

CHRISTIAN AID ANNUAL QUIZ – FRIDAY 5 SEPTEMBER

The annual quiz for Christian Aid will be taking place on Friday, 5 September at the Baptist Church on Mill Street. Start time will be 7 pm.

The teams will be up to 6 people. If you are on your own, or in a smaller group, you can join up with people in other groups.

Tea, coffee and cake will be served during the interval.

Suggested donation is £5 per person.

Talking of quizzes – please put a note in your diaries for a **special quiz to take place at St Mary's Church on Saturday 27 September** (start time 7 pm) hosted by our very own John Henderson! More information to follow soon.

Take away cards and enquirers booklet for visitors

You will notice when coming into Church there are 'explore cards' which offer comfort and direction to folk who are visiting the Church. Please do have a look- *and take one if you are in need*- but primarily this is to help with reaching out to visitors... Also, there is a new stock of 'Why Jesus?' for anyone who is enquiring. I hope they will be a blessing. Rev'd Claire.



Sunflowers Community Group

Not on Facebook, but still want to stay in the loop? Join Sunflowers our friendly What's App community for anyone who'd like to hear what's going on at St Mary's and other local churches. Whether it is upcoming special services, coffee mornings or community events Sunflowers is a simple and welcoming way to stay connected. If you would like to be added or just know about events, please speak to Sheenah Middle or Karen Johns.

CONTACT TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Team Rector:

Rev'd Claire Rose-Casemore 01237 475765

Rev'd Ruth Beckett 01237 439584

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

Justine Duhig 07941 912090

Parish Administrator: Debbie Crawford 01237 472551

Assistant Karen Johns

Pastoral Care Co-ordinator: Pattie Morris 01237 476501 or 07984 937179

Lift enquiries Karen Johns 07368 637664

Director of Music: Chris Beechey 01237 420652

Bell Tower Captain: Kate Wills 07768 934677

Church Office opening hours: 9 am–12 noon, Mon–Fri 472551

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

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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 17 AUGUST 2025 NINTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

9.30 am Celtic Communion
President: Rev'd Robin Pirrie
Talk: Rev'd Alan Glover

11.15 am Encounter

(9.30 am Holy Communion, Weare Giffard - Rev'd Ruth Beckett)
(11 am Holy Communion, Littleham - Rev'd Ruth Beckett)

SUNDAY 24 AUGUST 2025 TENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

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

11.15am Encounter

(11 am Morning Praise, Littleham – Rev'd Robin Pirrie)
(11 am Holy Communion, Landcross - Rev'd Ruth Beckett)

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
revive your Church in our day,
and make her holy, strong and faithful,
for your glory's sake
in Jesus Christ our Lord

FIRST READING Hebrews 11.29-12.2 **The faith of other Israelite Heroes**

By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace. And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets— who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned to death, they were sawn in two, they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented— of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground. Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had provided something better so that they would not, without us, be made perfect.

The Example of Jesus

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

GOSPEL READING Luke 12.49-56

Jesus the Cause of Division

'I came to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what stress I am under until it is completed! Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! From now on, five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; they will be divided: father against son and son against father, mother against

daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.'

Interpreting the Time

He also said to the crowds, 'When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, "It is going to rain"; and so it happens. And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, "There will be scorching heat"; and it happens. You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?

DATES OF EVENTS AND MEETINGS THIS WEEK

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| Mon 18 | 9.30 am Holy Dusters |
| Tues 19 | 10.30 am Holy Communion 2 pm Funeral of David Short 2 pm Reflections Cream Tea Instow Yacht Club |
| Wed 20 | 11.30 am Moreton Court Holy Communion |
| Fri 22 | 11.15 am -1 pm Friday Diner |
| Sat 23 | 8 am Morning Prayer 12 noon – 4 pm Church Barbeque in Rectory garden |
| Sun 24 | 8 am Said Holy Communion 9.30 am Morning Worship with Holy Communion 11.15 am Encounter |

PRAYERS

Please also pray for the family of David Short ahead of his funeral at St Mary's Church on Tuesday 19 August at 2 pm.

UCAN SUNDAY 24 AUGUST 2025

Next week is Ucan Sunday, which is every fourth Sunday of the month, when we welcome donations of tins and packets to give to those in need and also build up our supplies for Friday Diner. Also, any cash donations that we can buy suitable items to top-up Friday Diner.

CHURCH BARBEQUE SATURDAY 23 AUGUST 12 NOON-4PM

There will be a barbecue in the Rectory garden (or in St Mary's Church if wet). There will be games for the children, and stalls.

You just need to bring a folding chair with you, and also a friend if you would like invite someone.

To give us a rough idea of the number we will be catering for, please can you sign up today on the list in church.

There is also a list for anyone who may be able to bring a salad or dessert.

The barbecue is free, but donations would be welcome.

BREAKFAST CLUB

Our last free Breakfast Club of the holidays for 7-16-year-olds will run from 9.30-10.30 am on Thursday 28 August. Just come along!