

## THIS WEEK'S READINGS AND SERVICES

### Monday 6 March

Psalm 32; Jeremiah 7. 21-end; John 6: 41-51

### Tuesday 7 March – Perpetua, Felicity and their Companions, Martyrs at Carthage, 203

Psalm 50; Jeremiah 8. 1-15; John 6: 52-59

### Wednesday 8 March - Edward King, Bishop of Lincoln, 1910; Felix, Bishop, Apostle to the East Angles, 647; Geoffrey Studdert Kennedy, Priest, Poet, 1929

Psalm 35; Jeremiah 8.18 – 9.11; John 6: 60-end

### Thursday 9 March

Psalm 34; Jeremiah 9.12-24; John 7.1-13

### Friday 10 March

Psalm 41; Jeremiah 10.1-16; John 7.14-24

### Saturday 11 March

Psalm 2; Jeremiah 10.17-24; John 7.25-36

## CONTACT TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Team Rector:

Rev'd Claire Rose-Casemore 01237 475765

Rev'd Marisa Cockfield 01237 239339

Rev'd Robin Pirrie 07584 261686

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 MARCH 2023 THE SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

9.30 am CELTIC COMMUNION  
President: Rev'd Marisa Cockfield

11.15 am ENCOUNTER SERVICE

### SUNDAY 12 MARCH 2023 THE THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

8.00 am SAID HOLY COMMUNION  
President: Rev'd Alan Glover

9.30 am MORNING WORSHIP WITH HOLY COMMUNION  
President: Rev'd Claire Rose-Casemore  
Talk: Rev'd Alan Glover

11.15am ENCOUNTER SERVICE

6 pm CHORAL EVENSONG AT ST SWITHUN'S,  
LITTLEHAM

***The All-Age Service will be on the third Sunday this month, 19 March at 9.30 am (rather than the usual second Sunday) to coincide with Mothering Sunday. As the All-Age Service has been moved to 19 March there will also be a short 8 am Holy Communion Service on that day.***

*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 March	9.30am Holy Dusters 11.00am Funeral of David Whittaker 7.30 pm Bookworms at Tangletrees
Tues 7	10.30am Holy Communion M.U. Corporate 7.30pm Northam Choral Rehearsal 7.30 pm Parish Prayer in St Mary's House
Wed 8	9.30am Music Makers (book through church office) 7.30 pm Lent Course, St Mary's Church
Fri 10	11.00am Friday Diner 2.30pm Lent Course at Littleham Village Hall 6.00 pm Choir Practice
Sat 11	8.00am Morning Prayer 10.00am Treblemakers 10.30-12.30 Holy Grounds Café 2.00pm St Mary's Singers practice for Handel's Messiah
Sun 12	8.00am Said Holy Communion 9.30am Morning Worship with Holy Communion 11.15am Encounter Service 6 pm Choral Evensong at St Swithun's, Littleham

## PRAYERS

Please remember Penny Whittaker and her family in your prayers, ahead of her husband, David Whittaker's funeral tomorrow, Monday 6 March, in St Mary's Church at 11 am.

## ORGAN RECITAL 3PM TODAY, 5 MARCH, WITHERIDGE PARISH CHURCH

Chris Beechey will be giving an Organ Recital at Witheridge Parish Church today at 3 pm, preceded by coffee and cake at 2.30 pm.

## PASTORAL CARE COMMITTEE MEETING

The next Pastoral Care Committee Meeting is Tuesday 7 March at 2.30 pm. If you would like anything brought to their attention or discussed, please let Lorna know on 477117.

## PARISH PRAYER

The next Parish Prayer will be on Tuesday 7 March at 7.30 pm in St Mary's House.

## MOTHERING SUNDAY REQUEST

Foliage and /or flowers gratefully received on **Friday 17 March** to make up the bunches of flowers for Mothering Day. If you are able to help, even better (many hands make light and quicker work!) We will meet 10 am in the church by the font area. If anyone wants me to collect any greenery, please let me know.

## NOTICE OF REVISION OF ELECTORAL ROLL

Before the Annual Church Council Meeting (APCM) takes place on Sunday 30 April, we need to revise our Electoral Roll.

Being on the Roll means you regard this church as a church of worship for you (and your family). You can still be a member of our Roll if you also attend other churches.

Being a member on the Roll allows you to vote on important issues for your church at the APCM.

The revision will take place between 19 March and 2 April.

Forms will be available in Church from 19 March for anyone who is new to St Mary's, changed address, or think they may not be on the Roll (and are baptised and aged 16 or over.)

## SUNDAY 5 MARCH– THE SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

### COLLECT

Almighty God,  
by the prayer and discipline of Lent  
may we enter into the mystery of Christ's sufferings,  
and by following in his Way  
may we come to share in his glory;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

### THE FIRST READING Genesis 12.1-4a

Now the Lord said to Abram, 'Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.' So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran.

### THE SECOND READING Romans 4. 1-5, 13-17

#### The Example of Abraham

What then are we to say was gained by<sup>[a]</sup> Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? 'Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.' Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

#### God's Promise Realized through Faith

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, 'I have made you the father of many nations') — in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

### **GOSPEL READING John 3: 1-17 -Nicodemus Visits Jesus**

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, 'Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.' Jesus answered him, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.' Nicodemus said to him, 'How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?' Jesus answered, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, "You must be born from above." The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.' Nicodemus said to him, 'How can these things be? Jesus answered him, 'Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?'

'Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

'For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

'Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

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