

Appledore Christian Music Festival

Friday 15 – Sunday 17 May

There will be a variety of workshops, concerts and services at Appledore Baptist Church, St Mary's Church (Appledore), and St Helen's Church at Abbotsham.

If you are interested, please see more information from the programmes over in church, or go to appledorechristianmusicfestival.co.uk

Talk by John Hedge about his new book 'I Ni Che'

Saturday 30 May at 2 pm

John Hedge will be giving a talk about his new book, which celebrates 25 years of friendship and support for community projects in Mali.

The talk will be followed by a discussion and tea and coffee.

It is free entry with a collection for church funds.

Volunteers Needed for Goodliving Bookshop

Volunteers are urgently needed to help serve in the Goodliving Christian Bookshop on a part-time basis.

If you would be interested in a half or full day on a Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday or Saturday, please pop into the bookshop to find out more information.

CONTACT TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Team Rector:

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|---|------------------------------|
| 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 |
| Churchwarden and Safeguarding Rep: Sally Strutt | 07876 618387 |
| Churchwarden: Justine Duhig | 07941 912090 |
| Parish Administrator: Debbie Crawford | 01237 472551 |
| 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–Thurs 472551

St Mary's House, 9 Church Walk, Bideford. EX39 2BP

Email: admin@stmaryschurchbideford.org

website: www.stmaryschurchbideford.org

CCL Licence No. 4114



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 10 MAY 2026

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

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|-----------------|--|
| 8 am | Said Holy Communion President: Rev'd Claire Rose-Casemore |
| 10.30 am | All-Age Worship with All-Age Team and Rev'd Ruth Becket |
| 6 pm | Healing and Wholeness Service President: Rev'd Claire Rose-Casemore |

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

SUNDAY 17 MAY 2026

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

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| 9.30 am | Celtic Communion, and Junior Church President: Rev'd Madeline Bray Talk: Rev'd Alan Glover |
| 11.15 am | Encounter |
| 1 pm | Baptism of Rory Jeffery |

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

(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,
by the lakeside you renewed your call to your disciples:
help your Church to obey your command
and draw the nations to the fire of your love,
to the glory of God the Father.

FIRST READING: ACTS 17.22-31

Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, 'Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, "To an unknown god." What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. For "In him we live and move and have our being"; as even some of your own poets have said,

"For we too are his offspring."

Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.'

GOSPEL READING: JOHN 14.15-21

The Promise of the Holy Spirit

'If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you for ever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

'I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.'

DATES OF EVENTS AND MEETINGS

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| Mon 11 | 2 pm M.U. Meeting – "Growing in Faith" by Karen Johns and Sharon Tavener 7.30 pm PCC Meeting |
| Tues 12 | 7.30-9.15 pm Northam Choral rehearsal |
| Wed 13 | 9.30 am Music Makers |
| Thurs 14 | 11 am Ascension Day Service at Chudleigh Fort 4-5.30 pm Crypt Youth (7-11s) 5.50-7 pm Crypt Youth (11-16s) |
| Fri 15 | 11.15 am -1 pm Friday Diner 6 pm Choir Practice |
| Sat 16 | 8 am Morning Prayer 10 am Treblemakers |
| Sun 17 | 9.30 am Celtic Communion, and Junior Church 11.15 am Encounter 1 pm Baptism of Rory Jeffery |

Healing and Wholeness Service today at 6 pm

Please join us for this quiet, gentle service with prayers for healing and peace.

The theme will be '**10 days of Waiting**' marking the 'gap' between Ascension and Pentecost often mirroring 'waiting time' in our own lives.

Thursday 14 May at 11 am

Ascension Day Service at Chudleigh Fort

There will be an Ascension Day Service on 14 May at 11 am at Chudleigh Fort.

Anyone who attended last year will know it is a very atmospheric location with lovely views over Bideford. There is also plenty of parking for anyone who needs it.

Perhaps bring a chair with you if you find standing for a while uncomfortable.

Christian Aid Week 10-16 May

Christian Aid Breakfast on Saturday 16 May at Baptist Church

There will be a breakfast/brunch to support Christian Aid Week on Saturday 16 May, from 10 am-12 noon. This will be at the Bideford Baptist Church, Mill Street, in the Top Hall. Small breakfast is £5, large breakfast is £7.50.

Please sign up on the list in church (by 12 May).

Please also look out for Christian Aid Week between 10-16 May. The focus this year is on helping mothers in Kenya to grow fresh vegetables in urban spaces to help provide for their families. We will be handing out envelopes in church. If you are writing a cheque to put in an envelope, please make it payable to Christian Aid. Please give to Sue Jeffery or Sheenah Middle or post your envelope through the Church House letterbox.