Parish Church of St Mary, Storrington

Faith, Hope and Love in the heart of the community

Welcome

If you are new to Storrington, or a long-term resident, we want to warmly welcome you to your Parish Church for Storrington and the Cootham area of the village. You will find us in Church Street, on the corner with School Lane.

We value diversity, and St Mary's is a place where all are welcome – young and old, married, single, divorced, or with a partner, committed believers along with the curious, the wounded, or disillusioned. We are a place and a people of new hope and second chances, thanks be to God.

Our church building is normally open during the day – many people use it – and the peaceful churchyard has beautiful views over the South Downs National Park. It's a great place to be, and a great place to be yourself.

Revd Jonathan Swindells (Rector) *Day Off Monday* **Rectory Office, Rectory Road, Storrington, RH20 4EF Email: frj.stmary@gmail.com Tel: 07538 011 579 / 01903 742888**

Website www.storringtonparishchurch.org.uk Facebook www.facebook.com/stmarystor

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

SUNDAY WORSHIP

8 am, 10 am, and 6 pm

The **morning** services are at 8am and 10am.
The 8am service is a small and contemplative traditional language Holy Communion service from the Book of Common Prayer.
The 10am service is a sung Holy Communion service in modern language from Common
Worship, which lasts just over an hour. Refreshments, including Fairtrade filter coffee, and friendly chat follow all the 10am services.

Our **evening** services take place on the 1st & 2nd Sundays of the month and are smaller and more meditative in tone, lasting around 30 to 45 minutes.
Normally Evensong, with sung canticles, responses, and hymns. There is also a short homily talk.

WORSHIP DURING THE WEEK

Every Tuesday at 8.30am on Zoom
Morning Prayer with Fr Jonathan

2nd Wednesday of the month at 10 am Holy Communion – in traditional language of the Book of Common Prayer.

4th and 5th Wednesday of the month at 2 pm Holy Communion – in traditional language of the Book of Common Prayer.

A PLACE TO GROW

We believe everyone is loved by God and is part of his family. Whatever your background, age, ability, gender or sexuality, whatever your level of faith or doubt, whatever the story of your life, we'll be glad to see you.

If you would like to explore the Christian faith and spirituality, or want to talk about something in confidence, please get in touch, we will be happy to listen.

There are groups that meet in the church or at houses in the village to discuss and explore faith. There are also study groups during Lent, and other opportunities for reflection and discussion during the year. We are an open-minded and inclusive church, and we try to make St Mary's a place where people are helped to question and think about their faith for themselves.

CONFIRMATION

Adults are normally prepared for confirmation, (and baptism if they haven't been baptised) through informal one-to-one conversations with the rector. Young people (11+) are normally prepared in groups. Please contact the rector if you want to know more.

FOR CHILDREN

ON SUNDAY MORNINGS… We like having children in our worship just as they are! If you feel an hour long service is too long for them, a handy hint is to come halfway through – at around 10.30, when most of the "sitting and listening" bits of the service have finished – readings, sermon etc. so they and you can be there for communion and for the refreshments and chat afterwards.

Children are most welcome on any Sunday or during the week to make use of the children's area at the back of the church, which has toys, books, and other activities around Christian themes.

A more informal **MESSY CHURCH** takes place on the **1st Sunday of the month at 9.30am** in **The Old School**, for craft activities, games, songs, Godly Play and delicious treats! It's about fun, friendship, faith and discovering God's love in Jesus. It's for everyone and all ages!

GETTING TOGETHER DURING THE WEEK
Come and make friends at our get togethers!

CAFÉ IN THE CHURCH Every 2nd Wednesday of the month in church at 10.30 am.
Coffee, chat, fun and games.

CAFÉ IN THE CHURCH Every 4th & 5th Wednesday of the month in church at 2.30pm.
Coffee, chat, fun and games.

GETTING INVOLVED

Like all Church of England churches we are only able to keep going because of the generous support of the congregation and local community. We do not receive any state financial support, and apart from one full time priest, everyone is a volunteer. If you would like to get involved, you will be welcomed with open arms.

GIVING TIME AND TALENTS
We need you! We need you first and foremost because you are a child of God. Just by being among us you will enrich our community. But you can help in other ways too. Church members serve both the church and local community – singing in the choir, ringing church bells, working with children, maintaining the building and our beautiful churchyard, welcoming and stewarding. If you've got something to offer, let us know!

GIVING MONEY
Every little helps, but regular giving – gift aided if you pay tax – is especially welcome. You can join the **Parish Giving Scheme** if you would like to be a regular donor. Please consider signing up by calling 0333 002 1271. You'll need the following details:
Parish Name: St Mary, Storrington **PGS Code:** 102070300 www.parishgiving.org.uk
For **one-off donations**, there is contactless card donation point at the back of church.

OTHER INFORMATION

BAPTISM (Christening)

We are very happy to christen children or adults at St Mary's church if they live in the parish or are on the church electoral roll. If they live in another parish, we may need to consult with their own parish priest to get his or her good will for the christening to happen here. Christenings can happen on a Sunday morning service or at another time – we will try to be as flexible as possible about dates and times.

GETTING MARRIED AT ST MARY'S

We will be delighted to conduct your marriage here at St Mary's church. You can get married here if at least one of you lives in the parish or are on the church electoral roll or have a "qualifying connection" with the church, which covers a wide range of circumstances. Most people can get married at St Mary's church. Please contact us to talk about this. We will marry those who have been divorced, under some circumstances, but we will need to meet with you to talk about it first. We are also happy to help you renew your vows, for example at a significant anniversary.

At the moment, we can't legally marry same-sex couples, however, we can offer pastoral support in respect of your marriage/civil partnership in accordance with the Church of England House of Bishops' 2014 guidance (para 18).

BURIAL OR INTERMENT OF ASHES

Those who live in the parish at the time of their death or who are on the church electoral roll are entitled to burial in the Storrington churchyard. Because the churchyard is short of space, we cannot allow burial of those outside the parish. The same applies to the internment of ashes. Check with www.achurchnearyou.com to see if you live in the parochial parish of Storrington.

FUNERAL SERVICES

We are always happy to conduct funeral services either in church or at a crematorium or cemetery, whether the burial is to happen at Storrington or not, and will work with you to put the funeral together as you want it.

FAMILY/LOCAL HISTORY

For information about records held at St Mary, Storrington, please contact our Rectory Office on Tuesday and Thursday mornings, 10am – 1pm.

The Storrington & District Museum based in the Old School next to the church, may also be of help to you. The museum is usually open Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday. www.storringtonmuseum.com

WANT TO KNOW MORE?

CHURCH WEBSITE

www.storringtonparishchurch.org.uk The church website has details of worship and church activities, prayer resources, weekly news sheet, photos and much more.

3 HERALDS MAGAZINE

A combined church magazine produced by the parishes of Storrington, and Sullington, Thakeham with Warminghurst for the whole Storrington community.

If you would like to receive a copy, please email the Rectory Office.

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