

THIS WEEK'S READINGS AND DEDICATIONS

Monday 19 February

Psalm 44; Genesis 41. 25-45; Galatians 3.23-4.7

Tuesday 20 February

Psalm 48; Genesis 41.46-42.5; Galatians 4. 8-20

Wednesday 21 February

Psalm 6; Genesis 42. 6-17; Galatians 4.21-5.1

Thursday 22 February

Psalm 42; Genesis 42. 18-28 Galatians 5. 2-15

Friday 23 February – Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna, Martyr 155

Psalm 22; Genesis 42 29-end Galatians 5. 16-end

Saturday 24 February

Psalm 63; Genesis 43.1-15; Galatians 6

CONTACT TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Team Rector:

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Rev'd Robin Pirrie 07584 261686

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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 18 FEBRUARY 2024 THE FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

9.30 am CELTIC COMMUNION
President: Rev'd Robin Pirrie
Talk: Rev'd Claire Rose-Casemore

11.15 am ENCOUNTER SERVICE

SUNDAY 25 FEBRUARY 2024 THE SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

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

9.30 am MORNING WORSHIP WITH HOLY COMMUNION
President Rev'd Alan Glover
Talk: Rachael Hutchins

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 19 February	9.30 am Holy Dusters 7.30 pm Extra PCC Meeting
Tues 20	10.30 am Holy Communion 2.30 pm Reflections 7.30 pm Northam Choral rehearsal
Wed 21	9.30 am Music Makers 7.30 pm Lent Course
Fri 23	11.15 am Friday Diner 6 pm Choir Practice
Sat 24	8 am Morning Prayer 10.00 am Treblemakers
Sun 25	8.00 am Said Holy Communion 9.30 am Morning Worship with Holy Communion 11.15 am Encounter
Monday 26	11.30 am Thanksgiving Service in St Mary's Church for Moira Mackenzie followed by refreshments.

PRAYERS

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

HAZEL TAYLOR

It is with sadness that we have heard that Hazel Taylor passed away on Monday morning.

She was a big part of St Mary's Church for many years, and a very active member of Mothers' Union. Please remember Alison, Vaughan and all the family in your prayers.

Hazel's funeral will take place in St Mary's Church, date, and time to be confirmed.

CHRISTIAN AID LENT APPEAL – SMARTIE TUBES

There are still some Smartie tubes left. Please do take them home, eat the goodies 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

DAVE'S FILM CLUB (for those who live alone but would like to watch a film with others)

The next film will be on Tuesday, 27 Feb. The change in day, for this month, is because the Lent Course will have started and is taking place every Wednesday. As usual please ring me to a book a place. Many thanks. Lorna 01237 477117

UCAN SUNDAY – 25 FEBRUARY

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.

SUNDAY 18 FEBRUARY – THE FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

COLLECT

Heavenly Father,
your Son battled with the powers of darkness,
and grew closer to you in the desert:
help us to use these days to grow in wisdom and prayer
that we may witness to you saving love
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

THE FIRST READING – Genesis 9. 8 – 13

Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, 'As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.' God said, 'This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth.'

THE SECOND READING – 1 Peter 3. 18 – end

For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight people, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

THE GOSPEL READING - Mark 1 9 – 15

The Baptism of Jesus

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

The Temptation of Jesus

And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness for forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

The Beginning of the Galilean Ministry

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, 'The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.'