

SWANAGE & STUDLAND TEAM MINISTRY

St. Mary's Sunday 15th March 2026 Lent 4 – Mothering Sunday



A very warm welcome to St. Mary's

8.00am	HOLY COMMUNION (said)	<i>Revd Natalie Davies</i>
10.30am	CHORAL EUCHARIST FOR MOTHERING SUNDAY	<i>Revd Natalie Davies</i>
6.30pm	CHORAL EVENSONG	<i>Revd Ian Bird</i>

10.30am – Choral Eucharist

Processional:	422
Gradual:	342
Offertory:	360(omit *)
Communion:	311
Post Communion:	163
Psalm:	34 v 11-20
Setting:	<i>Aston/Sumsion</i> Mass
Motet:	Shall we not love thee, Mother Dear? <i>Lole</i>
Eucharistic Prayer:	G, pg 35
Voluntary:	Fugue on 'Magnificat' <i>J S Bach</i>

6.30pm Choral Evensong

Ave Maria	<i>Lindley</i>
Responses:	<i>Ebdon</i>
Psalm:	31 v 1-8
Office Hymn:	202
Canticles:	<i>Stanford</i> in C
Anthem:	Mary's Magnificat <i>Carter</i>
Hymns:	104, 205
Voluntary:	Aria <i>Carter</i>

Readings for 8am & 10.30am

Exodus 2:1-10
Colossians 3:12-17
John 19:25b-27

Readings for 6.30pm

Micah 7:11-20
James 5:1-12

Churchwardens

Avril Harris
Ray Davis

Director of Music

Simon Lole

(please contact via the Parish Office)

Collect

God of compassion,
whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary,
shared the life of a home in Nazareth,
and on the cross drew the whole human
family to himself:

strengthen us in our daily living
that in joy and in sorrow
we may know the power of your presence
to bind together and to heal;
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

Loving God,
as a mother feeds her children at the breast
you feed us in this sacrament

with the food and drink of eternal life:
help us who have tasted your goodness
to grow in grace within the household of
faith:

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
Tuesday 17 th	2.30pm	All Things Bright & Beautiful service
Wednesday 18 th	10.00am	T-Pot in the Rectory Classroom
	11.00am	Holy Communion in the chapel
Friday 20 th	5.30/6.30pm	Children/Adults Choir practice
	6.30pm	Friday Fun Club in the Rectory Classroom

SERVICES FOR NEXT SUNDAY 22nd March –Lent 5 - Passiontide

8.00am	HOLY COMMUNION (said)	<i>Revd Dave Richards</i>
10.30am	CHORAL EUCHARIST	<i>Canon Anthony Clegg</i>
6.30pm	CHORAL EVENSONG	<i>Revd Natalie Davies</i>

WELCOME TO ST MARK'S CHURCH

Bell Street, Swanage, BH19 2SA



THIS SUNDAY: 15th March 2026 – Mothering Sunday

10am Holy Communion *Rev Dave Richards*

Bible Theme: Exodus 2:1-10 Colossians 3:12-17 John 19:25-27

Followed by Coffee and Cake in the Church Room

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

DIARY FOR THIS WEEK

- **CHURCH & GARDEN OPEN** 10am - 4pm Monday - Saturday
- Mon 16th: **Community Café** 10am - 12noon at Herston Village Hall with Citizens' Advice, Digital Dorset, and Community Pantry
- Mon 16th: **St Mark's Choir Practice** 6:15pm - 7pm, Church Room
- Mon 16th: **Invitation to EBC Men's Italian Night:** 7pm at the King's Arms, Langton. Contact Clive on 07540187089
- Tue 17th: **St Mark's Junior Singing Club** 3:30pm - 4:20pm
- Tue 17th: **Lent Course at St Mark's (session 5):** 6:45pm for 7pm
- Wed 18th: **Prayer & Share** 10am - 10:45am Church Room
- Thurs 19th: **Memorial Service for Marian Booth:** 3pm at All Saints' Church
- Fri 20th: **Lent Lunch at the URC:** 12noon - 1:30pm raising money for Christian Aid
- Fri 20th: **Funeral of Elsie Clark at St Mark's:** 12noon
- Sat 21st: **"Many Hands" Action Morning Cancelled.**
Dave received lots of apologies and, rather than a "Few Hands" event, he decided to cancel and try to rearrange for a Saturday after Easter.

St Mark's AGM is on Sunday 22nd March after the 10am Service. The following officers need to be nominated to serve St Mark's for the coming year (forms are near the font): 2 Churchwardens, 1 PCC Member, 2 Committee Members, 2 Deanery Synod. Agendas are now available. For further details please talk to Marion.

NEXT SUNDAY: 22nd March 2026 – 5th Sunday of Lent

10am Holy Communion *Rev Dave Richards*

Bible Theme: Ezekiel 37:1-14 Romans 8:6-11 John 11:1-45

Followed by Coffee, Cake and St Mark's AGM

PCC Meeting: Tuesday 24th March at 7pm at All Saints' Hall.

Next Celebration Service – Palm Sunday, 29th March at 10am

Easter Flowers: If you would like to decorate a window for our Easter Celebrations, please sign the list in the porch to show which window. Thank you to people who've already signed up.

COLLECT (SPECIAL PRAYER) FOR MOTHERING SUNDAY:

God of compassion, whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary, shared the life of a home in Nazareth, and on the cross drew the whole human family to himself: strengthen us in our daily living that in joy and in sorrow we may know the power of your presence to bind together and to heal; 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: Loving God, as a mother feeds her children at the breast you feed us in this sacrament with the food and drink of eternal life: help us who have tasted your goodness to grow in grace within the household of faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

St Mark's Church, Herston, is part of the Swanage & Studland Team
www.swanageteam.com

St Mark's Website: 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 font if you want to give online. Thank you to everyone for your donations, however they're given.



Sunday 15th March 2026
Mothering Sunday 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 new to our church or are visiting the area!

We are always delighted to welcome children to our church. Please do not worry if they are noisy or need to run around, we are just delighted to have you all 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 normally have a special Family Communion on the first Sunday of each month – and would love to see you again then.

We do not pass around a collection plate at St Nicholas, but, if you would like to contribute to the upkeep of the Church, your donation would be gratefully received. We have a traditional plate for cash donations (and there are gift aid envelopes too) and we also have a payment station to take card payments: again, there is a facility for adding gift aid to your payment.

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
Eric Stobart 01929 450222

barmat18@btinternet.com
eric@thestobarts.co.uk

SWANAGE & STUDLAND TEAM MINISTRY
St. Mary's – St. Mark's – All Saints' – St. Nicholas
15th March 2026 – Mothering Sunday

Reading for this Sunday is: Exodus 2, 1 - 10

Gospel Reading: Luke 2, 33 - 35

³³ And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. ³⁴ 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 ³⁵ so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.'

Collect:

God of compassion,
whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary,
shared the life of a home in Nazareth,
and on the cross drew the whole human family to himself:
strengthen us in our daily living
that in joy and in sorrow
we may know the power of your presence
to bind together and to heal;
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:

Loving God,
as a mother feeds her children at the breast
you feed us in this sacrament
with the food and drink of eternal life:
help us who have tasted your goodness
to grow in grace within the household of faith:
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

TEAM NOTICES

Many thanks to the Hiett family who have given daffodils for this year's Mothering Sunday posies. We are also very grateful to the Friday Fun Club who made our lovely posies for today - thank you!

Lent Groups: In conjunction with other churches in Swanage we are 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. The next meetings are:

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

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

You are assured of a warm welcome in good company!

Annual Parochial Church Meeting – Tuesday 21st April, 7.30pm at All Saints Church, Ulwell.

Annual Revision of Electoral Roll 2026 - This Roll lists those members of the Church aged 16 or over who wish to be on their Parish Church register and thus a voting member of the Church of England at the Annual Parochial church council meeting and for the parish representatives on the deanery synod. To ensure this is kept up to date with any changes of address etc it is revised annually and so you are urged to ensure you are on the Roll by completing the form available in each church which also gives more details.

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)

Funerals/Thanksgiving services in our churches:

Marian Booth	Thurs 19 th March	3.00pm	All Saints
Elsie Clark	Fri 20 th March	12.00pm	St Mark's
Philip Woolston	Weds 25 th March	1.00pm	St Mary's

REFLECTION

Exodus 2: 1-10

Welcome to Mothering Sunday. Not “Mothers’ Day” although I understand why this new title tends to dominate now. Mothering Sunday is a religious day. Mothers’ Day is rather more of a marketing opportunity, where flowers, chocolates and Sunday lunches cost a lot more than any other Sunday. Nevertheless, I don’t want to be mealy mouthed about it, as at its heart it wants to celebrate the debt of love that we owe to our Mothers.

If we go back in time congregations from the countryside would make a kind of pilgrimage to the cathedral or the most significant church in the town, we called it the Mother Church. It was a day of celebration, and at a time when many young people were in service, they were allowed time off to visit their homes and families especially of course their mothers.

For Christians Mothering Sunday sets its sights on the great religious mother in our Bibles. Most significantly Mary, the Mother of the Lord, was a quite ordinary person, She was chosen by God for that very reason. As the mother of Jesus she would bear the trials well known to every mother. She encouraged him in his childhood, supported him in his adolescence and then had to let him go, as his ministry began. She was sometimes puzzled and hurt as her child grew up. At his crucifixion she endured the experience that no mother would wish to endure, the death of her son.

Featured in Exodus is a very ordinary Mother in a truly awful period of history, their enslavement in Egypt which had only had one objective in mind. To stifle the growth of the Jewish population by killing all the male infants at birth.

This story is all about women. An anonymous young woman, her daughter, and a princess. The things that they had in common were compassion, bravery and love. It is a tender story, made more poignant by the fact that the mother of the child could not declare him as her own. In fact at the beginning she could see no other option but to leave him to chance. Now she had the joy and pain of nursing him and losing him. Part of God’s plan we hear, but at what cost?

In today’s turmoil in the middle east we can see live on television the horror of war, together examples of compassion, bravery and love mingled down with pain, anger and despair. One thing we could do, is quietly dedicate our prayers to those who are suffering, and pray for wisdom and compassion from world leaders, what ever side they be on. Let us see our posies as a symbol of a mother’s love and remember also their strength and resourcefulness. Amen

Revd John Cooper

Team Contact details

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 swanageteam.com