

THIS WEEK'S READINGS AND DEDICATIONS

Monday 31 July - Ignatius of Loyola, founder of the Society of Jesus, 1556
Psalm 30; Jeremiah 31.23-25, 27-37; James 2.1-13

Tuesday 1 August

Psalm 36; Jeremiah 32.1-15; James 2.14-end

Wednesday 2 August

Psalm 34; Jeremiah 34. 1-13; James 3

Thursday 3 August

Psalm 37; Jeremiah 33. 14-end; James 4.1-12

Friday 4 August – Jean-Baptiste Vianney, cure d'Ars, spiritual guide, 1859

Psalm 31; Jeremiah 35; James 4. 13-5.6

Saturday 5 August – Oswald, king, martyr, 642

Psalm 42; Jeremiah 36. 1-18 James 5. 7-end

CONTACT TELEPHONE NUMBERS

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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 30 JULY EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

9.30 am MORNING WORSHIP with Holy Communion
President: Rev'd Claire Rose-Casemore
Talk: Rev'd Alan Glover

11.15 am ENCOUNTER SERVICE

SUNDAY 6 AUGUST NINTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

9.30 am CELTIC COMMUNION
President: Rev'd Claire Rose-Casemore
Talk: Olive Bush

11.15 am ENCOUNTER SERVICE

*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 31 July	9.30am Holy Dusters
Tues 1 Aug	10.30am H. Communion (M.U. North Devon Cluster – Mary Sumner Day)
Wed 2	10.00am Stay & Play
Fri 4	11.15 am Friday Diner 6.00pm Choir Practice
Sat 5	8.00 am Morning Prayer 8.15 am Men's Breakfast
Sun 6	9.30 am Celtic Communion 11.15 am Encounter

PRAYERS

Please remember the following church family in your prayers: John Day, Gwynne Dendle and Hazel Taylor.

STAY AND PLAY- EACH WEDNESDAY DURING SUMMER HOLIDAYS

Stay and Play sessions in St Mary's Church continue each Wednesday until the last session on 30 August. Each session will be from 10 am to 12 noon for children under 5 and their carers (siblings up to age 8 are also welcome.) There will be lots of toys, story time, parachute games etc. It is free of charge, but a voluntary donation of £2 to cover refreshment costs would be welcome.

It would also be very helpful to have a couple more volunteers. Please speak to Rachael Hutchins if you think you might be able to help.

CHURCH BARBECUE

Following on from the successful Rectory barbecue last year we now have a date for another one.

Please put 26 August in your diaries, from 12.30-4 pm. It will be held in the Rectory garden but if wet in Church instead.

There will be games for the children, and stalls.

All you need to bring are a folding chair (if possible), yourselves, and a friend if you would like!

SUNDAY 30 JULY – COLLECT

Lord God,
your Son left the riches of heaven
and became poor for our sake:
when we prosper save us from pride,
when we are needy save us from despair,
that we may trust in you alone;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

THE FIRST READING Romans 8. 26-39

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And

God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

God's Love in Christ Jesus

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written,

'For your sake we are being killed all day long;
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.'

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

THE SECOND READING - Matthew 13. 31-33 AND 44-52

He put before them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.'

He told them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.'

'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.'

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; ⁴⁶ on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.'

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

'Have you understood all this?' They answered, 'Yes.' And he said to them, 'Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.'