

THIS WEEK'S READINGS AND DEDICATIONS

Monday 27 January

Psalm 108; Hosea 2.18-end of 3; 1 Corinthians 9.15-end

Tuesday 28 January Thomas Aquinas, priest, philosopher, teacher of the faith, 1274

Psalm 36; Hosea 4. 1-16; 1 Corinthians 10. 1-13

Wednesday 29 January,

Psalm 46; Hosea 5.1- 7; 1 Corinthians 10.14-11.1

Thursday 30 January Charles King and martyr, 1649

Psalm 47; Hosea 5.8-6.6; 1 Corinthians 11.2-16

Friday 31 January John Bosco, priest, founder of Salesian Teaching Order, 1888

Psalm 65; Hosea 6.7-7.2; 1 Corinthians 11.17-end

Saturday 1 February Brigid, Abbess of Kildare, c. 525

Psalm 68; Hosea 8; 1 Corinthians 12.1-11

Sunday 2 February Candlemas, The Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Malachi 3 1-5; Hebrews 2. 14-end; Luke 2.22-40

CONTACT TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Team Rector:

Rev'd Claire Rose-Casemore 01237 475765

Rev'd Robin Pirrie 07584 261686

Rev'd Alan Glover: (Bishop's Licence) 01237 451147

Rev'd Madeline Bray (Bishop's Licence) 01237 477488

Churchwardens: Sally Strutt 01271 329177

Mark Porthouse 01237 520450

Parish Administrator: Debbie Crawford 01237 472551

Assistant Karen Johns

Pastoral Care Co-ordinator: Pattie Morris 01237 476501 or 07984937179

Lift enquiries Karen Johns 07368637664

Director of Music: Chris Beechey 01237 420652

Bell Tower Captain: Kate Wills 07768 934677

Church Office

opening hours: 10 am–12 noon, Mon–Fri 472551

St Mary's House, 9 Church Walk, Bideford. EX39 2BP

Email: admin@stmaryschurchbideford.org

website: www.stmaryschurchbideford.org



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 26 JANUARY 2025 THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY (UCAN SUNDAY)

- 8 am SAID HOLY COMMUNION
President: Rev'd Claire Rose-Casemore
- 9.30 am MORNING WORSHIP (with Treblemakers) AND HOLY COMMUNION
President; Rev'd Madeline Bray
Talk: Rev'd Claire Rose-Casemore
- 11.15 am ENCOUNTER

(11 am Holy Communion, Landcross - Rev'd Robin Pirrie)
(11 am Morning Praise, Littleham - Sarah Cordingley)

SUNDAY 2 FEBRUARY 2025 CANDLEMAS

- 9.30 am MORNING WORSHIP WITH HOLY COMMUNION, AND JUNIOR CHURCH
President: Rev'd Alan Glover
Talk: Rev'd Madeline Bray
- 11.15 am ENCOUNTER
- (9.30am Morning Praise, Weare Gifford - Sarah Cordingley)*

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 27	9.30 am Holy Dusters
Tues 28	10.30 am Highwood Care Home visit
Wed 29	9.30 am Music Makers 12 noon Funeral of Michael Richards
Thurs 30	4-5.30 pm Crypt Youth (7-11s) 5.30-7 pm Crypt Youth (11-16s)
Friday 31	11.15 am-1 pm Friday Diner 6 pm Choir Practice
Sat 1 Feb	8.00 am Morning Prayer 8.15 am Men's Breakfast 10 am Treblemakers

PRAYERS

Please remember the following church family in your prayers: John Day, Marian Johns, Roger Phillips, and Alan Power. Also, Jeff Hayward and family following the sad passing of Dawn.

16 FEBRUARY 3.30 PM POETRY READING BY JOHN HEDGE

John Hedge will read from his two collections of poetry, *The Paddington Band*, and *Life, Death and Football*, and talk about the themes behind his writing.

There will also be an opportunity to buy *Life, Death and Football*. Although there will be no charge for the event, a small donation towards St Mary's Church would be much appreciated.

22 FEBRUARY (10 AM – 12.30 PM) SINGING WORKSHOP

Singing Workshop - Registration and coffee from 10 am followed by two 40-minute sessions led by John Nixon. All welcome.

SUNDAY 26 JANUARY – THIRD SUNDAY AFTER 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 all your people free
to praise you in Christ our Lord.

THE FIRST READING Nehemiah 8.1-3,5-6,8-10

Nehemiah's Prayer

All the people gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the LORD had given to Israel. Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first

day of the seventh month. He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people answered, 'Amen, Amen', lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshipped the LORD with their faces to the ground. So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, 'This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep.' For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. Then he said to them, 'Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our LORD; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength.'

GOSPEL READING LUKE 4 14-21

The Beginning of the Galilean Ministry

Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

'The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to bring good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives
and recovery of sight to the blind,
to let the oppressed go free,
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.'

And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, 'Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.'