(ii)  
Offertory: 56  
Communion: 260  
Post Communion: 123(ii)  
Psalm: 51  
Setting: *Sumsion/Aston* Mass  
Motet: *Wash Me Thoroughly* Wesley  
Voluntary: *Herzleich thut mich verlangen* Brahms

### Churchwardens

Avril Harris  
Ray Davis

### Director of Music

Simon Lole

(please contact via the Parish Office)

## Collect

Almighty Father,  
whose Son was revealed in majesty  
before he suffered death upon the cross:  
give us grace to perceive his glory,  
that we may be strengthened to suffer with  
him  
and be changed into his likeness, from  
glory to glory;  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

## Post Communion Prayer

Holy God,  
we see your glory in the face of Jesus  
Christ:  
may we who are partakers at his table  
reflect his life in word and deed,  
that all the world may know  
his power to change and save.  
This we ask 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.



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## ST MARY'S DIARY FOR THE WEEK

Daily (Mon– Sat)	8.00am	Morning Prayer – All Welcome
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup>	2.30pm	All Things Bright & Beautiful service
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	T-Pot in the Rectory Classroom
	11.00am	Holy Communion in the chapel
	7.30pm	Choral Eucharist for Ash Wednesday
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup>	5.30/6.30pm	Children/Adults Choir practice
	6.30pm	Friday Fun Club in the Rectory Classroom
Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	1.00pm	Baptism: Karlito & Santino Hartnell

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## SERVICES FOR NEXT SUNDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> February –Lent 1

8.00am	<b>HOLY COMMUNION (said)</b>	<i>Revd Ian Bird</i>
10.30am	<b>CHORAL EUCHARIST</b> (followed by Sunday School for children in St Mary's Rooms)	<i>Revd Ian Bird</i>
6.30pm	<b>CHORAL EVENSONG</b>	<i>Revd Natalie Davies</i>

# WELCOME TO ST MARK'S CHURCH

Bell Street, Swanage, BH19 2SA



## THIS SUNDAY: 15<sup>th</sup> February 2026 - Sunday before Lent

**10am Holy Communion** Rev Dr Ian Bird & Rev Dave Richards

*Bible Theme: Exodus 24:12-18 2 Peter 1:16-21 Matthew 17.1-9*

***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

## DIARY FOR THIS WEEK – Half Term

- **CHURCH & GARDEN OPEN** 10am - 4pm Monday - Saturday
- Mon 16<sup>th</sup>: **Community Café** 10am - 12noon at Herston Village Hall with Citizens' Advice, Digital Dorset, and Community Pantry
- Mon 16<sup>th</sup>: **Funeral of Rose Diffey** 12noon at St Mark's Church
- Mon 16<sup>th</sup>: **St Mark's Choir Practice** 6:15pm - 7pm, Church Room
- Tue 17<sup>th</sup>: **Lent Course at St Mark's (session 1):** 7pm in the Church Room (refreshments from 6:45pm). We will be looking at "The Prayer Course" (based on the Lord's Prayer). Everyone welcome.  
The same course is running on:  
**Mondays** at 2pm at St Mary's Church Room, **Wednesdays** at 6pm at Emmanuel Baptist Church,  
**Thursdays** at 11:30am at St Nicholas Church Hall, Studland, and  
**Fridays** at 4pm at All Saints Church.  
If you can't make all the sessions at one church, you will be able to move around as the sessions will follow the same themes each week.
- Wed 18<sup>th</sup>: **Prayer & Share** 10am - 10:45am Church Room
- Wed 18<sup>th</sup>: **Ash Wednesday** Service of Holy Communion with optional Ashing: 5:30pm at St Mark's, with Rev John Cooper

*Disciples of Christ, sharing the compassionate and caring love of God with the School and Community of which we are a part.*

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

**NEXT SUNDAY: 22<sup>nd</sup> February – 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent**

**10am Celebration Service with St Mark's Band**

*Bible Theme: God's Call – Peter (Luke 5:1-11) Rev Dave Richards*

***Followed by drinks and cake in the Church Room as we celebrate Anne & Dave Roper's Golden Wedding***

**1pm Baptism of Ace Joseph Penny**

**3pm Service of Prayer for Ukraine** at All Saints' Church, followed by tea and Ukrainian cakes. All welcome.

**St Mark's Church Sunday Lunch at the Globe: Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> March**

after our Morning Service at 12noon. Please sign the list on the table by the font so we can give the Globe an idea of numbers and menu choices. We will pay separately on the day at the Globe. Please feel free to invite anyone you normally eat with on a Sunday.

**St Mark's Church Committee:** Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February at 7:30pm

**Any Questions?** Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> February, 6:30pm for 7pm at All Saints with a presentation by Kevin Burke on Magic, Performance and Faith.

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**COLLECT (SPECIAL PRAYER) FOR THE SUNDAY BEFORE LENT:**

Almighty Father, whose Son was revealed in majesty before he suffered death upon the cross: give us grace to perceive his glory, that we may be strengthened to suffer with him and be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**POST COMMUNION PRAYER:** Holy God, we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ: may we who are partakers at his table reflect his life in word and deed, that all the world may know his power to change and save. This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

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

There is 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 15<sup>th</sup> February 2026**  
**Morning Prayer 10.00am**  
**Rev John Cooper**

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

And a special welcome if you are new to our church or are visiting the area!

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](mailto: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](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'**

### **Sunday before Lent**

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading for this Sunday: 2 Peter 1, 16 to the end**

**Gospel Reading: Matthew 17, 1 - 9**

**Psalm 99 v1 to the end**

- <sup>1</sup> The Lord is king; let the peoples tremble! He sits enthroned upon the cherubim;  
let the earth quake!
- <sup>2</sup> The Lord is great in Zion; he is exalted over all the peoples.
- <sup>3</sup> Let them praise your great and awesome name. Holy is he!
- <sup>4</sup> Mighty King, lover of justice, you have established equity; you have executed justice  
and righteousness in Jacob.
- <sup>5</sup> Extol the Lord our God; worship at his footstool. Holy is he!
- <sup>6</sup> Moses and Aaron were among his priests, Samuel also was among those who called on  
his name. They cried to the Lord, and he answered them.
- <sup>7</sup> He spoke to them in the pillar of cloud; they kept his decrees, and the statutes that he  
gave them.
- <sup>8</sup> O Lord our God, you answered them; you were a forgiving God to them, but an avenger  
of their wrongdoings.
- <sup>9</sup> Extol the Lord our God, and worship at his holy mountain; for the Lord our God is holy.

#### **Collect:**

Almighty Father,  
whose Son was revealed in majesty  
before he suffered death upon the cross:  
give us grace to perceive his glory,  
that we may be strengthened to suffer with him  
and be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory;  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

# TEAM NOTICES

**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 and other Swanage Churches 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

Don't worry if you can't make all the group sessions at one particular church, as you will be able to 'mix and match' to your convenience, as each week we will be studying the same themes in each church.

**Service of Prayer for Ukraine** – Sunday 22 February at 3pm, All Saints Church, Ulwell Rd, followed by tea and Ukrainian cakes. All welcome.

**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 27<sup>th</sup> February      12:00 - 1:30 in the Rectory Classroom

**Thursday** 5<sup>th</sup> March      12:00 - 1:30 at All Saints' Church

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

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March      12:00 - 1:30 at URC Church

You are assured of a warm welcome in good company!

**New books arriving for Lent and Easter in Saint Mary's Library include:**

"Dappled Beauty" by Carys Walsh – Through Lent with Gerard Manley Hopkins and

"Wardrobes and Rings" by Julia Golding, Malcolm Guite, and Simon Horobin – Through Lent with The Inklings (C S Lewis JRR Tolkien, Dorothy L Sayers, and T S Eliot)

**Not just St Mary's** - "Churchwarden's challenge" is for all readers of Team Notes and *Church Alive*. Clue: "Bee" observant to find the answer! "*Where in St Mary's church can you find a beehive with saintly associations?*" Written answers to St Mary's churchwardens, Prosecco or cordial for first correct answer drawn at the Family Eucharist on 1st March.

**T-Pot is held** every Wednesday from 10.00am to 12.30pm in the Rectory Classroom.

**All Things Bright and Beautiful** - St Mary's Church each Tuesday from 2.30pm – 3.30pm.

**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.

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*Funerals in our churches:*

<b>Rosemary Diffey</b>	Mon 16 Feb	12.00pm	St Mark's
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# REFLECTION

Although the Feast of the Transfiguration is observed in August, some new lectionaries include it as a prelude to Lent. The idea is that the ultimate confirmation of Jesus's identity to Peter, James and John prepares them (and us) for Jesus's inexorable journey to Jerusalem. Jesus transfigured is at one with, but radically different from Elijah (the prophets) and Moses (the Law): here is 'the Son of God', familiar from first Temple theology, united with the Father and the *shekinah* or indwelling (*sh-k-r*) feminine Spirit in the Temple, represented in scripture as cloud, dove, light, water, fire, Wisdom.

Peter wants to build *Succoth* ('booths') for Moses, Elijah and Jesus because it is around the time of Succoth, the feast of Tabernacles, when Hebrews would seek God by dwelling in tents for a week *q.v.* Leviticus 23), but the Voice in the Cloud shuts that pious suggestion down mid-sentence - *Jesus is my Son: listen to Him*. It is the same Voice and Cloud heard at Jesus's baptism. Matthew's Transfiguration – "after six days" – ie on the Sabbath) is also a post-resurrection experience, resonating with the experience of the Marys at the tomb on the Sabbath of Sabbaths, and the disciples' sight and worship of Jesus in Galilee (Matt 28:1-10). It also resonates with Matthew's mystery of the hidden treasure, hidden and revealed, sought and found.

Serious continuities and discontinuities for us, then: the first universal covenant and the blood covenant; the Law and the indwelling Spirit; physical and spiritual vision; Jesus and God-in-Trinity. There is also the contradiction in both Old and New Testaments that we can indeed 'see God' – full 'salvation' described in the scriptures - but that it is impossible to see God – because unredeemed humanity is too sinful, and/or because our physical eyes can't (by definition) see what is spiritual.

First temple theology (expressed in Exodus 24, rather than Exodus 33.20 or Deuteronomy 4:12) expresses the gracious indwelling and self-revelation of God *within* Creation: the architecture, rites and teaching represent Genesis 1. God dwells within it, veiled but visible to his 'Sons' – his anointed ones. Jesus the promised *nazar* (restorer) comes to redeem all people and heal their blindness and deafness (Isaiah 6:9). He fulfils the Law, so they are free of it, and may live eternally, restored to Eden (Rev. 2:7).

Use the eyes and ears you have to seek the treasure, see, hear and live?

*Revd Terence Handley MacMath*

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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)