

ACCOMMODATION NEEDED

Through his work a member of the Church family has got to know two Indian ladies who are care workers at a Residential Home in Westward Ho! They asked if he knew of any two-bedroom accommodation as their rental is expiring due to the landlord selling the property. They have been to all the local estate agents to be told there is no accommodation available.

They are both CRB checked and from what he sees, polite, clean respectable people.

Would anyone have or know of someone with two spare rooms who could offer them accommodation. Possibly a person who needs help or companionship. It is possible that they would happily cook, clean, do laundry, shopping etc as part of an agreement. They are both very quiet and extremely courteous.

If anybody is able to help, would they please contact the Church Office so that further discussion can take place.

Many thanks.

ST MARY'S HELP REQUIRED

The church is looking for help with the following, please:

Organise getting the free-standing wooden collection box adapted by a carpenter for the new credit-card reader. Speak to Mark Porthouse after the 9:30 am Sunday service.

Parts of the paths surrounding the church have a covering of a green weed on them. We're seeking someone who could investigate this and spend a little time eliminating it. We will fund any supplies needed. Please contact Mark Porthouse (01237 520450)

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 16 MARCH 2025 THE SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

9.30 am Celtic Communion, and Junior Church
President: Rev'd Robin Pirrie
Talk: Rev'd Madeline Bray

11.15 am Encounter

(9.30 am Holy Communion, Weare Giffard – Rev'd Claire Rose-Casemore)
(11 am Holy Communion, Littleham – Rev'd Claire Rose-Casemore)

SUNDAY 23 MARCH 2025 THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT UCAN SUNDAY

8 am Said Holy Communion
President; Rev'd Claire Rose-Casemore

9.30 am Morning Worship with Holy Communion
President; Rev'd Madeline Bray
Talk; Rev'd Claire Rose-Casemore
Baptisms of Shane, Sasha-Marie, and Olivia Benghey

11.15 am Encounter
President; Rev'd Claire Rose-Casemore

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

SUNDAY 16 MARCH – SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

COLLECT

Almighty God

by the prayer and discipline of Lent

may we enter into the mystery of Christ's sufferings,

and by following in his Way

may we come to share in his glory;

through Jesus Christ our Lord

FIRST READING Genesis 15. 1-12, 17-18

God's Covenant with Abram

After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, 'Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.' But Abram said, 'O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?' And Abram said, 'You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir.' But the word of the LORD came to him, 'This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir.' He brought him outside and said, 'Look towards heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them.' Then he said to him, 'So shall your descendants be.' And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness. Then he said to him, 'I am the LORD who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess.' But he said, 'O Lord God, how am I to know that I shall possess it?' He said to him, 'Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtle-dove, and a young pigeon.' He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away. As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him. When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire-pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, 'To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates.'

GOSPEL READING: LUKE 13.31-end The Lament over Jerusalem

At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to him, 'Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.' He said to them, 'Go and tell that fox for me, "Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed away from Jerusalem." Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, "Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord."'

DATES OF EVENTS AND MEETINGS THIS WEEK

Mon 17	9.30 am Holy Dusters
Tues 18	10.30 am Holy Communion 2.30 pm Reflections 6-7.15 pm Visit by 1 st Edgehill and Torridge Beavers 7.30-9.15 pm Northam Choral rehearsal
Wed 19	9.30 am Music Makers 7.30-9 pm Lent Course
Thurs 20	11 am Funeral of Jean Lyle 4-5.30 pm Crypt Youth (7-11) 5.30-7 pm Crypt Youth (11-16)
Fri 21	11.15-1 pm Friday Diner 6 pm Choir practice
Sat 22	8.00 am Morning Prayer 10 am Treblemakers 2-4 pm St Mary's Singers Rehearsal for Stainer's Crucifixion

PRAYERS

Please remember Martin Butler and Roger Phillips in your prayers.

Please also keep in your thoughts and prayers the family of Jean Lyle.

FUNERAL OF JEAN LYLE

The funeral of this special lady will take place at St Mary's Church on Thursday 20 March at 11 am.

UCAN SUNDAY NEXT WEEK

Next Sunday 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.

NEW! WOMEN'S BREAKFAST

Saturday 5 April, at 9.30 am at the Durrant Hotel, full English breakfast with dietary options. The cost will be £10, payable on signing up on the sheet in church. Unfortunately, no refunds possible after Sunday 30 March.

NEW ELECTORAL ROLL NEEDED FOR 2025

Before the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) takes place on Sunday 11 May 2025, we need to prepare a new Parochial Electoral Roll.

We are required to prepare a new parochial Electoral Roll every six years, and a new Roll is due for 2025. This means that everyone who would like to be on the Roll will need to complete a new form.

As a member on the Roll, you can vote on important issues for St Mary's at APCMs.

Forms available from today for anyone who is baptised and aged 16+. The forms can be picked up from St Mary's Church or Church Office.

Please hand in completed forms in to either Justine Duhig (Electoral Roll Officer) or to Debbie Crawford in Church Office by the deadline of Sunday 13 April.