

PRAYER

We particularly pray for recovery and healing for Lorna Dorrington and John Day.

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

Below are the dates and venues in Bideford for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (12 noon to 12.30 pm each day) with refreshments afterwards. Everyone is welcome to attend, and it is a good opportunity to join together in prayer with other churches.

Date	Venue	Where
Monday 19 January	Baptist Church	Mill Street
Tuesday 20 January	Quakers	Ethelwynne Brown Close Community Room
Wednesday 21 January	Lavington URC	Bridgeland Street
Thursday 22 January	St Mary's Church	Church Walk
Friday 23 January	Northam Methodist	27 Cross Street, Northam

CRYPT YOUTH

Hi everyone, numbers at The Crypt Youth have gone up which is fantastic, but we need more help. If anyone can offer help to prepare toast/wash up or help with the children and activities that would be greatly appreciated! It would be from 4 until 5.30 pm with our younger group and you don't have to commit to every week. Thank you so much, Emily 😊

UCAN SUNDAY 25 JANUARY

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 build up our supplies for Friday Diner. Also, any cash donations that we can buy suitable items to top-up Friday Diner.

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 Madelline Bray (Bishop's Licence) 01237 477488
Churchwardens: Sally Strutt tbc
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 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

(9.30 am Morning Praise, Weare Giffard – Sarah Cordingley)
(11 am Holy Communion, Littleham – Rev'd Ruth Beckett)

SUNDAY 25 JANUARY 2026 THE CONVERSION OF PAUL THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY

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

9.30 am Morning Worship with Holy Communion
President: Rev'd Ruth Beckett

11.15 am Encounter

(11 am Holy Communion, Landcross - Rev'd Claire Rose-Casemore)

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.

SUNDAY 18 JANUARY 2026
THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

COLLECT

Lord Jesus Christ,
who said to your apostles,
'Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you':
look not on our sins but on the faith of your Church
and grant it the peace and unity of your kingdom;
where you are alive and reign with the Father
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.

FIRST READING: ISAIAH 49.1-7
THE SERVANT'S MISSION

Listen to me, O coastlands,
pay attention, you peoples from far away!
The Lord called me before I was born,
while I was in my mother's womb he named me.
He made my mouth like a sharp sword,
in the shadow of his hand he hid me;
he made me a polished arrow,
in his quiver he hid me away.
And he said to me, 'You are my servant,
Israel, in whom I will be glorified.'
But I said, 'I have laboured in vain,
I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity;
yet surely my cause is with the Lord,
and my reward with my God.'
And now the Lord says,
who formed me in the womb to be his servant,
to bring Jacob back to him,
and that Israel might be gathered to him,
for I am honoured in the sight of the Lord,
and my God has become my strength—
he says,
'It is too light a thing that you should be my servant
to raise up the tribes of Jacob
and to restore the survivors of Israel;
I will give you as a light to the nations,
that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.'
Thus says the Lord,
the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One,
to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations,
the slave of rulers,
'Kings shall see and stand up,
princes, and they shall prostrate themselves,
because of the Lord, who is faithful,
the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you.'

SECOND READING: 1 CORINTHIANS 1. 4-9

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind— just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you— so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

GOSPEL READING: JOHN 1. 29-42.

The next day he saw Jesus coming towards him and declared, 'Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, "After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me." I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel.' And John testified, 'I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, "He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit." And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God.

The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, 'Look, here is the Lamb of God!' ³The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, 'What are you looking for?' They said to him, 'Rabbi' (which translated means Teacher), 'where are you staying?' He said to them, 'Come and see.' They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. He first found his brother Simon and said to him, 'We have found the Messiah' (which is translated Anointed). He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, 'You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas' (which is translated Peter).

DATES OF EVENTS AND MEETINGS

18 Jan	9.30 am Celtic Communion, and Junior Church 11.15 am Encounter
19 Jan	9.30 am Holy Dusters
20 Jan	10.30 am Holy Communion 2.30 pm Reflections
21 Jan	9.30 am Music Makers 11.30 am Moreton Court Holy Communion
22 Jan	4-5.30pm Crypt Youth (7-11s), 5.30-7pm Crypt Youth (12-16s)
23 Jan	11.15 am-1 pm Friday Diner 6 pm Choir Practice
24 Jan	8 am Morning prayer 10 am Treblemakers
25 Jan	8 am Said Holy Communion 9.30 am Morning Worship with H.C., 11.15 am Encounter