

THIS WEEK'S READINGS AND SERVICES

Monday 6 February – The Martyrs of Japan, 1597
Psalms 30; 2 Chronicles 2: 1 -16; John:17. 1-5

Tuesday 7 February

Psalms 36; 2 Chronicles ch 3; John 17: 6-19

Wednesday 8 February

Psalms 34; 2 Chronicles ch 5; John 17: 2- end

Thursday 9 February

Psalms 37; 2 Chronicles 6: 1-21; John 18: 1-11

Friday 10 February - Scholastica, sister of Benedict, Abbess of Plombariola, c,543

Psalms 31; 2 Chronicles 6: 22-end; John 18: 12-27

Saturday 11 February

Psalms 42; 2 Chronicles ch 7; John 18: 28-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 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

website: www.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 5 FEBRUARY 2023 THE THIRD SUNDAY BEFORE LENT

9.30 am CELTIC COMMUNION
Celebrant: Rev'd Alan Glover
Talk: Rev'd Claire Rose-Casemore

11.15am ENCOUNTER SERVICE

SUNDAY 12 FEBRUARY 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

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 6 February	9.30am Holy Dusters 2-3pm St Mary's School
Tues 7	10.30am Holy Communion (M U Corporate) 7.30pm Northam Choral Rehearsal
Wed 8	9.30am Music Makers (book through church office)
Fri 10	11.00am Friday Diner
Sat 11	8.00am Morning Prayer 10.00-11am Treblemakers 10.30am Holy Grounds Café (Pam & Nadine)
Sun 12	8.00am Said Holy Communion 9.30am All Age Family Worship 11.15am Encounter Service 12.30pm Baptism of Jack Carpenter

5 Parish Social, Supper & Skittles

Come along to our 5 Parish Social, Supper and Skittles at Littleham Village Hall on **Thursday, 16 February from 6.30-9.30pm** for a great evening of entertainment.

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.) Please sign-up on the list near the front door of church or telephone Sarah on 471441 **by Sunday, 12 February.**

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.

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.

There will be 2 options of doing the course:-

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.



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.

SUNDAY 5 FEBRUARY. THIRD SUNDAY BEFORE LENT

COLLECT

Eternal God
whose Son went among the crowds
and brought healing with his touch:
help us to show his love,
in your Church as we gather together,
and in our lives as they are transformed
into the image of Christ our Lord.

THE FIRST READING

1 Corinthians 2: 1-12 Proclaiming Christ Crucified

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

The True Wisdom of God

Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written,

'What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,
nor the human heart conceived,
what God has prepared for those who love him'—

these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God.

THE SECOND READING

Matthew 5. 13 – 20 Salt and Light

'You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

'You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hidden. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

The Law and the Prophets

'Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfil. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

