

THANK YOU!

Liza Junkison would like to thank everyone who have donated through the Children's Society boxes.

The money has now been counted (with a few more to come in) and £500 has been collected.

LOST PERFUME?

Some perfume was found in a gift bag in the churchyard near a memorial tablet shortly before Christmas.

If this belongs to you, please let Debbie know in Church office.



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 11 JANUARY 2026 THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

8 am	Said Holy Communion President: Rev'd Claire Rose-Casemore
9.30 am	All-Age Worship All-Age Team and Rev'd Robin Pirrie
11.15 am	Encounter
4 pm	New Year Celtic Evensong at Littleham <i>(11 am Celtic Communion, Landcross – Rev'd Ruth Beckett)</i>

SUNDAY 18 JANUARY 2026 THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

9.30 am	Celtic Communion, and Junior Church President: Rev'd Robin Pirrie Talk: Rev'd Claire Rose-Casemore
11.15 am	Encounter Service <i>(9.30 am Morning Praise, Weare Giffard – Sarah Cordingley) (11 am Holy Communion, Littleham – Rev'd Ruth Beckett)</i>

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.

CONTACT TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Team Rector:

Rev'd Claire Rose-Casemore
Rev'd Ruth Beckett
Rev'd Robin Pirrie
Rev'd Alan Glover: (Bishop's Licence)
Rev'd Madelline Bray (Bishop's Licence)
Churchwardens: Sally Strutt
Justine Duhig

Parish Administrator: Debbie Crawford
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

SUNDAY 11 JANUARY 2026
THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

COLLECT

Heavenly Father
at the Jordan you revealed Jesus as your Son:
may we recognise him as our Lord
and know ourselves to be your beloved children;
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

FIRST READING: ACTS 10.34-43

Gentiles Hear the Good News

Then Peter began to speak to them: 'I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.'

GOSPEL READING: MATTHEW 3.13-17

The Baptism of Jesus

Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, 'I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?' But Jesus answered him, 'Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfil all righteousness.' Then he consented. And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.'

DATES OF EVENTS AND MEETINGS

11 Jan 8 am Said Holy Communion
9.30 am All-Age Worship
11.15 am Encounter
3 pm Bideford Music Club Concert – Mikeleiz-Zucchi Duo (Saxophone and accordion)
4 pm New Year Celtic Evensong at Littleham
12 Jan 9.30 am Holy Dusters
12 noon M.U. Christmas Lunch at the Royal
7.30 pm PCC Meeting
14 Jan 9.30 am Music Makers
15 Jan 4-5.30 pm Crypt Youth (7-11s), 5.30-7 pm Crypt Youth (11-16s)
16 Jan 11.15 am – 1 pm Friday Diner
2.30 pm Thanksgiving Service for Valerie Reed
6 pm Choir Practice
17 Jan 8 am Morning Prayer
10 am Treblemakers
18 Jan 9.30 am Celtic Communion, and Junior Church
11.15 am Encounter

NEW YEAR CELTIC EVENSONG TODAY AT LITTLEHAM

There will be a Celtic Evensong at 4 pm today at St Swithun's Church, Littleham. This will be a service of reflection and meditation.

16 JANUARY – VALERIE REED'S THANKSGIVING SERVICE

Everyone is very welcome at the Thanksgiving Service for Valerie Reed on Friday 16 January at 2.30 pm at St Mary's Church.

Please

Jesus calls us to be servants and one of the wonderful ways in which the people at St. Mary's serve the local community is through the Friday Diner. Please can you ask God if he is asking you to become part of that team. We need:-

Some people who would be willing to share in the heating of pre-cooked food in the church cooker and plating it up. This will enable, at the moment mainly one person, to undertake other tasks, have the time to engage with our guests and go on holiday. Tuition will be given!

Also, a group of people who would be willing to be called upon, perhaps only four times a year, for holiday cover. This would entail helping to serve the meals.

For more information, please see Richard James, Pattie Morris, David Sparkes.