



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 29 MARCH 2026

PALM SUNDAY

- 9.10 am Procession with Donkey from Kingsley Statue, then ...
- 9.30 am Morning Worship with Holy Communion
President: Rev'd Claire Rose- Casemore
- 11.15 am Encounter
- 7 pm Excerpts from Handels' Messiah- St Mary's Singers

(11 am 4 Parish Communion Service with Passion Readings, Littleham – Rev'd Ruth Beckett)

SUNDAY 5 APRIL 2026

EASTER DAY

- 6.30 am Easter Morning Sunrise Service by Kingsley Statue, Bideford Quay
- 9.45 am Refreshments
- 10.30 am Morning Worship with Holy Communion
President: Rev'd Claire Rose-Casemore
Talk: Rev'd Alan Glover
No Encounter Service

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

APCM – Sunday 26 April at 11.15 am

The APCM this year will be on 26 April at 11.15 am, following the 9.30 am service. We will hear what has happened over the past year and what plans there are for the future. We will also be electing 2 Churchwardens, 10 PCC members (1-year term) and 3 Deanery Synod Reps (3-year term.)

Please consider who you would like to be part of the leadership team of St Mary's Church – and if it could be you. There is a nomination list at the back of church near the Children's corner until Sunday 19 April.

Thank you from Lorna Dorrinton

Thank you so much to all the lovely people who have visited me and brought things to help keep me happy and entertained.

At the back of the church is a collection including books, DVDs and food containers.

Please would you be kind enough to take home that which is yours.

With love and gratitude, Lorna.

Church Office Closed over Bank Holiday

Please note that Church Office will be closed on Good Friday and Easter Monday. It will re-open on Tuesday 7 April at 9 am.

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
Churchwarden and Safeguarding Rep: Sally Strutt	07876 618387
Churchwarden: Justine Duhig	07941 912090
Parish Administrator: Debbie Crawford	01237 472551
Assistant Administrator: 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

CCL Licence No. 41147

COLLECT

True and humble King,
hailed by the crowd as Messiah:
grant us the faith to know you and love you,
that we may be found beside you
on the way of the cross,
which is the path of glory.

FIRST READING: PSALMS 118.1-2, 19-29 A Song of Victory

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his steadfast love endures for ever!

Let Israel say,
'His steadfast love endures for ever.'

Open to me the gates of righteousness,
that I may enter through them
and give thanks to the Lord.

This is the gate of the Lord;
the righteous shall enter through it.

I thank you that you have answered me
and have become my salvation.
The stone that the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.
This is the Lord's doing;
it is marvellous in our eyes.
This is the day that the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.
Save us, we beseech you, O Lord!
O Lord, we beseech you, give us success!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
We bless you from the house of the Lord.
The Lord is God,
and he has given us light.
Bind the festal procession with branches,
up to the horns of the altar.

You are my God, and I will give thanks to you;
you are my God, I will extol you.

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures for ever.

GOSPEL READING: MATTHEW 21 1.11

When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, 'Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, just say this, "The Lord needs them." And he will send them

immediately. This took place to fulfil what had been spoken through the prophet, saying,

'Tell the daughter of Zion,
Look, your king is coming to you,
humble, and mounted on a donkey,
and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.'

The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting,

'Hosanna to the Son of David!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!
Hosanna in the highest heaven!'

When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, 'Who is this?' The crowds were saying, 'This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.'

DATES OF EVENTS AND MEETINGS

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| Mon 30 | <i>Come any time between 6-7.30 pm to Experience Easter! Walk through the Stations of the Cross at St George's Church, Monkleigh</i> |
| Tues 31 | <i>7 pm Quiet service of Compline at Littleham</i>
7.30-9.15 pm Northam Choral rehearsal |
| Wed 1 | No Music Makers (because of Holy Week)
2.30 pm Kingsley School Easter Service
7 pm Seated Stations of the Cross |
| Thurs 2 | 7-10 pm Holy Communion with foot washing & Prayer Vigil |
| Fri 3 | 9.30 for 9.45 am Walk of Witness from Pollyfield
12-12.30 pm United Christians Together Service
2-3 pm Meditation |
| Sat 4 | 8 am Morning Prayer
8-9 pm Easter Vigil Service |
| Sun 5 | 6.30 am Easter Morning Sunrise Service by Kingsley Statue
9.45 am Refreshments, followed by
10.30 am Morning Worship with Holy Communion and Easter egg hunt for the children. |

Tonight at 7 pm – Excerpts from Handel's Messiah

Come along tonight at 7 pm to hear St Mary's Singers perform Easter excerpts from Handel's Messiah, with bass soloist John Hobbs, soprano soloist Ellie Laugharne; and organist Chris Beechey; conducted by John Nixon. There will be a retiring collection for Edukid.

Christian Aid Lent Appeal

Don't forget to return your Smartie tubes to Church on Easter Day. All contributions will be given to Christian Aid, an organisation which works all over the world to try to eradicate poverty. Thank you. Susan Jeffery and Sheenah Middle.