

THIS WEEK'S READINGS AND SERVICES

Monday 5 December

Ps.30; Isaiah 45. 14-end; Thessalonians ch.1

Tuesday 6 December – Nicholas, Bishop of Myra c.326

Ps. 56; Isaiah ch.46; 1 Thessalonians 2.1-12

Wednesday 7 December- Ambrose, Bisop of Milan, Teacher, 397

Ps.62; Isaiah ch.47; 1 Thessalonians 2.13-end

Thursday 8 December – The Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Ps. 54; saiah 48. 1-11; 1 Thessalonians ch.3

Friday 9 December – Ember Day

s. 86; Isaiah 48.12-end; 1 Thessalonians 4.1-12

Saturday 10 December – Ember Day

Ps. 42; Isaiah 49.1-13; 1 Thessalonians 4.13-end

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 Dorrinton

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

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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 4 DECEMBER 2022 SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

9.30 am CELTIC COMMUNION
President: Rev' Claire Rose-Casemore
Talk: Rev'd Robin Pirrie

11.15 am ENCOUNTER

TUESDAY 6 DECEMBER

10.30 am HOLY COMMUNION (M.U. Corporate)

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

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 5	9.30am Holy Dusters 11 am Funeral of Ivor Hayes 2.0 pm Mothers Union. "Christmas Here and There" - MU speaker Ann Leigh. followed by a festive tea. All are welcome
Tues 6	10.30am Holy Communion (MU Corporate) 12 noon Interment of Isobel Green's ashes 12.30pm Abbotsham School – tour and talk 7.00pm Northam Choral rehearsal 7.00 pm Alpha Course 7.30 pm Parish Prayer in St Mary's House
Wed 7	9.30 am Music Makers (book through church office)
Thurs 8	2.30–3.30 pm Kingsley School Concert
Fri 9	11.15–1.00pm Friday Diner Christmas Lunch
Sat 10	8.00 am Morning prayer 10.30am–12.30pm Holy Grounds Coffee Morning 6.30 pm Light Up a Life Service – Pannier Market 7.30pm Northam Choral Christmas Concert
Sun 11	8.00 am Said Holy Communion 9.30 am All Age Christingle 11.15 am Encounter
Mon 12	9.30 am Holy Dusters 7.30 pm Zoom Standing Committee

CHRISTIAN AID CHRISTMAS CONCERT – 6 DECEMBER AT 6PM

There will be a Christmas Concert for Christian Aid at Bideford Methodist Church on Tuesday, 6 December at 6.00 pm. St George's Infants and Appledore Schools will perform as well as Littleham Howlers and Shirwell Singers. A cash collection will be taken for the work of Christian Aid.

LIGHT UP A LIFE SERVICE, PANNIER MARKET- 10 DECEMBER AT 6.30PM

A special service for anyone who misses loved ones and a chance to remember them and celebrate their life.

NORTHAM CHORAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT – 10 DECEMBER AT 7.30PM

Please join us for Carols and Christmas music. There will be a £5 entry and retiring collection for RNLI.

APPLEDORE SINGERS' CHARITY CHRISTMAS CONCERT – 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 the Christmas Carols starting from 11 am.

SUNDAY 4 DECEMBER, SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

COLLECT

Almighty God,
purify our hearts and minds,
that when your Son Jesus Christ comes again as judge and saviour
we may be ready to receive him,
who is our Lord and our God.

THE FIRST READING

Romans 15. 4 - 13

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. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

'Therefore I will confess^[a] you among the Gentiles,
and sing praises to your name';

and again he says,

'Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people';
and again,

'Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,
and let all the peoples praise him';

and again Isaiah says,

'The root of Jesse shall come,
the one who rises to rule the Gentiles;

in him the Gentiles shall hope.'

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

THE SECOND READING

Matthew 3. 1 - 12

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near. This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

'The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

"Prepare the way of the Lord,

make his paths straight.'" Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

'I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with^[c] the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing-floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

