

THIS WEEK'S READINGS AND DEDICATIONS

Monday 22 January – Vincent of Saragossa, deacon, first martyr of Spain, 304

Psalm 108; Genesis 11.27 – 12.9; Matthew 26. 1-16

Tuesday 23 January

Psalm 36; Genesis 3.2–end; Mathew 26. 17-35

Wednesday 24 January – Francis de Sales, Bishop of Geneva, teacher of the faith, 1622

Psalm 46; Genesis 14; Matthew 26. 36-46

Thursday 25 January – THE CONVERSION OF PAUL

Psalm 119.33-72; Isaiah 49.1-13; Galatians 1.11-end

Friday 26 January – Timothy and Titus, companions of Paul

Psalm 65; Genesis 16; Matthew 26. 57-end

Saturday 27 January

Psalm 68; Genesis 17. 1-22; Matthew 27. 1-10

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

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Parish Administrator: Debbie Crawford 01237 472551

Pastoral Care Co-ordinator: Lorna Dorrington

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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 21 JANUARY 2024 THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY

9.30 am CELTIC COMMUNION,
President: Rev'd Chris Hutchins
Talk: Rev'd Robin Pirrie

11.15 am ENCOUNTER SERVICE

SUNDAY 28 JANUARY 2024 THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY

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

9.30 am MORNING WORSHIP WITH HOLY COMMUNION
President: Rev'd Madeline Bray
Talk: Rev'd Alan Glover

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 22 January	9.30 am Holy Dusters
Tues 23	10.30 am Northumbria Prayer 12 noon Prayer for Christian Unity (S.Army at St M's Church) 7.30 pm Northam Choral rehearsal
Wed 24	9.30 am Music Makers 12 noon Prayer for Christian Unity (see below) 3.30 pm Messy Church
Thurs 25	12.00 noon Prayer for Christian Unity – St Mary's Church
Fri 26	11.15 am Friday Diner 6 pm Choir Practice
Sat 27	8 am Morning Prayer 10 am Treblemakers
Sun 28	8.00 am Said Holy Communion 9.30 am Morning Worship with Holy Communion 11.15 am Encounter

PRAYERS

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

DAVE'S FILM NIGHT – WEDNESDAY, 24 JANUARY

For those who live alone, but would like to watch a film with others, the next film night is Wednesday 24 January. Please let me know if you would like to go. Thank you. Lorna 477117.

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

Below are the remaining midday services taking place in Bideford as part of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. The theme this year is '*You shall love the Lord God and your neighbour as yourself*'. Everyone is welcome to any of these services. The dates and venues for the half-hour services from noon-12.30pm are:-

Monday, 22 Jan – Baptist Church, Mill Street

Tuesday, 23 Jan – Salvation Army (at St Mary's Church)

Wednesday, 24 Jan – URC, Bridgeland Street

Thursday, 25 Jan – St Mary's Church

UCAN SUNDAY – 28 JANUARY

Next week is UCAN Sunday when we would be grateful for donations of food (tins, packets etc) or money, which is used to keep a store cupboard in Church to enable us to help those in need. We would also be very grateful for any spare carrier bags that you may have.

DIARY DATE

On Wednesday 6 March at 2.30 pm in the Church, our own Justine Duhig will be coming to give us a talk about her work and what she can offer, as a Social Prescriber, working out of the surgeries within the local area. Please spread the word, everyone very welcome. Thank you. Lorna

SUNDAY 21 JANUARY – THIRD SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY

COLLECT

God of all mercy
your Son proclaimed good news to the poor,
release to the captives,
and freedom to the oppressed:
anoint us with your Holy Spirit
and set your people free
to praise you in Christ our Lord.

THE FIRST READING – Isaiah 7. 10 - 16

Isaiah Gives Ahaz the Sign of Immanuel

Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test. Then Isaiah said: 'Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.

THE SECOND READING – John 2. 1 - 11

The Wedding at Cana

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, 'They have no wine.' And Jesus said to her, 'Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come.' His mother said to the servants, 'Do whatever he tells you.' Now standing there were six stone water-jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, 'Fill the jars with water.' And they filled them up to the brim. He said to them, 'Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward.' So they took it. When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom and said to him, 'Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now.' Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.