



**THIS WEEK'S READINGS AND DEDICATIONS**

**Monday 5 February** –Agatha, martyr in Sicily, c.251  
Psalm 2; Genesis 29.31-30.24; 2 Timothy 4. 1-8

**Tuesday 6 February** - The Martyrs of Japan, 1597  
Psalm 5; Genesis 31. 1-24; 2 Timothy 4.9-end

**Wednesday 7 February**  
Psalm 119. 1-32; Genesis 31.25-32.2; Titus 1

**Thursday 8 February**  
Psalm 15; Genesis 32.3-30; Titus 2

**Friday 9 February**  
Psalm 19; Genesis 33.1-17; Titus 3

**Saturday 10 February** – Scholastica Sister of Benedict, Abbess of Plombariola c.543  
Psalm 23; Genesis 35; Philemon

**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  
Sally Strutt 01271 329177  
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  
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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 4 FEBRUARY 2024**

**THE SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE LENT**

- 9.30 am MORNING WORSHIP WITH HOLY COMMUNION  
President: Rev'd Marisa Cockfield  
Talk: Rev'd Claire Rose-Casemore
- 11.15 am ENCOUNTER SERVICE
- 3.00 pm BIDEFORD MUSIC CLUB CONCERT  
Hannah Woollacott and Jonnie Cumming - Classical  
Guitar Duo

**SUNDAY 11 FEBRUARY 2024**  
**SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE LENT**

- 8 am SAID HOLY COMMUNION  
President: Rev'd Robin Pirrie
- 9.30 am FAMILY WORSHIP WITH THE ALL-AGE TEAM  
AND REV'D ROBIN PIRRIE
- 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 5 February	9.30 am Holy Dusters
Tues 6	10.30 am Holy Communion (M U Corporate) 7.30 pm Northam Choral rehearsal 7.30 pm Parish Prayer (St Mary's House)
Wed 7	9.30 am Music Makers
Fri 9	11.15 am Friday Diner 6 pm Worship Band Practice
Sat 10	8 am Morning Prayer 10.30 am Holy Grounds Café (MU Team)
Sun 11	8.00 am Said Holy Communion 9.30 am Family Worship with the All-Age Team 11.15 am Encounter 4 pm Marisa's Farewell Service at Weare Giffard

## PRAYERS

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

### Rev'd Marisa's Farewell Service – Next Sunday, 11 February at 4 pm

Please can you sign up on the list at front of church if you are planning to go to Rev'd Marisa's Farewell Service at Weare Giffard at 4 pm on 11 February. There is also a sign-up list for anyone who can take finger foods for the bring and share tea after the service.

### Christian Aid Lent Appeal

Today, 4 Feb, and on Sunday 11 Feb we will be handing out Smartie tubes. 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. We are so fortunate. Please, in thanks to God for what we have, help those who are in need. Please return tubes to church on Easter Day. Thank you. Sue Jeffery and Nigel Chick

## SUNDAY 4 FEBRUARY – THE SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE LENT

### COLLECT

Almighty God,  
give us reverence for all creation  
and respect for every person,  
that we may mirror your likeness  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

### THE FIRST READING – Proverbs 8.1, 22-31

Does not wisdom call,  
and does not understanding raise her voice?

The Lord created me at the beginning of his work,  
the first of his acts of long ago.

Ages ago I was set up,  
at the first, before the beginning of the earth.

When there were no depths I was brought forth,  
when there were no springs abounding with water.

Before the mountains had been shaped,  
before the hills, I was brought forth—  
when he had not yet made earth and fields,  
or the world's first bits of soil.

When he established the heavens, I was there,  
when he drew a circle on the face of the deep,  
when he made firm the skies above,  
when he established the fountains of the deep,  
when he assigned to the sea its limit,  
so that the waters might not transgress his command,  
when he marked out the foundations of the earth,  
then I was beside him, like a master worker;  
and I was daily his delight,  
rejoicing before him always,  
rejoicing in his inhabited world  
and delighting in the human race.

### THE SECOND READING - Colossians 1. 15 - 20 The Supremacy of Christ

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

### THE GOSPEL READING

#### John 1. 1 – 14 The Word Became Flesh

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.