

## THIS WEEK'S READINGS AND DEDICATIONS

### Monday 9 December

Psalm 44; Isaiah 45. 14-end; 1Thessalonians 1

### Tuesday 10 December

Psalm 56; Isaiah 46; 1 Thessalonians 2. 1-12

### Wednesday 11 December

Psalm 62; Isaiah 47; 1 Thessalonians 2. 13-end

### Thursday 12 December

Psalm 54; Isaiah 48. 1-11; ; 1 Thessalonians 3

### Friday 13 December – Lucy, Martyr at Syracuse. 304,

Samuel Johnson, Moralist, 1784

Psalm 86; Isaiah 48. 12-end; 1 Thessalonians 4. 1-12

### Saturday 14 December – John of the Cross, poet, Teacher, 1591

Psalm 145; Isaiah 49. 1-13; 1 Thessalonians 4. 13-end

### Sunday 15 December – THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Zephaniah 1. 14-end Isaiah 2. 12-end; Philippians 4. 4-7; Luke 3. 7-18

## CONTACT TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Team Rector:

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Rev'd Robin Pirrie 07584 261686

Rev'd Alan Glover: (self-supporting) 01237 451147

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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 8 DECEMBER 2024 SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8.00 am SAID HOLY COMMUNION  
President: Rev'd Robin Pirrie

9.30 am FAMILY WORSHIP WITH THE ALL-AGE TEAM and  
Rev'd Claire Rose-Casemore

11.15 am ENCOUNTER SERVICE

*11 am Celtic Communion, Landcross. Rev'd Robin Pirrie*

### SUNDAY 15 DECEMBER 2024 THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

9.30 am CELTIC COMMUNION, AND JUNIOR CHURCH  
President: Rev'd Madeline Bray

11.15 am ENCOUNTER SERVICE

6.00pm SERVICE OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS  
President: Rev'd Claire Rose-Casemore

*9.30 am Holy Communion, Weare Giffard. Rev'd Robin Pirrie*

*11 am Holy Communion, Littleham. Rev'd Robin Pirrie*

*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 9	9.30 am Holy Dusters 7.30 pm PCC Section 11 Meeting for Parish Profile
Tues 10	pm Monkleigh Primary School – Carol Service and Nativity
Wed 11	9.30 am Music Makers 7.30 pm Advent Reflections (last one)
Thurs 12	2.30 pm Kingsley School Christmas Service 4-5.30 pm Crypt Youth (7-11s) 5.30-7 pm Crypt Youth (11-16s)
Fri 13	11.15 am–1.00 pm Friday Diner 6.00 pm Choir practice (with Treblemakers)
Sat 14	8.00 am Morning Prayer 10.00 am Treblemakers 10.30 am Holy Grounds Cafe (Pastoral Care Team) 2.00- 6.00pm Christmas Craft Fair
Sun 15	9.30 am Celtic Communion and Junior Church 11.15 am Encounter 6.00pm Nine Lessons and Carols

## PRAYERS

Please remember the following church family in your prayers: John Day, Alan Edmonds, Marian Johns, Roger Phillips, and Alan Power.

**CHRISTMAS HOLY GROUNDS SATURDAY 14 DECEMBER from 10.30 am to 12.30 pm**, when we will have the usual lovely coffee and cake. We will also be able to join Treblemakers singing carols at 10.40 am.

As it will be the Bideford Victorian Christmas Frost Fair all day in town, feel free to join in the fun and dress like a Victorian!

As part of the Frost Fair in Bideford Emily, our Youth Worker, has organised a Christmas Craft fair from 2 – 6 pm where there will be craft stalls and gift ideas. There will also be tea, coffee and cakes from 2-4 pm.

## NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS SERVICE – 15 DECEMBER AT 6 PM

Please join us for this special Service next week on Sunday 15 December at 6 pm, followed by mulled wine and mince pies.

We would be really grateful of any donations of mince pies as there are always a lot of people that stay for refreshments after this big community service.

## CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to Emma Chick, and Oliver from Crypt Youth, whose Christmas card designs have been chosen for this year's Christmas card.

Thank you to everyone who sent in a design. It was very hard to choose between them!

## SUNDAY 8 DECEMBER – – SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### COLLECT

Almighty God,  
purify our hearts and minds,  
that when your Son Jesus Christ comes again as judge and saviour  
we may be ready to receive him,  
who is our Lord and our God.

### THE FIRST READING – Philippians 1. 3 – 11

#### Paul's Prayer for the Philippians

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defence and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that on the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

### THE SECOND READING – Luke 3. 1 - 6 The Proclamation of John the Baptist

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

‘The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:  
“Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight.  
Every valley shall be filled,  
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,  
and the crooked shall be made straight,  
and the rough ways made smooth;  
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.”’