

Help needed with painting at St Mary's House

We are looking for a volunteer (or a couple of volunteers) who would be able to do some painting in the downstairs meeting room of St Mary's House. One wall needs to be painted completely and the emulsion and paintwork on the other walls needs touching up. If you can help, please call Justine on 07941 912090. Any help gratefully received!

UCAN SUNDAY – 26 JULY

Next week is UCAN Sunday when we would be grateful for donations of food (tins, packets etc) or money, which is used to keep a store cupboard in Church to enable us to help those in need. We would also be very grateful for any spare carrier bags that you may have.

URGENT HELP NEEDED WITH FRIDAY DINER

At the moment the Diner is in danger of closing some weeks due to
(i) lack of helpers;
(ii) uncertainty over providing main meals

We do have some volunteers who provide meals regularly eg. puddings/soup, but if more volunteers came forward, they would not have to cook so often.

Please speak to Richard James or the office if you think you might be able to help in any way.

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
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. 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 19 JULY 2026

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

9.30 am	Celtic Communion (Treblemakers singing), and Junior Church
11.15 am	Encounter Service

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

(11 am Holy Communion, Littleham – Rev'd Ruth Beckett)

SUNDAY 26 JULY 2026

**EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY
(UCAN SUNDAY)**

8 am	Said Holy Communion President: Rev'd Ruth Beckett
9.30 am	Morning Worship with Holy Communion President: Rev'd Alan Glover
11.15 am	Encounter Service
12.45 pm	Baptism of Eleanor Galliver

(11 am Holy Communion, Landcross – 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

Generous God,
you give us gifts and make them grow:
though our faith is small as mustard seed,
make it grown in your glory
and the flourishing of your kingdom;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

FIRST READING: Romans 8.12-25

So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh— for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, 'Abba! Father!' it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labour pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 13.24-30, 36-43

The Parable of Weeds among the Wheat

He put before them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, "Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?" ²⁸ He answered, "An enemy has done this." The slaves said to him, "Then do you want us to go and gather them?" ²⁹ But he replied, "No; for in

gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn."

Jesus Explains the Parable of the Weeds

Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, 'Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.' He answered, 'The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!

DATES OF EVENTS AND MEETINGS

Tues 21	10.30 am Holy Communion 2 pm Reflections Cream Tea, North Devon Golf Club 2 pm St Mary's School end of year service
Fri 24	11.15 am -1 pm Friday Diner 6 pm Choir Practice
Sat 25	8 am Morning Prayer
Sun 26	8 am Said Holy Communion 9.30 am Morning Worship with Holy Communion 11.15 am Encounter 12.45 pm Baptism of Eleanor Galliver

Stay and Play

We will be running Stay and Play sessions on Wednesdays, 5, 12, and 19 August from 10-11.30 am.

This is for children under 5 and their carers siblings up to the age of 8 also welcome. There will be toys, snacks, songs, story time, craft table and much more. Tea and coffee for the adults. There is no charge although voluntary contributions of £2 to cover costs of refreshments would be very welcome.