

SWANAGE & STUDLAND TEAM MINISTRY

St. Mary's Sunday 7th December 2025 Advent 2



A very warm welcome to St. Mary's

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

10.30am – Family Eucharist

Processional:	241 (NHWS)
Gradual:	174 (NHWS)
Offertory:	122 (NHWS)
Communion:	173 (NHWS)
Post Communion:	109 (NHWS)
Psalm:	

Setting: *Nardone*

Motet: The Angel Gabriel
Archer

6.30pm Choral Evensong

Adam Lay Y Bouden	<i>Ord</i>
Responses:	<i>Ebdon</i>
Psalm:	11
Office Hymn:	29
Canticles:	Short Service <i>Weelkes</i>
Anthem: A Great and Mighty	
Wonder	<i>Praetorius</i>
Hymns:	178, 32

Readings for 8am & 10.30am

Isaiah 11:1-10
Romans 15:4-13
Matthew 3:1-12

Readings for 6.30pm

Psalms 11
1 Kings 18:17-39
John 1:19-28

Churchwarden

Avril Harris
Ray Davis

Director of Music

Simon Lole

(please contact via the Parish Office)

Visit our Team website www.swanageteam.com

Collect

Almighty God,
purify our hearts and minds,
that when your Son Jesus Christ comes
again as judge and saviour
we may be ready to receive him,
who is our Lord and our God.

Post Communion Prayer

Father in heaven,
who sent your Son to redeem the world
and will send him again to be our judge:
give us grace so to imitate him
in the humility and purity of his first
coming
that, when he comes again,
we may be ready to greet him
with joyful love and firm faith;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

If you come with children, we have activity packs for them if required - please talk to a Welcomer. Also please don't hesitate to make use of our children's area.

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.

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.

ST MARY'S DIARY FOR THE WEEK

Daily (Mon– Sat)	8.00am	Morning Prayer – All Welcome
Tuesday 9 th Dec	2.30pm	All Things Bright & Beautiful service
Wednesday 10 th	10.00am 11.00am	T-Pot in the Rectory Classroom Holy Communion in the chapel
Friday 12 th	2-4pm 5.45/6.30pm 6.30pm	Christmas Mingle Afternoon Choir practice Friday Fun Club in the Rectory Classroom

SERVICES FOR NEXT SUNDAY 14th December – Advent 3

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

WELCOME TO ST MARK'S CHURCH

Bell Street, Swanage, BH19 2SA



THIS SUNDAY: 7th December 2025 – Advent 2

10am Holy Communion Rev Dave Richards

Bible Theme: Isaiah 11:1-10 Romans 15:4-13 Matthew 3:1-12

Followed by Coffee & 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 Invitation to “Worship@ 6” at Emmanuel Baptist Church

DIARY FOR THIS WEEK:

- **St. Mark's Church & Garden Open** 10am- 4pm, Mon – Sat
- Mon 8th: **Community Café** 10am - 12noon at Herston Village Hall with Citizens Advice, help with technology + Community Pantry
- Mon 8th: **Choir Rehearsal** 6pm - 7pm Church Room NB Time
- Tue 9th: **St Mark's Junior Singing Club:** 3:30pm - 4:20pm, Church Room, for children in School years 3 to 6. FREE
- Wed 10th: **Prayer & Share:** 10am - 10:45am Church Room
- Wed 10th: **Swanage Town Band Carols on the Bandstand** 6:30pm (if wet, this event will be on Wednesday 17th December)
- Thurs 11th: **Christmas Tree Festival** at Emmanuel Baptist Church until Saturday 13th. The Singing Club perform on Thursday at 4:10pm
- Sat 13th: **Harmony Rocks Concert:** St James' Kingston 2pm Free

NEXT SUNDAY: 14th December 2025 – Advent 3

10am Holy Communion Rev John Cooper & Rev Dave Richards

Bible Theme: Isaiah 35:1-10 James 5:7-10 Matthew 11:2-11

Followed by Coffee & Cake in the Church Room

4pm Lights of Love Remembrance Service at Emmanuel Baptist Church following the Christmas Tree Festival

Please see the back page of Church Alive! for details of all the Swanage & Studland Team Christmas Events & Services

St Mark's Christmas Meal: Monday 15th December, 6.30 for 7pm at The Village Inn, Ulwell, Swanage BH19 3DG. Meals need to be ordered by **TODAY** and paid for by Friday 12th December. Refunds for any cancellations cannot be made after the deadline has passed. The cost for 2 courses is £28 and 3 courses £34. The menu and sign-up sheets are on the table near the font. Uta will collect all food orders and cash payments, as payment is required from one source for the booking. Thanks to Uta.

One Christmas Card to Friends at Church: People are welcome to give one Christmas Card to all Church members and pin it on the board, and give a donation to Routes to Roots working with homeless people.

Delivering Christmas Cards to Herston Residents: If you can help, please take a pack from the table in the Church Room.

Celebrate Christmas with the Salamanda Swing Band: Tuesday 16th December at the Studio, Mowlem Theatre, at 7:30pm. Tickets £10 in advance from Sue's Cards or online (see poster) or £12 on the door.

ST MARK'S CHRISTMAS PARTY: Sunday 21st December after the Morning Service, in the Church Room - **Christmas Jumpers welcome (or maybe just a Christmas scarf or tie?)**. It will be wonderful if a few people are able to bring along some party food and drink.

COLLECT (Special Prayer) for Advent 2: Almighty God, purify our hearts and minds, that when your Son Jesus Christ comes again as judge and saviour we may be ready to receive him, who is our Lord and our God.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER: Father in heaven, who sent your Son to redeem the world and will send him again to be our judge: give us grace so to imitate him in the humility and purity of his first coming that, when he comes again, we may be ready to greet him with joyful love and firm 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 of Churches www.swanageteam.com



Sunday 7th December at 10.00am
Family Communion
Revd Tony Edmonds

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

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: For more information, 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 join us - and get to know us all a little better. For regular updates on Church activities, check 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 barmat18@btinternet.com
Eric Stobart 01929 450222 eric@thestobarts.co.uk

SWANAGE & STUDLAND TEAM MINISTRY
St. Mary's – St. Mark's – All Saints' – St. Nicholas'
7th December 2025 – 2nd Sunday in Advent

Reading for this Sunday: Romans 15, 4 - 13

Gospel Reading: Matthew 3, 1 - 12

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.' This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

'The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

"Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight."

Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

'I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing-floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

Collect

Almighty God,
purify our hearts and minds,
that when your Son Jesus Christ comes
again as judge and saviour
we may be ready to receive him,
who is our Lord and our God.

Post Communion Prayer

Father in heaven,
who sent your Son to redeem the world
and will send him again to be our judge:
give us grace so to imitate him
in the humility and purity of his first
coming
that, when he comes again,
we may be ready to greet him
with joyful love and firm faith;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

TEAM NOTICES

Our Special Christmas Services & events cards are at the back of each church listing all events and services in our 4 churches over the Christmas period. Please take one plus some for friends and neighbours. You are most welcome to join us at any event or service.

Christmas Tea Party at The Swanage School – Thursday, 11th December, 2.30-4pm in the school hall. Senior residents of Swanage, congregants, users of church activities, plus carers/companions are invited to meet some of our students for entertainment and the items students are baking to serve with tea and coffee. Others will perform a short pantomime and the choir will lead a festive songs sing-along. If you wish to attend please sign up on the sheet at the back of church, or email suefletcher@theswanageschool.co.uk, or call the school on 01929 500599, by Monday 8th December.

Cleaning at St Mary's - the existing volunteers are taking on more of the cleaning of the church buildings. If you can help, occasionally or regularly, join us at church on Saturday mornings at 9.30.

Welcomers for St Mary's Christmas services- please sign up at the back of church if you can be a Welcomer for our Christmas services.



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 Things Bright and Beautiful is particularly suitable for carers and those for whom they care and is dementia friendly. Is there someone who you could bring along or encourage to come? All are welcome.

Advance Notice – there will NO All Things Bright & Beautiful service on December 23rd or 30th.

T-Pot is held every Wednesday from 10.00am to 12.30pm in the Rectory Classroom. So if you are on your own on a Wednesday or new to the area and would like to meet others, come along for a cuppa and a chat.



Friday Fun Club – meets on Friday evenings 6.30-8pm in the Rectory Classroom, during term time, for years 4-9 to enjoy food, games and chat. All are welcome.

Community Coffee Studland's Community Coffee Morning has moved back to the Church Hall for the winter season. Please join us on Thursday mornings from 10am to 11am – for coffee, cake and conversation. We'd love to see you there.

Monthly Parish Magazines – you can access both the Church Alive! magazine and Studland Parish News on our new website swanageteam.com/team-magazine.

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 Monday)

Parish Administrator

Karon Quirey swanage.team@btconnect.com

REFLECTION

Today we will light the second candle on our Advent wreaths. This candle has been taken to symbolize the prophets. The lives of the Old Testament prophets were shaped by waiting—waiting for the coming of the Messiah which had been foretold to them by God. In this month of Advent we mirror the prophets' lives of expectation, dwelling on passages of scripture in which the coming of Christ is prophesied. These prophecies make up a rich tapestry of Christ's identity which are included in the liturgy of this season in the Advent O Antiphons. These ancient refrains have been used in our advent prayers since the 6th or 7th century and are useful for reflection as we prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ.

Each of the antiphons are titles drawn from the Old Testament prophets. In Latin they are: Sapientia, Adonai, Radix Jesse, Clavis David, Oriens, Rex Gentium, Emmanuel, and in English: Wisdom, Lord, Root of Jesse, Key of David, Morning Star, King of the Nations, God with us. When read in reverse in the first letters of each title forms an acrostic- ERO CRAS which is Latin for "I will be with you tomorrow" reinforcing the immediacy of Christ's coming (and knowing the speed with which Advent usually goes, it will not be long before we will indeed celebrate Christ's coming into the world!).

There is an additional antiphon however that is included in the Sarum Rite (the medieval liturgy used at Salisbury Cathedral) and so is unique to our Cathedral and which I think we can lay claim to in the rest of Salisbury Diocese as well! And that is O Virgin of Virgins. Because Mary, the mother of Jesus, expresses the perfect faith- a faith that is humble, expectant and that rejoices in God's promises which will be fulfilled at Christmas with the birth of Jesus.

Let us pray then that as we journey through Advent and prepare ourselves to celebrate the coming of Christ into the world to be like Mary, listening to God's call on her life with humility, in sure and joyful expectation that Christ, our Emmanuel, is coming. *Veni Emmanuel, Come Lord Jesus! Amen.*

Revd Natalie Davies