

THIS WEEK'S READINGS AND DEDICATIONS

Monday 18 March – Cyril, Bishop of Jerusalem, Teacher, 386
Psalm 73; Exodus 8. 1-19; Hebrews 11. 17-31

Tuesday 19 March – Joseph of Nazareth
Psalm 95; Numbers 11. 10-33; John 11. 1-44

Wednesday 20 March – Cuthbert, Bishop of Lindisfarne, Missionary, 687
Psalm 55; Exodus 9. 1-12; Hebrews 12. 3-13

Thursday 21 March – Thomas Cranmer, Archbishop of Canterbury, Reformation Martyr, 1556
Psalm 40; Exodus 9. 13-end; Hebrews 12. 14-end

Friday 22 March
Psalm 22; Exodus 10; Hebrews 13. 1-16

Saturday 23 March
Psalm 23; Exodus 11; Hebrews 13. 17-end

Sunday 24 March –PALM SUNDAY
Zechariah 9.9-12; Mark 14.1-end of 15

CONTACT TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Team Rector:

Rev'd Claire Rose-Casemore 01237 475765

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

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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 17 MARCH 2024

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

PASSIONTIDE BEGINS

9.30 am CELTIC COMMUNION WITH PASSION READING

President: Rev'd Claire Rose-Casemore

11.15 am ENCOUNTER SERVICE

SUNDAY 24 MARCH 2024

PALM SUNDAY

8 am SAID HOLY COMMUNION with Passion Reading

President: Rev'd Alan Glover

9 am Procession with donkey from Victoria Park

9.30 am MORNING WORSHIP WITH HOLY COMMUNION

President: Rev'd Chris Hutchins

11.15 am ENCOUNTER SERVICE

7.00 pm FAURE REQUIEM – ST MARY'S SINGERS

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 18 March	9.30 am Holy Dusters 2.00 pm Funeral of Sheila Gibbs followed by refreshments
Tues 19	10.30 am Holy Communion 2.30 pm Reflections 7.30 pm Northam Choral rehearsal
Wed 20	9.30 am Music Makers 11.30 am Holy Communion at Moreton Court 7.30 pm Lent Course
Thurs 21	9.30 am Kingsley School Rehearsal 2.30 pm Kingsley School Service
Fri 22 March	11.15 am Friday Easter Diner 6.00 pm Choir practice
Sat 23	8.00 am Morning Prayer 10.00 am Treblemakers
Sun 24	8.00 am Said Holy Communion with Passion Reading 9 am Procession with donkey from Kingsley Statue 9.30 am Morning Worship with Holy Communion 11.15 am Encounter 7.00pm Faure Requiem – St Mary's Singers

PRAYERS

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

Please pray for the family and friends of Sheila Gibbs, whose funeral takes place tomorrow, Monday 18 March, at 2 pm.

UCAN SUNDAY – 24 MARCH

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.

ST MARY'S SINGERS – PALM SUNDAY, 24 MARCH AT 7 PM

The St Mary's Singers present a concert for the start of Holy Week on Palm Sunday, 24 March at St Mary's Parish Church, Bideford, at 7 pm.

They will be performing Faure's Requiem and Wesley's Easter Anthem 'Blessed be the God' under the direction of John Nixon with Chris Beechey on the organ.

The baritone solos will be sung by John Hobbs, with Tina Gibbons and Rachael Hutchins sharing the soprano solos. All are welcome. Free entry. Chris Beechey



THE CHRISTIAN CHURCHES IN BIDEFORD & DISTRICT

Good Friday 29th March 2024

Walk of Witness

Starting (with hot cross buns) from 9.15am

Pollyfield Centre, East The Water (led by Rock Church)
(gather at 9.15am for a 9.45 start) We will have a reading, a minute of silence, prayer or meditation and a hymn or song at each venue – leaving Pollyfield Centre at 9.50am Our route then stops at...

Bethel Chapel (led by Central Church) Arrive 10.00am, leave 10.05am

Bideford Methodist Church (Honestone Street car park)

Arrive 10.15 am, leave 10.20am

The Sacred Heart Catholic Church (North Road): Arrive 10.30am, leave 10.40am

Lavington United Reformed Church: (Bridgeland St): Arrive 10.45am, leave 10.55am

Bideford Baptist Church (Mill Street): Arrive 11.05am, leave 11.10am

Northam Methodists (Jubilee Square) Arrive 11.15am, leave 11.25am

The Quakers (Corner of High Street and Allhalland Street): Arrive 11.30am, leave 11.40am

St Mary's Church, Bideford (Church Walk): 11.45am. The short United Good Friday Service commences at 12 noon followed by coffee and hot cross buns, and bread and cheese. Lunch will be served until 1.00 pm, so that everything is finished and cleared away before the Devotional Service commences in St. Mary's at 2.00 pm.

The collection at the United Service will be for the Disasters Emergency Committee. Please join us anywhere along the route—you are very welcome.

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER 2024

St Mary's Church, Bideford

Palm Sunday 24 March

- 8 am Said Holy Communion with Passion reading
Procession with donkey from Victoria Park
(9/9.10 am) followed by
- 9.30 am Palm Sunday Morning Worship with H.C.
- 11.15 am Encounter
- 7 pm St Mary's Singers—Faure Requiem and Wesley
'Blessed be the God'

Holy Monday 25 March

- 7 pm 5 Parish Compline Service

Holy Tuesday 26 March

- 7 pm 5 Parish Stations of the Cross

Holy Wednesday 27 March

- 7 pm 5 Parish Compline Service at St Swithun's,
Littleham

Maundy Thursday 28 March

- 7-10 pm Holy Communion with foot washing and prayer
Vigil

Good Friday 29 March

- 9.45 am Walk of Witness from Pollyfield (Hot cross buns
from 9.15 am (See leaflet on opposite page)
- 12 noon United Christians Together Service at St Mary's
followed by refreshments

Easter Eve 30 March

- 8 pm Easter Eve Vigil Service

Easter Day 31 March

- 6.45 am Dawn Easter Service (nr Kingsley Statue)
- 9.45 am Refreshments—Hot cross buns, croissants, tea
and coffee before ...
- 10.30 am** Easter Family Service with Holy Communion

DAVE'S FILM NIGHT ON WEDNESDAY 27 MARCH

(For those who live alone but would like to watch a film with others) The next one will be on Wed 27 March. Please let Lorna (01237 477117) know by Sunday, 24 March, if you would like to go. Thank you.

NOTICE OF REVISION OF ELECTORAL ROLL

Before the Annual Church Council Meeting (APCM) takes place on Sunday 28 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 17 and 31 March.

Forms will be available in Church from today 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).

Please hand forms back to either Justine Duhig, the Electoral Roll Officer, Debbie Crawford, or the office at 9 Church Walk to be passed on to Justine.

A WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITY!

Holy Grounds is going really well this year and is very much appreciated.

At the moment we have 2 slots for a host – August and September. If you would like to take on this role (2 hours on one Saturday morning) please contact me for more information.

Don't delay as there is bound to be a rush! Many thanks. Lorna 01237 477117.

HELP NEEDED FOR LIFTS

We are asking if anyone would be happy to be a driver for friends at St Mary's Church to help with lifts to doctors/hospital appointments etc.

This is a casual arrangement between friends, but it would be useful for the office to know who could offer this, and how often people might be available to help.

Please can you let Debbie know in the office in the first instance. Tel. 01237 472551 or email admin@stmaryschurchbideford.org

CHRISTIAN AID LENT APPEAL – SMARTIE TUBES

Don't forget to fill your Smartie tubes with money during Lent and return them to church by Easter Day.

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

SUNDAY 17 MARCH

COLLECT

Gracious Father,
you gave up your Son
out of love for the world:
lead us to ponder the mysteries of his passion,
that we may know eternal peace
through the shedding of our Saviour's blood,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

THE FIRST READING

HEBREWS 5. 5 - 10

So also Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him,

'You are my Son,
today I have begotten you';
as he says also in another place,
'You are a priest for ever,
according to the order of Melchizedek.'

In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

SECOND READING

JOHN 12.20-33

Some Greeks Wish to See Jesus

Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, 'Sir, we wish to see Jesus.' Philip went and told

Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, 'The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honour.

Jesus Speaks about His Death

'Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—"Father, save me from this hour"? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name.' Then a voice came from heaven, 'I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.' The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, 'An angel has spoken to him.' Jesus answered, 'This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgement of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.' He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

EASTER DAY SERVICE AND LENT WEEK

For the Easter Day Communion Service, you will notice that it is at the one-off time of **10.30 am**, with the whole Church family joining together for one service.

There will be refreshments of hot cross buns and croissants served **before** the Service, from 9.45 am.

This will be a lovely service when we give thanks and praise to God, and we encourage you to invite neighbours and friends to join with us.

We also hope you will be able to come to some of the services during Holy Week. This is an opportunity to walk with Christ in the days leading up to his death on Good Friday. It is a really special spiritual time which we hope you come and experience with us. If you have never tried these services before, we encourage you to come and see for yourself.