

# TEAM NOTICES

**Holy Week & Easter Services.** Please pick up a card at the back of church listing all our Swanage and Studland Team and Churches Together services. If you know anyone who would like to join us please take a card for them.

**Christian Aid Lent Lunches 2024.** The final Lent Lunch will be held at: the Methodist Church on Friday 22nd March, starting at 12:30. All are welcome to come for soup, bread and cheese in support of Christian Aid.

**Maundy Thursday Eucharist at St Mary's** – If you would like your feet washed at the Maundy Thursday service on 28<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm please sign up on the sheet at the back of St Mary's.

**'Come & Sing' Choral Evensong** Sunday, 24<sup>th</sup> March at 6.30pm in St Mary's Church. Our guest this month is Dr David Flood (formerly Canterbury Cathedral). *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!

**All Things Bright and Beautiful** takes place in St Mary's Church each Tuesday from 2.30pm – 3.30pm. All are welcome.



**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!

**Fun and Food in the Community:** "Awards for All" has funded the URC to centre community outreach around preparing and sharing food together. The first session is **at the URC Hall at 12.30 pm on 24th March**. All welcome, no charge but donations welcome. It'd be helpful to know if you're attending and have any food allergies/vegetarian etc. There'll be a sign-up list in the URC hall, or email [rrichardcoleman@gmail.com](mailto:rrichardcoleman@gmail.com) or phone 07739793489.

**Concert in St Nicholas Church** – Songs from the Shows. On Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30pm, St Nicholas Church will be hosting a concert by Gregory Steward, a classically trained tenor and graduate of the Royal Welsh College of Music. Still only 22, Gregory has already achieved success in a number of vocal competitions. His passion is opera and he will be singing a selection of classical favourites, as well as songs from shows such as *Les Misérables*, *Carousel* and *West Side Story*. Tickets are £12 each (Under 18s - free), available from Studland Stores or from Barbara on 01929 450218. And, of course, refreshments will be available on the night! All proceeds will go to the Organ Restoration Fund.

**Parking in St Mary's Churchyard** – If you park in the churchyard, please take care not to drive on, or across, the central lawn area. The ground is soft and the turf is churned up when cars drive over it.

**Studland's Community Coffee Morning** is held every Thursday from 10am in St Nicholas' Church Hall. Each week, we provide good coffee (or tea) with biscuits and cake (gluten free options). We have a great time meeting old friends and making new ones. We love to see friends from Swanage too!

# REFLECTION

If you have had a chance to read Rev David Richards “front piece” in Church Alive or Studland Parish News, he challenges us as Christians to be, as excited about Easter as Christmas. To quote a previous Rector, David Callard, Easter is even better than Christmas. V43 of John Ch.12 says “they loved human glory more than the Glory that comes from God. It is well worth reading the whole of chapter 12 of John’s gospel. Equally it is well worth reading the whole story of Ruth, to fully appreciate how well God responds in a story. We hear how her mother and father-in-law leave Bethlehem. This is a story of how people become refugees and how they are responded to. As Christians we become aware of how God’s grace works in unlikely people and situations. In order to cooperate fully with these generous, often unasked for gifts we are called to be faithful. Ruth’s example of faithfulness must have come at some personal cost, yet she is unwavering in obedience. During Lent many of us who have attended “Differences” have been encouraged to be Curious, Present and to Reimagine. Perhaps there is one other habit we should cultivate in order that the first three become more fruitful, Obedience. We can have a much wider picture of the things we have been encouraged to do throughout Lent if we put God at the center of everything we think, say and do. We will shine like a light in the world rather than people who “loved human glory more than the Glory that comes from God.

In Ch. 12 of John’s Gospel Jesus has to face his own crisis v.32-33 “And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw all people to myself.’ He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.” We know despite facing an horrific death he was obedient because he knew the mind of God and the reason for His crucifixion. What love is this? Both David Callard and David Richards are right to encourage us to celebrate something bought at such huge cost. Let the Joy of Easter be shared with those who need that Joy even more than us.

*Revd Tony Higgins*

---

## **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](mailto:swanage.team@btconnect.com)

**Parish Office**

Tues & Weds 9am-5pm / Friday 9am – 4pm Tel: 01929 421117

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