

ALPHA COURSE

Can you help?

- For 11 weeks from 7 October, we will be running the Alpha Course 6.30-8pm in the Rectory. It would be great to supply a home-made cake for each session. If you are willing to supply one, please contact Debbie in the office. Thank you!
- One of the Alpha candidates would like a lift each week from and to Torrington. Would you be able to help with this? Please have a word with Rev'd Claire or Rev'd Robin.
- Please can you pray for the Alpha candidates- that they will find this course life giving and come to know the Lord in a deep and personal way. Please think about inviting someone you know - it's not too late!

Mission Away Giving

The next meeting of the Mission Away Giving Committee will be on 9 October at 7.30 pm in the church and we will be drawing up the list of charities which it is proposed St. Mary's support through its tithe.

PLEASE if you would like to make any suggestions, Christian, secular, local or worldwide can you let me know as soon as possible. It would be helpful to have

- The name and contact details of the charity
- Its aims and objectives
- Recent information about how it is achieving these

Many thanks, Lorna. 01237 477117 dorrinton@btinternet.com

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

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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 5 OCTOBER 2025 SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY HARVEST SUNDAY

9.45 am Coffee and tea before

10.30 am Morning Worship Holy Communion, with Treblemakers, and Junior Church
President: Rev'd Madeline Bray
Talk: Rev'd Claire Rose-Casemore

12 noon Bring and Share Lunch

(9.30 am Holy Communion, Weare Giffard – Rev'd Ruth Beckett)
(11 am Harvest Festival Service – Monkleigh – Rev'd Ruth Beckett)

SUNDAY 12 OCTOBER 2025 SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

8 am Said Holy Communion
President: Rev'd Alan Glover

9.30 am All Age Service and Baptism of Lullah Russell
President: Rev'd Claire Rose- Casemore

11.15 am Encounter

6 pm Service of Healing and Wholeness with 5 Parish Choir
Rev'd Claire Rose-Casemore

(10.30 am Harvest at Methodist Chapel- Littleham Rev'd Ruth Beckett)
(11 am Celtic Communion- Landcross Rev'd Madeline Bray)

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

Creator God,
you made the goodness of the land,
the riches of the sea
and the rhythm of the seasons;
as we thank you for the harvest,
may we cherish and respect
this earth and all its peoples,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

FIRST READING: PSALM 146

Praise the Lord.

Praise the Lord, my soul.

I will praise the Lord all my life;
I will sing praise to my God as long as I live.
Do not put your trust in princes,
in human beings, who cannot save.
When their spirit departs, they return to the ground;
on that very day their plans come to nothing.
Blessed are those whose help is the God of Jacob,
whose hope is in the Lord their God.

He is the Maker of heaven and earth,
the sea, and everything in them—
he remains faithful forever.
He upholds the cause of the oppressed
and gives food to the hungry.
The Lord sets prisoners free,
the Lord gives sight to the blind,
the Lord lifts up those who are bowed down,
the Lord loves the righteous.
The Lord watches over the foreigner
and sustains the fatherless and the widow,
but he frustrates the ways of the wicked.

The Lord reigns forever,
your God, O Zion, for all generations.

Praise the Lord.

SECOND READING: PHILIPPIANS 4.4-7

Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

GOSPEL READING: MATTHEW 6.25-34

"Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not

sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life?

"And why do you worry about clothes? See how the flowers of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

DATES OF EVENTS AND MEETINGS THIS WEEK

Mon 6 Oct	9.30 am Holy Dusters
Tues 7 Oct	10.30 am Holy Communion (M.U. Corporate) 6.30 pm Alpha Course at Rectory 7.30 pm Parish Prayer, St Mary's House 7.30-9.15 pm Northam Choral Practice
Wed 8 Oct	9.30 am Music Makers
Thurs 9 Oct	9.30 am Training session with Di Lobbett 4-5.30 pm Crypt Youth (7-11s) 5.30- 7 pm Crypt Youth (12-16s) 7.30 pm Mission Away Giving Committee, St Mary's Church
Fri 10 Oct	11.15 am-1 pm Friday Diner 6 pm Choir Practice
Sat 11 Oct	8 am Morning Prayer 10 am Treblemakers 10.30 am-12.30 pm Holy Grounds
Sun 12 Oct	8 am Said Holy Communion 9.30 am All Age Service & Baptism of Lullah Russell 11.15 am Encounter 6 pm Service of Healing and Wholeness with 5 Parish Choir

PRAYERS

Please pray for Marion Jones who would appreciate your prayers.

BRING AND SHARE LUNCH TODAY

Don't forget our bring and share lunch today at 12 noon.

Just bring a plate of food and some to share, together with your own crockery and cutlery (to save lots of washing up!)

SUNDAY 12 OCTOBER – 6 PM A service of Healing and Wholeness at St Mary's. Come to this quiet service where there will be the opportunity for anointing and prayer – ideal for the weary.