

## READINGS AND SERVICES 23-28 DEC

### Monday 23 December

Ps 130; Mal 1: 1, 6-end; Matt 19: 1-12

### Tuesday 24 December, Christmas Eve

2 Sam 7: 1-5, 8-11, 16; Ps 89: 2, 19-27; Acts 13: 16-26; Luke 1: 67-79

10.30 am Communion Rev'd Alan Glover

2 pm & 4 pm Nativity Service (Repeated)

11.30 pm Midnight Mass

### Wednesday 25 December, Christmas Day

Ps 110; Isa 62: 1-5; Matt 1: 18-end

10.am Family Communion with Carols

### Thursday 26 December, Stephen, Deacon, First Martyr

Ps 13; Jer 26: 12-15; Acts ch6

### Friday 27 December, John, Apostle and Evangelist

Ps 21; Exod 33: 12-end; 1 John 2: 1-11

### Saturday 28 December, The Holy Innocents

Ps 36; Gen 37: 13-20; Matt 18: 1-10

8 am Prayers

## READINGS AND SERVICES 30 DEC -4 JAN

### Monday 30 December

Ps 113; Jonah 2; Colossians 1: 15-23

### Tuesday 31 December

1 John 2: 18-21;; Ps 96: 11-end; John 1: 1-18

10.30 am Communion Rev'd Niccy Hunt

### Wednesday 1 January, Naming and Circumcision of Jesus

Ps 103; Genesis 17: 1-13; Romans 2: 17-end

### Thursday 2 January

Ps 18: 1-30; Ruth 1; Colossians 2: 8-end

### Friday 3 January

Ps 127; Ruth 2; Colossians 3: 1-11

### Saturday 4 January

Ps 89: 1-37; Ruth 3; Colossians 3: 12-4: 1

8 am Prayers

## CONTACT TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Team Rector:

Rev'd Claire Rose-Casemore 475765

Rev'd Marisa Cockfield 239339

Rev'd Alan Glover: (self supporting) 451147

Churchwardens: Chris Hall 479450/07521 956006

Ben Duhig 07799 076361

Parish Administrator: Debbie Crawford 474078

Pastoral Care Co-ordinator: Lorna Dorrington 477117

Church Office

opening hours: 10 am-12 noon, Mon-Fri 474078

St Mary's House, 9 Church Walk, Bideford. EX39 2BP

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ST MARY'S  
PARISH  
CHURCH  
BIDEFORD

## BIDEFORD PARISH BULLETIN

Part of the Mission Community of  
Bideford, Landcross, Littleham, Monkleigh  
and Weare Giffard

*Our Purpose:*

*TO SEEK FIRST THE KINGDOM OF GOD*

## SUNDAY 22 DECEMBER 2019 FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

**WELCOME!** Please stay for tea or coffee after the service—we would love to chat with you.

If you don't normally take communion but would like God's blessing, please come up to the altar rail bringing this bulletin. Alcohol free wine is available at the 10 am service: please go to the right hand side of the altar and then ask the chalice administrator. Gluten free wafers are also available on request before the service.

This morning's preacher at the 8 am and 10 am services is Rev'd Claire Rose-Casemore.

Tonight is our **SERVICE OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS** at 7 pm, after which we serve mulled wine and mince pies. Please invite friends and family to this special service.

On the 5th Sunday (four times a year) we will be coming together as a Mission Community to worship God together for a 5 Parish Morning Praise. This will alternate between St Marys and the four Villages. A Communion Service is available at 8 am and 7 pm too at St Marys, but we would really love to see as many as possible supporting the 5 Parish Mission Praise. The first 5th Sunday is on 29th December at 10 am at St Marys.

There will be a 5 Parish Communion Service on Sunday 29 December at 7 pm.

The next Coffee and Communion will be on Mon 6 Jan 10.30 for 11 am at Pine Lodge, Slade, Bideford - the home of Chris and Mary Hall (at the top of Northdown Rd.) Any queries please ring me 477117. welcome. Many thanks Lorna

Please note there will be no bulletin next week, Sunday 29 December.

The Church office will be closed from Friday 20 December at 12 noon and be open again at 10 am on Thursday 2 January 2020.

**Please pray for those people living in:**

Monday: St. Mary's Flats, Salterns Tce  
Tuesday: Scratchface Lane, Short Close  
Wednesday: Silver Street, Soloman Drive  
Thursday: Shamwicks Close, Slade  
Friday: Southcott Avenue, South Ave  
Saturday: South Bank Dr, Southfield Road

**Please pray for those who are sick:**

Amanda Beer, Maryanne Benson, Trish Bishop, Pauline Carpenter, Tim Cotter, Nicky Day, Gill Dean, Alan Hooper, Tyler Hooper Graham and Karel Johnston, Eileen King, Alan Power, Beryl Pullin, David Sharp, Kevin Smith, Jean Stewart, Iris Way, Marion Woolf

**Please remember the souls of the departed,** and the families of those who have recently been bereaved, and those whose anniversaries occur at this time.



St Mary's has two prayer lines. Each one has a group of about 10-12 people who commit to praying for a list of people each day, all with differing needs. Some people prefer to remain anonymous so just an initial is used. It is done in complete confidence and anyone can ask to be prayed for or ask for another person to be prayed for. We communicate by email so that "pray-ers" can be notified quickly about urgent prayers. This is separate from the list of people to be prayed for on the bulletin. Contact the church office or Pattie on 01237 476501/07984937179  
morrispattie59@gmail.com

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If we can do anything to help you please get in touch. If we don't have the answers we will try to put you in touch with someone who does. Contact Church Office 474078 or Lorna 477117.  
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**ENTRANCE HYMN**

HAIL TO THE LORD'S ANOINTED,  
great David's greater Son!  
hail, in the time appointed,  
his reign on earth begun!  
He comes to break oppression,  
to set the captive free,  
to take away transgression,  
and rule in equity.

O how blest that wondrous birthday,  
when the Maid the curse retrieved,  
brought to birth mankind's salvation,  
by the Holy Ghost conceived,  
and the Babe, the world's Redeemer,  
in her loving arms received,  
evermore and evermore.

This is he, whom seer and sybil  
sang in ages long gone by;  
this is he of old revealed  
in the page of prophecy;  
lo! he comes, the promised Saviour;  
let the world his praises cry!  
evermore and evermore.

Sing, ye heights of heaven, his praises;  
Angels and Archangels, sing!  
wheresoe'er ye be, ye faithful,  
let your joyous anthems ring,  
every tongue his name confessing,  
countless voices answering,  
evermore and evermore.

**NEXT SUNDAY 29 DECEMBER 2019  
FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS**

Readings: Isaiah 63.7-9

Heb. 2. 10-end

Matt. 2. 13-end

- 8 am HOLY COMMUNION  
President: Rev'd Alan Glover  
Preacher: Rev'd Alan
- 10 am 5 PARISH MORNING PRAISE  
Sarah Cordingley
- 7 pm 5 Parish Communion  
President and Preacher:  
Rev'd Robin Pirrie

**SUNDAY 5 JANUARY 2020  
SECOND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS  
PLOUGH SUNDAY**

Readings: Genesis 1: 9-13

Matthew 6: 25-end

- 8 am HOLY COMMUNION  
President: Rev'd Claire Rose-Casemore  
Preacher: Rev'd Niccy Hunt
- 10 am SIMPLE COMMUNION  
President: Rev'd Claire Rose-Casemore/Paul Dean  
Preacher: Rev'd Niccy Hunt
- 7 pm Evensong  
President and Preacher:  
Rev'd Marisa Cockfield

**MONDAY 6 JANUARY 2020**

Readings: tbc

- 7 pm 5 PARISH EPIPHANY SERVICE  
St Mary's

## **COMMUNION HYMNS**

BORN IN THE NIGHT, MARY'S CHILD,  
A long way from Your home;  
Coming in need, Mary's child,  
Born in a borrowed room.

Clear shining light, Mary's child,  
Your face lights up our way:  
Light of the world, Mary's child,  
Dawn on our darkened day.

Truth of our life, Mary's child,  
You tell us God is good:  
Prove it is true, Mary's child,  
Go to Your cross of wood.

Hope of the world, Mary's child,  
You're coming soon to reign:  
King of the earth, Mary's child,  
Walk in our streets again.

INFANT HOLY, INFANT LOWLY,  
For His bed a cattle stall;  
Oxen lowing, little knowing,  
Christ the babe is Lord of all.  
Swift are winging angels singing,  
Nowells ringing, tidings bringing:  
Christ the babe is Lord of all;  
Christ the babe is Lord of all.

Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping  
Vigil till the morning new;  
Saw the glory, heard the story,  
Tidings of a gospel true.  
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow,  
Praises voicing, greet the morrow:  
Christ the babe was born for you!  
Christ the babe was born for you!

## **FINAL HYMN**

OF THE FATHER'S HEART BEGOTTEN  
ere the world from chaos rose,  
he is Alpha: from that Fountain,  
all that is and hath been flows;  
he is Omega, of all things  
yet to come the mystic Close,  
evermore and evermore.

By his word was all created;  
he commanded and 'twas done;  
earth and sky and boundless ocean,  
universe of three in one,  
all that sees the moon's soft radiance,  
all that breathes beneath the sun,  
evermore and evermore.

He assumed this mortal body,  
frail and feeble, doomed to die,  
that the race from dust created  
might not perish utterly,  
which the dreadful Law had sentenced  
in the depths of hell to lie,  
evermore and evermore.

He comes with succour speedy  
to those who suffer wrong;  
to help the poor and needy,  
and bid the weak be strong;  
to give them songs for sighing,  
their darkness turn to light,  
whose souls, condemned and dying,  
were precious in his sight.

He shall come down like showers  
upon the fruitful earth,  
and love, joy, hope, like flowers,  
spring in his path to birth:  
before him on the mountains  
shall peace, the herald, go;  
and righteousness in fountains  
from hill to valley flow.

Kings shall bow down before him,  
and gold and incense bring;  
all nations shall adore him,  
his praise all people sing:  
to him shall prayer unceasing  
and daily vows ascend;  
his kingdom still increasing,  
a kingdom without end.

O'er every foe victorious,  
he on his throne shall rest;  
from age to age more glorious,  
all-blessing and all-blest:  
the tide of time shall never  
his covenant remove;  
his name shall stand for ever,  
his changeless name of love.

## **COLLECT**

Eternal God,  
As Mary waited for the birth of your Son,  
so we wait for his coming in glory;  
bring us through the birth pangs of this  
present age to see, with her, our great  
salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

## **THE FIRST READING**

### **Isaiah 7: 10-16**

Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test. Then Isaiah said: 'Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.

## THE SECOND READING

### **Romans 1: 1-7**

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ, To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

### **GRADUAL HYMN**

LONG AGO, PROPHETS KNEW  
Christ would come, born a Jew,  
come to make all things new ;  
bear his people's burden,  
freely love and pardon.

*Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring !  
sing, choirs, sing, sing, sing !  
When he comes,  
when he comes,  
who will make him welcome ?*

God in time, God in man,  
this is God's timeless plan :  
he will come, as a man,  
born himself of woman,  
God divinely human.

Mary, hail ! Though afraid,  
she believed, she obeyed.  
In her womb, God is laid :  
till the time expected,  
nurtured and protected,

Journey ends ! Where afar  
Bethlem shines, like a star,  
stable door stands ajar.  
Unborn Son of Mary,  
Saviour, do not tarry !

*Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring !  
sing, choirs, sing, sing, sing !  
Jesus comes !  
Jesus comes !  
We will make him welcome !*

## GOSPEL READING

### **Matthew 1: 18-25**

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.' All this took place to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: 'Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel', which means, 'God is with us.' When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife,

### **OFFERTORY HYMN**

NOW THE HOLLY BEARS A BERRY AS  
WHITE AS THE MILK,  
And Mary bore Jesus, all wrapped up in  
silk:

*And Mary bore Jesus our Saviour for to be,  
And the first tree in the greenwood, it was  
the holly.  
Holly! Holly!  
And the first tree in the greenwood, it was  
the holly!*

Now the holly bears a berry as green as  
the grass,  
And Mary bore Jesus, who died on the  
cross:

Now the holly bears a berry as black as  
the coal,  
And Mary bore Jesus, who died for us all:

Now the holly bears a berry, as blood is it  
red,  
Then trust we our Saviour, who rose from  
the dead: