

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:

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)

Our gratitude goes out to Chris Johns, Mike's brother, who has done a fantastic job adapting the offering box to suit the new payment card reader.

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 Madelline 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 6 APRIL 2025
FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT
PASSIONTIDE BEGINS

9.30 am Morning Worship with Holy Communion, and Junior church
President: Rev'd Robin Pirrie
Passion Readings

11.15 am Encounter
President; Rev'd Robin Pirrie

(Morning Praise Weare Giffard – Sarah Cordingley)

SUNDAY 13 APRIL 2025
PALM SUNDAY
THE SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE EASTER

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

9 am Procession with donkey from Kingsley Statue
9.30 am All Age Service
Rev'd Claire Rose-Casemore

11.15 am Encounter

7 pm Stainer's Crucifixion

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.

COLLECT

Gracious Father,
you gave up your Son
out of love for the world:
lead us to ponder the mysteries of his passion,
that we may know eternal peace
through the shedding of our Saviour's blood,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

FIRST READING ISAIAH 43 16-21

Thus says the LORD, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters, who brings out chariot and horse, army and warrior; they lie down, they cannot rise, they are extinguished, quenched like a wick: not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. The wild animals will honour me, the jackals and the ostriches; for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people, the people whom I formed for myself so that they might declare my praise.

GOSPEL READING JOHN 12. 1-8

Mary anoints Jesus

Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, 'Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?' (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) Jesus said, 'Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me.'

PRAYERS

We pray especially for those that need extra prayers at this time, and for those that have no one to pray for them. Please also pray for Rachel Millard.

STAY AND PLAY – WEDNESDAY 9 APRIL 10-11.30 AM

Don't forget Stay and Play on Wednesday 9 April from 10-11.30 am at St Mary's, for children under 5 and their carers (siblings up to age 8 are also very welcome.) There will be lots of toys, story time, parachute games etc.

It is free of charge but a voluntary donation of £2 towards refreshment costs would be welcome.

DATES OF EVENTS AND MEETINGS THIS WEEK

Mon 7	7.30 pm Bookworms at Maggie Murray's
Tues 8	7.30–9.15 pm Northam Choral rehearsal
Wed 9	10-11.30am Stay and Play 2.30 pm Pastoral Care Meeting 7.30-9 pm Lent Course
Thurs 10	11 am Sandhurst Care Home Visit
Fri 11	11.15-1 pm Friday Diner 6 pm Choir practice
Sat 12	8.00 am Morning Prayer 10.30-12.30am Holy Grounds (House Groups) 11 am Worship Band Practice

NEW ELECTORAL ROLL NEEDED FOR 2025

Just a reminder that there is still time to be included on the new Parochial Electoral Roll. Forms are by the main door of the church or in Church Office. They need to be completed and handed in to either Justine Duhig (Electoral Roll Officer) or to Debbie Crawford in Church Office **by the deadline of Sunday 13 April.**

APCM AND NEW PCC COMMITTEE

The APCM this year will be on 11 May at 11.15 am, following the 9.30 am service. We will hear what has happened over the past year and what plans there are for the future. We will also be electing 2 Churchwardens (1-year term), 10 PCC members (1 year-term) and 1 Deanery Synod Rep ((1-year term.) Please consider who you would like to be part of the leadership team of St Mary's Church— and if it could be you. Our first PCC Meeting with the new Committee will be on Monday 12 May at 7.30 pm at the back of church.

The lists for nominations will be on a board at the back of church from Sunday 13 April until Sunday 4 May, together with a summary of what being on the PCC entails.

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 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 of 13 April 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'.