

PLEA FOR EASTER GARDEN GREENERY

On Palm Sunday, 13 April, we will be making the big Easter Garden to go in the Church and the children will be making individual ones to take home.

We would be very grateful for gifts of small flowers or plants, please (pansies, primroses etc). These can be brought to Holy Grounds on the 12th, to Church for the 9.30 service on the 13th, or if you let me know I can collect. Many thanks Lorna 01237 477117

PALM SUNDAY – 13 APRIL

Palm Sunday will have the procession with the donkey from Victoria Park at 9/9.10 am to St Mary's Church, before the All-Age Service at 9.30 am. There will also be the usual 8 am Holy Communion and Encounter at 11.15 am.

In the evening at 7 pm St Mary's Singers will be performing Stainer's Crucifixion, led by John Nixon, with soloist John Hobb, and Chris Beechey on organ. There will be a retiring collection to support Frank White's fundraising for 'Young Lives vs Cancer'.

THANK YOU!

Liza Junkison wanted to say thank you to everyone who gave in Children's Society boxes. The sum of £541 has been raised so far.

ST MARY'S HELP REQUIRED

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

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 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 Bengay
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)

SUNDAY 30 MARCH 2025 FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT MOTHERING SUNDAY

9.45 am	Refreshments
10.30 am	Morning Worship with Holy Communion, with Treblemakers President; Rev'd Claire Rose-Casemore

(11 am Lay Team Service at Littleham)

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 23 MARCH – THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

COLLECT

Eternal God
give us insight
to discern your will for us
to give up what harms us
and to seek the perfection we are promised
in Jesus Christ our Lord

FIRST READING ISAIAH 55.1-9

An Invitation to Abundant life

Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labour for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you. Seek the LORD while he may be found call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts

GOSPEL READING MARK 1. 9-13

The Baptism of Jesus

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

The Temptation of Jesus

And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness for forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

PRAYERS

Please remember Martin Butler and Roger Phillips in your prayers.

We also pray for Shane, Sasha-Marie, and Olivia Bengey as they come for baptism today.

UCAN SUNDAY We would be grateful today of tins and packets to give to those in need and also build up our supplies for Friday Diner.

DATES OF EVENTS AND MEETINGS THIS WEEK

Mon 24	9.30 am Holy Dusters
Tues 25	7.30–9.15 pm Northam Choral rehearsal
Wed 26	9.30 am Music Makers 3.30–5.15 pm Messy Church 7.30–9 pm Lent Course
Thurs 27	4–5.30 pm Crypt Youth (7–11) 5.30–7 pm Crypt Youth (11–16)
Fri 28	11.15–1 pm Friday Diner 6 pm Choir practice
Sat 29	8.00 am Morning Prayer 10 am Treblemakers 2–4 pm St Mary's Singers rehearsal for Stainer's Crucifixion

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.**

MOTHERING SUNDAY SERVICE ON SUNDAY 30 MARCH

Please note this will be at the later time of 10.30 am, as a combined service, with no separate Encounter Service that day.

Refreshments of croissants, tea and coffee will be available before the Service from 9.45 am.

Please bring along family and friends to this special service.

Don't forget to put your clocks forward 1 hour for British Summer Time on Sunday 30 March!

MOTHERING SUNDAY POSIES

We would be very grateful for donations of flowers and foliage (a chance to do some pruning!) to be given out in Church on Sunday 30 March.

Please come to Church on Saturday 29 March at 9.30 am, help make the bunches, have a coffee and enjoy some fun. No experience required.

If you need foliage collected, please let Pattie know by Friday (28 March).