

THIS WEEK'S READINGS AND SERVICES

Monday 13 February

Psalm 44; 2 Chronicles 9: 1-12; John 19: 1-16

Tuesday 14 February - Cyril and Methodius, Missionaries to the Slavs, 869 and 885: Valentine, Martyr at Rome, c.269

Psalm 48; 2 Chronicles 10: 1-11.4; John 19: 17-30

Wednesday 15 February – Sigfrid, Bishop, Apostle of Sweden, 1045; Thomas Bray, Priest, Founder of the SPCK and SPG, 1730

Psalm 119: 57-80; 2 Chronicles 12; John 19: 31-end

Thursday 16 February

Psalm 57; 2 Chronicles 13: 1-14.1; John 20.1-10

Friday 17 February – Janani Luwum Archbishop of Uganda, Martyr, 1977

Psalm 51; 2 Chronicles 14.2-end; John 20.11-18

Saturday 18 February

Psalm 68; 2 Chronicles 15:1-15; John 20.19-end

CONTACT TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Team Rector:

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Rev'd Marisa Cockfield 01237 239339

Rev'd Robin Pirrie 07584 261686

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Director of Music: Chris Beechey 01237 420652

Church Office

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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 12 FEBRUARY 2023

THE SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE LENT

- 8.00 am SAID HOLY COMMUNION
President: Rev'd Marisa Cockfield
- 9.30 am ALL-AGE FAMILY WORSHIP
with All-Age Team and Rev'd Claire Rose-Casemore
- 11.15am ENCOUNTER SERVICE
- 12.30 pm Baptism of Jack Carpenter
- 6 pm Evensong at Weare Giffard

SUNDAY 19 FEBRUARY 2023

THE SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE LENT

- 9.30 am MORNING WORSHIP WITH HOLY COMMUNION
President: Rev'd Chris Hutchins
Talk Rev'd Claire Rose-Casemore
- 11.15am ENCOUNTER SERVICE

Please note that next month the All-Age Service will be on the third Sunday, 19 March at 9.30 am (rather than the usual second Sunday) to coincide with Mothering Sunday.

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 13 February	9.30am Holy Dusters 2.00pm Mothers Union "The Wardrobe"
Tues 14	7.30pm Northam Choral Rehearsal
Wed 15	10.00am Stay & Play 3.45pm Mary's Place Warm Hub
Thurs 16	6.30pm 5 Parish Social & Skittles at Littleham – see details below 7.00pm – An Evening with Danny and Friends – see details below
Fri 17	11.00am Friday Diner 6.00 pm Choir Practice 7.30pm Friends of St Mary's at The Old Customs House, Bideford
Sat 18	8.00am Morning Prayer 10.30am – 12.00 Singing Workshop (John Nixon)
Sun 19	9.30am Morning Worship with Holy Communion 11.15am Encounter Service

Stay and Play

Don't forget Stay and Play session on Wednesday 15 February from 10am-12 noon. This is for children under 5 and their carers. There will be plenty of fun activities and story time and songs.

Mary's Place Warm Hub

The next Mary's Place Warm Hub will be on Wednesday 15 February from 3.45-6pm. It will offer a warm space and good free food for families. There will be help with reading for primary children and a good space for older children.

Please tell anyone you know who might be interested to come along on Wednesday.

5 Parish Social, Supper & Skittles

If you would like to sign up for the 5 Parish Social, Supper and Skittles at Littleham Village Hall on **Thursday, 16 February from 6.30-9.30pm**, today (12 Feb) is the last day to add you name to the list by the main door.

As well as skittles there will be games available to play and singing by The Howlers. The cost will be £5 per head, with children under 12 free. Included in the price will be bowl food, and coffee and tea (bring your own other drinks.)

An evening with Danny and Friends

Please join Danny Cashmore and friends in St Mary's Church on Thursday, 16 February at 7 pm for an evening's musical entertainment. Price is £10 (cash) on the door.

Sail the Atlantic

Join the Friends of St Mary's Church at The Old Customs House, Bideford at 7.30 pm on Friday 17 February when Ellie Doe will be talking about her solo voyage across the Atlantic in her small yacht. Entrance is £5, or free to Friends of St Mary's.

LENT COURSE 2023

The Lent Course we will be following this year '**Dust and glory – A Lent journey of faith, failure and forgiveness**' is recommended by Archbishops of York and Canterbury. The course will be either at St Mary's Church on Thursday 2 March, then Wednesdays 8,15,22,29 March from 7.30-9 pm **or** Littleham Village Hall on Fridays 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 March, 2.30-4 pm.

Please let the Church Office know if you would like to join the course (and which one), either as part of a home group or as an individual.



CHRISTIAN AID 2023 LENT APPEAL

On Sundays 12 and 19 Feb we will be handing out Smartie tubes. Please do take them home, eat the goodies inside and then during Lent fill them with money! All contributions will be given to Christian Aid, an organisation which works all over the world to try and eradicate poverty. Please return tubes to Church on Easter Day. Thank you. Sue Jeffery and Nigel Chick.

CHILDREN'S SOCIETY BOXES

Thank you to all those people who have had Children's Society boxes over the past year. Please can you bring them to Church Office by 12 noon on Monday 20 February so they can be counted. Many thanks. Liza Junkison.

SUNDAY 12 FEBRUARY. SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE LENT

COLLECT

Almighty God,
give us reverence for all creation
and respect for every person,
that we may mirror your likeness
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

THE FIRST READING

Romans 8: 18 – 25 Future Glory

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labour pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

THE SECOND READING

Matthew 6: 25 – end Do Not Worry

'Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, "What will we eat?" or "What will we drink?" or "What will we wear?" For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

'So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today's trouble is enough for today.

