

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 (9 March) 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.

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 9 MARCH 2025 THE FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

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| 8 am | Said Holy Communion
President: Rev'd Claire Rose-Casemore |
| 9.30 am | Family Worship All Age Service with All-Age Team and
Rev'd Robin Pirrie |
| 11.15 am | Encounter |
| 6 pm | Healing and Wholeness Service |

(11 am Celtic Communion, Landcross - Claire Rose-Casemore)

SUNDAY 16 MARCH 2025 THE SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

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| 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)

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 9 MARCH – FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

COLLECT

Heavenly Father,
your Son battled with the powers of darkness,
and grew closer to you in the desert:
help us to use these days to grow in wisdom and prayer
that we may witness to your saving love
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

FIRST READING: ROMANS 10.8b-13

But what does it say?

'The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart'
(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. The scripture says, 'No one who believes in him will be put to shame.' For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. For, 'Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'

GOSPEL READING: LUKE 4.1-13 The Temptation of Jesus

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. The devil said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread.' Jesus answered him, 'It is written, "One does not live by bread alone."'

Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And the devil said to him, 'To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.' Jesus answered him, 'It is written,

"Worship the Lord your God,
and serve only him."

Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, 'If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written,

"He will command his angels concerning you,
to protect you",
and

"On their hands they will bear you up,
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone."

Jesus answered him, 'It is said, "Do not put the Lord your God to the test."' When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

Dates of Events and Meetings

Mon 10	9.30 am Holy Dusters 2 pm Mothers' Union 7.30 pm PCC Meeting
Tues 11	7.30–9.15 pm Northam Choral rehearsal
Wed 12	9.30 am Music Makers 7.30 pm Bideford Music Club Concert
Thurs 13	4-5.30 pm Crypt Youth (7-11) 5.30-7 pm Crypt Youth (11-16) 7.30 pm Lent Course
Fri 14	11.15-1 pm Friday Diner 6 pm Choir practice
Sat 15	8.00 am Morning Prayer 10 am Treblemakers

PRAYERS

Please remember Roger Phillips in your prayers.

Also please pray for our Mission Giving Away Charity of the month, NDADA (North Devon Against Domestic Abuse) in everything they do to help victims of domestic abuse.

HEALING AND WHOLENESS SERVICE – 6 PM TONIGHT, 9 MARCH

In this month's Wholeness and Healing Service we acknowledge that it is exactly five years since the Covid pandemic began.

Those months are part of our life's journey. We bring ourselves to God in this Service asking Him to bless the good memories and heal the more difficult ones. This is a service with a special focus on the ministry of healing and will include an opportunity to receive the laying on of hands and an anointing with oil if you would like it. You are all very welcome.

TREBLEMAKERS AT TAUNTON MINSTER

Good luck to the Treblemakers today who are singing with the Taunton Minster junior choristers at their 5.00 pm 'Refresh' Service.

They will be having a joint practice at 2.30 pm followed by tea and then the service. A combined group of seventeen Treblemakers and parents/grandparents will be in attendance from St Mary's.

MOTHERS' UNION TALK BY BEN DUHIG – MY WALK IN COLUMBIA

On Monday 10 March at 2 pm Ben Duhig will be giving a talk on his walk in Columbia when he was fund raising for several charities. Everyone is welcome to attend on Monday, not just M.U. members.

CHILDREN'S SOCIETY BOXES

Thank you those of you who have boxes for the Children's Society. They are being counted on Tuesday 11 March, so please bring your boxes to Church Office or Church before that date. Thank you. Liza Junkison.