



Week 2: Sharing in the Scriptures

The Scriptures are more than words to know.

They are an invitation into a story to live in, a banquet to feast on, a guide to live life by, and a treasure to rejoice in.

Come hear the voice of Scripture today.

Bible reading: Romans 15.1-4

We who are strong ought to put up with the failings of the weak, and not to please ourselves. Each of us must please our neighbour for the good purpose of building up the neighbour. ... For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope.

This reading suggests that our personal backstories are to be found within Scripture's wider story, where we hear the voice of its previous chapters directing how we are to live out its next ones. A story that helps us endure present challenges because we know how it ultimately ends in and with Jesus.'

Questions for reflection

- ü What is your approach to reading the Bible? Do you follow a plan, or read spontaneously?
- ü Are there parts of the Bible you usually avoid? How might they actually be 'for our instruction'?
- ü What are some of the limitations and frustrations you encounter in everyday life?
- ü How does the Bible offer hope in those situations?

Prayer

Lord, thank you for the gift of your word.

Through the encouragement we find in the Scriptures, renew our hope.

May your truth sustain us and dwell within us. Amen



The Parish of St Mary, Portsea with St Faith's

Notices for 1st March 2026
2nd Sunday in Lent

Today

3pm Panto Players clean up at St Faith's

Monday March 2nd
S David

10am Funeral Service at St Mary's
Noon Mass at St Mary's (live streamed)

Tuesday March 3rd
Lent (Week 2)

9.30am Mass at St Faith's
followed by refreshments **and Lent reflection**

Wednesday March 4th
Lent (Week 2)

Noon Mass at St Mary's (live streamed)
Followed by **Fellowship Lunch and Lent reflection**

Thursday March 5th
Lent (Week 2)

10.30am Mass at St Faith's
followed by refreshments
3.15pm Funeral Service for Jo Plamer
at Portchester Crematorium

Friday March 6th
Lent (Week 1)

10am Mass at St Mary's (live streamed)
10.30am by Coffee and Chat

Saturday March 7th
SS Perpetua

9am Draw Near Breakfast at St Mary's
NO Just Ask at St Mary's *come and*

& Felicity enquire about Christenings, Weddings etc or simply
'just
ask' something of the clergy.

Sunday March 8th **8am BCP Eucharist** at St Mary's
Lent 3 **10am Mass and hymns** at St Faith's
10am Sung Mass at St Mary's (live streamed)
4pm Choral Evensong at St Mary's

Please note we often take photographs at our services and events that may appear on social media – please let us know if this causes you any problems.

If you have any suggestions as to what you would like to see included on these notices, please let us know.

Contact Parish Office 02392 814444
officeassistant@portseaparish.co.uk
Revd Wendy May 07341 569234 assocvicar@portseaparish.co.uk
Fr Bob 02392 822687 vicar@portseaparish.co.uk

Maundy Thursday April 2nd – It is our tradition to 'wash' 12 people's feet at the evening service – as Jesus washed his disciples feet at the Last Supper. Then after the service we will respond to his call to watch and pray – at St Faith's till 8pm and at St Mary's till Midnight. **Please can you sign list in church to either have a foot 'washed' or to cover a time of prayer.**

Easter Flowers to help us celebrate the light and joy of the risen Christ we will decorate the church with Lillies and flowers. **If you would like to donate in memory of someone or in thanksgiving for something then please fill in form available at Church** – or pay by BACS – reference 'flowers'

Easter Eggs as in previous years we are inviting you to donate Easter Eggs to share with families supported by the

Roberts Centre. Please can you bring them in by Palm Sunday ,

Saturday 9am The first **light breakfast** and reflection on 'Draw Near 'please let Fr Bob know in advance if you intend to come along.

Mon March 9th 5pm Community Iftar at St Mary's. Join us as we host a 'breaking of the Fast' with local community leaders and groups – including local Muslim communities
If you can help to welcome our guests please let Fr Bob know.

7.30pm at St Faith's – there will be chance to reflect in silence and prayer with the **Julian Prayer Group.**

Friday March 13th Can you help us prepare bunches of flowers to distribute in our churches on Mothering Sunday – join us **after Mass at 10.30am at St Mary's**

Saturday March 14th 9am Draw Near Breakfast

Sunday March 15th 10am special services for Mothering Sunday at both Churches – including the distribution of flowers to those who care for us.

Tuesday March 17th 6pm Social Justice Group at St Faith's

Friday March 20th 4pm Find My Voice celebration at St Mary's

Sunday March 22nd 4pm Music and Readings for Passiontide
at St Mary's

Saturday March 28th 10am – Messy Holy Week at St Mary's – craft and activities for young families ending with a lunch.

Palm Sunday March 29th We will start our keeping of Holy week

with a **procession from St Faith's to St Mary's at 9.30am**
Full details of Holy week services will follow,

Sunday April 12th **At end of 10am service a blessing of the Wedding of Brian and Thabi**
at St Mary's. You are all invited to join them for a drink and cake in the Church after the service.

Monday May 4th **The May Fayre –**
raffle tickets are now available for you to take and sell. 1st Prize donated by Barrells - £100!
We will soon be asking for your help on the day –
please put the date in your diary!

Parish Retreat **Friday May 29th – Sunday 31st May – Hilfield Friary Dorset**

Join us for our parish retreat in the stunning setting of Hilfield Friary in Dorset, at the most beautiful time of the year.

We will be taking over Bernard House and Juniper House, sharing food, periods of reflection, the opportunity to join with the Brothers in their daily prayers, and free time to enjoy the beautiful surroundings and rest, read, walk, pray.

There are 16 spaces available. Further details to follow.

Costing not finalised yet, but we don't want lack of funds to be a barrier to anyone.

Please contact Rev Wendy May if you would like to reserve a place:

wendymay.jacobs@portseaparish.co.uk