

Christian Aid Lent Appeal

Just a reminder to bring in your Smartie tubes to church if you still have them at home Thank you. Susan Jeffery and Sheenah Middle.

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.

Change of time for All-Age Service from May

Rev'd Claire recently announced that the All-Age Service on the second Sunday in the month will be changing its start time from 9.30 am to 10.30 am.

This will mean there will be no separate Encounter Service at 11.15 am on the second Sunday. Instead, the Encounter congregation will join (and some will help with) the All-Age Service.

Timing for refreshments on All-Age Sundays will move to 9.45 am, before the Service, not afterwards.

Please note that these changes will take effect from the May All-Age Service on Sunday 10 May.

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



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 12 APRIL 2026

THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER EASTER

8 am	Said Holy Communion President: Rev'd Ruth Beckett
9.30 am	All Age Worship President: Rev'd Madeline Bray
11.15 am	Encounter, with Holy Communion

(11 am Celtic Communion, Landcross - Rev'd Ruth Beckett)

SUNDAY 19 APRIL 2026

THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EASTER

9.30 am	Celtic Communion, and Junior Church President: Rev'd Claire Rose-Casemore
11.15 am	Encounter

(9.30 am Morning Praise, Weare Giffard – Sarah Cordingley)

(11 am Holy Communion, Littleham – 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

Risen Christ,
for whom no door is locked, no entrance barred:
open the doors of our hearts,
that we may seek the good of others
and walk the joyful road of sacrifice and peace,
to the praise of God the Father.

FIRST READING ACTS 2.14a, 22-32 Peter Addresses the Crowd

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them: 'Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say.

'You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know — this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. For David says concerning him,

"I saw the Lord always before me,
for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken;
therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;
moreover, my flesh will live in hope.
For you will not abandon my soul to Hades,
or let your Holy One experience corruption.
You have made known to me the ways of life;
you will make me full of gladness with your presence."

'Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying,

"He was not abandoned to Hades,
nor did his flesh experience corruption."

This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.

GOSPEL READING: JOHN 20.19-END Jesus Appears to the Disciples

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' When he had said this, he breathed

on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord.' But he said to them, 'Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.'

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.' Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.'

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

DATES OF EVENTS AND MEETINGS

Mon 13	2 pm M.U. Meeting – Easter Reflection 7.30 pm Standing Committee – St Mary's House
Tues 14	9.30 am Pastoral Care Meeting – St Mary's House 7.30-9.15 pm Northam Choral rehearsal
Wed 15	10-11.30 am Stay and Play 10.30 am Christians Together Meeting – St Mary's House 11.30 am Holy Communion, Moreton Court 7.30 pm NEB film – St Mary's Church
Fri 17	11.15 am -1 pm Friday Diner 6 pm Choir Practice
Sat 18	8 am Morning Prayer 10 am Treblemakers
Sun 19	9.30 am Celtic Communion, and Junior Church 11.15 am Encounter

National Emergency Briefing film Wednesday 15 April at 7.30 pm

A chance to find out what the climate and nature crisis will mean for all of us. Film followed by cake and a discussion. To help with setting up please call Steve Jarvis 07464 550023

Assistant Parish Administrator post finishing

As from Friday 17 April, due to financial constraints, our Assistant Administrator Karen John's employment is coming to an end. As from this date the office will no longer be staffed on a Friday and will go back to opening 9 am to 12 noon Monday to Thursday.

We want to thank Karen for all her efforts and for her support to Debbie during her employment and wish her all the very best. She is a much-valued member of our Church community, and we will continue to see her regularly in her role as Server, and all the other things she does for St Mary's.