

LET'S GET QUIZZICAL SAT 27 SEPTEMBER (6.30 PM FOR 7 PM START)

Please join us for a quiz set by our very own quiz master, John Henderson!

There will be teams of up to 6 people (maximum 15 teams).

Tea, coffee and snacks will be provided, but please bring your own other drinks. Entry will be £5 per person.

Please either sign up on the list in church, or let the office know by Monday 22 September, as numbers will be limited due to space available.

MESSAGE FROM RICHARD HOLWILL

It is now three months since I spoke to the congregations and informed them that our budgeted operational deficit was running at £312 per week. I encouraged newcomers to join the Parish Giving Scheme and others who felt able to do so to increase their giving. Since then I am pleased to report that nine people have joined the scheme for the first time and a further eleven people have increased their giving. The overall impact of this on our weekly giving (including the associated Gift Aid) will be an increase of £244 per week, which will go a long way towards eliminating the deficit. On behalf of the parish, I would like to thank all those who have responded – we are extremely grateful to you.

BAGS OF GARDEN WASTE

Is there anyone with a van or large car that could remove some of the big bags of garden waste from St Mary's Church House Garden, please. Jeff Hayward has taken 2 bags already. If anyone can help, please let Karen Johns know.

Claire is away on holiday until Thursday 11 September. If you need to contact one of the clergy before then, please speak to Ruth or Robin (see telephone numbers below.)

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

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 7 SEPTEMBER 2025 TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

9.30 am Morning Worship, and Junior Church
President: Rev'd Ruth Beckett
Talk: Rev'd Alan Glover

11.15 am Encounter

(9.30 am Morning Praise, Weare Giffard – Rev'd Robin Pirrie)

SUNDAY 14 SEPTEMBER 2025 THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

8 am Said Holy Communion
President: Rev'd Ruth Beckett

9.30 am Family Worship All Age Service
President: Rev'd Robin Pirrie

11.15 am Encounter

(11 am Celtic 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

God of constant mercy,
who sent your son to save us;
remind us of your goodness,
increase your grace within us,
that our thankfulness may grow,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

FIRST READING Philemon 1-21

Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, To Philemon our dear friend and co-worker, to Apphia our sister, to Archippus our fellow-soldier, and to the church in your house: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith towards the Lord Jesus. I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ. I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother. For this reason, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do your duty, yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love—and I, Paul, do this as an old man, and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful both to you and to me. I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might be of service to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel; but I preferred to do nothing without your consent, in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back for ever, no longer as a slave but as more than a slave, a beloved brother—especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord. So, if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. If he has wronged you in any way, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

GOSPEL READING Luke 14 25-33

The cost of Discipleship

Now large crowds were travelling with him; and he turned and said to them, 'Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit

down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, saying, "This fellow began to build and was not able to finish." Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.

DATES OF EVENTS AND MEETINGS THIS WEEK

Mon 8	2 pm Mothers Union Wave of Prayer & social catch-up
Tues 9	7.30 pm Northam Choral rehearsal
Wed 10	9.30 am Music Makers
Thurs 11	4-5.30 pm Crypt Youth (7-11s) 5.30-7 pm Crypt Youth (12-16s)
Fri 12	11.15 am -1 pm Friday Diner 6 pm Choir Practice
Sat 13	8 am Morning Prayer 10 am Treblemakers 10.30 am -12.30 pm Holy Grounds (Alzheimers) Heritage Weekend, church open until 3 pm
Sun 14	8 am Said Holy Communion 9.30 am All Age Service 11.15 am Encounter

PRAYERS

Please pray for the work of Mind, our Mission Away Giving Charity for September.

Also, we pray for those people that need extra prayers at this time, and for those that have no one to pray for them.

HOLY GROUNDS IN SEPTEMBER

SATURDAY 13 SEPTEMBER, 10.30 AM – 12.30 PM

Please come along and support this event as it is in aid of Alzheimer's Society. We will also be selling copies of Sheenah's book.

The church will remain open from 12.30-3 pm for people to come and look around St Mary's Church as part of Heritage Weekend and Devon Historic Churches Trust Day. There will be refreshments available and donations from this will go towards Devon Historic Churches Trust.

DRUM WORKSHOP

SATURDAY 27 SEPTEMBER BETWEEN 10 AM AND 12 NOON

People interested in attending the Drum Workshop on 27 September, please let Chris Beechey know.

Anyone aged 11 upwards especially welcome.