

## THIS WEEK'S READINGS AND SERVICES

### Monday 12 December

Ps.40; Isaiah 30.19-end; Mark 7.1-23

### Tuesday 13 December – Lucy, Martyr of Syracuse, 304; Samuel Johnson Moralists, 1784

Ps. 70; Isaiah 38.1-20; Mark 7.24-8.10

### Wednesday 14 December Jhn of the Cross, Poet, Teacher, 1591

Ps. 75; saiah 40.12-end' Mark 8.11-9.1

### Thursday 15 December

Ps. 76; Isaiah 42.1-17; Mark 9.2-32

### Friday 16 December

Ps. 98; Isaiah 43.14-44.5; Mark 9.33-end

### Saturday 17 December – O Sapientia; Eglantyne Jebb, Social Reformer, Fouders of "Save the children", 1928

s. 71; Isaiah 44.24-45.13; Mark 10.1-31

## CONTACT TELEPHONE NUMBERS

### Team Rector:

Rev'd Claire Rose-Casemore 01237 475765

Rev'd Marisa Cockfield 01237 239339

Rev'd Robin Pirrie 01237 479192

Rev' Chris Hutchins 07776 191789

Rev'd Alan Glover: (self-supporting) 01237 451147

Churchwardens: Ben Duhig 07799 076361

Ro Day 01271 860520

Parish Administrator: Debbie Crawford 01237 472551

Pastoral Care Co-ordinator: Lorna Dorrington

01237 477117 (please use area code as well)

Director of Music: Chris Beechey 01237 420652

### Church Office

opening hours: 9 am–12 noon, Mon–Thurs 472551

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

Email: [admin@stmaryschurchbideford.org](mailto:admin@stmaryschurchbideford.org)

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## 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 11 DECEMBER 2022 THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

- 8 am SAID HOLY COMMUNION  
President: Rev'd Marisa Cockfield
- 9.30 am ALL-AGE CHRISTINGLE
- 11.15 am ENCOUNTER

### SUNDAY 18 DECEMBER 2022 FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

- 9.30 am MORNING WORSHIP WITH HOLY COMMUNION  
President: Rev'd Claire Rose-Casemore  
Talk: Rev'd Rev'd Claire Rose-Casemore
- 11.15 am ENCOUNTER CAROL SERVICE
- 7 pm NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS SERVICE  
(To be recorded by Radio Devon)

*This church currently has a policy of not taking collections during services*

*If you would like to donate to the work and ministry of St Mary's Church, we would be very grateful. You can donate at the door using our contactless machine or post cash in the slot in the same unit.*

*If you would like to find out about regular giving, then please speak to one of the clergy or one of the Church Wardens. Thank you for your kind generosity.*

## Dates of Events and Meetings

Mon 12	9.30am Holy Dusters 7.30 pm Zoom Standing Committee
Tues 13	1.00 – 3.00pm Bideford College Year 7 Carol Service 7.00 pm Alpha Course
Wed 14	9.30 am Music Makers (last one of term - book through church office) 12 noon Funeral of John Dare 3.45 – 5.30pm Messy Church (book through Church Office)
Thurs 15	10-11.15am East –the-Water (Year 1) to make Christingles in church
Fri 16	11.15–1.00pm Friday Diner 2.00pm St Mary’s School KS2 Christingle Service 6.00 – 7.00pm Choir Practice
Sat 17	8.00 am Morning prayer 10.00am Nativity Rehearsal
Sun 18	9.30am Mornng Worshp with Holy Communion 11.15 am Encounter Carol Service 7.00pm Nine Lessons and Carols Service
Mon 19	9.30 am Holy Dusters

## PRAYERS

Please hold Jonathan, Catherine, Andrew and their families in your prayers ahead of John Dare’s funeral on Wednesday 14 December at 12 noon in St Mary’s Church. Everyone is very welcome to attend.

## APPLEDORE SINGERS’ CHARITY CHRISTMAS CONCERT – TODAY, 11 DECEMBER AT 2.30PM

Appledore Singers are holding their Charity Christmas Concert, in aid of North Devon Hospice, on Sunday 11 December, 2.30pm, at Northam Hall (top of Fore Street). Entry at the door £6 (U16s free) to include light refreshments. Contact Pam Beechey on 01237 420652

## CHRISTMAS CAROLS OUTSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH, MILL STREET 17 DECEMBER AT 11AM

Everyone is welcome to to the Christmas Carols starting from 11 am.

## ENCOUNTER CAROL SERVICE, 18 DECEMBER AT 11.15AM

Come along to our contemporary service of carols, readings and seasonal message.

## NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS SERVICE- 18 DECEMBER AT 7PM

Join our special service of Nine Lessons and Carols (to be recorded this year by Radio Devon for broadcasting on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.) After the service there will be mulled wine and mince pies.

## SUNDAY 11 DECEMBER, SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### COLLECT

God for whom we watch and wait,  
you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way of your Son:  
give us courage to speak the truth,  
to hunger for justice,  
and to suffer for the cause of right,  
with Jesus Christ our Lord.

### THE FIRST READING

#### James 5. 7-10

#### Patience in Suffering

Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

### THE SECOND READING

#### Matthew 11. 2 - 11

#### Messengers from John the Baptist

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, ‘Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?’ Jesus answered them, ‘Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offence at me.’

#### Jesus Praises John the Baptist

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: ‘What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written,

“See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,  
who will prepare your way before you.”

Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

