

16 AUGUST - HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, WEARE GIFFARD AT 6 PM
HYMNS AND PIMMS

Come along to Holy Trinity Church (Weare Giffard) on Sunday 16 August at 6 pm for a relaxed summer evening with a glass of Pimms, friendly conversation and the chance to hear and sing some of our favourite hymns.

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.

UCAN SUNDAY TODAY

Today 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.

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 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. 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 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)
(Rev'd Claire at Alwington, then Encounter and baptism)
(Rev'd Robin at Appledore, Rev'd Madeline at Hartland)

SUNDAY 2 AUGUST 2026

NINTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

9.30 am	Morning Worship with Holy Communion President: Rev'd Madeline Bray Talk: Rev'd Alan Glover
11.15 am	Encounter Service

(9.30 am Holy Communion, Weare Giffard – Rev'd Ruth Beckett)
(11 am Morning Praise, Littleham – Rev'd Ruth Beckett)
(Rev'd Robin in Northam)

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

Lord God,
your Son left the riches of heaven
and became poor for our sake:
when we prosper save us from pride,
when we are needy save us from despair,
that we may trust in you alone;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

FIRST READING: Romans 8.26-39

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written,

'For your sake we are being killed all day long;
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.'

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 13.31-33, 44-52

He put before them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.'

He told them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.'

'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

'Have you understood all this?' They answered, 'Yes.' And he said to them, 'Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.'

DATES OF EVENTS AND MEETINGS

Thurs 30 9 am – 4 pm – First Aid at Work Training
Fri 31 11.15 am-1 pm Friday Diner
 6 pm – Choir Practice

August

Sat 1 8 am Morning Prayer
 8.15 am Men's Breakfast
Sun 2 9.30 am Morning Worship with Holy Communion
 11.15 am Encounter

Prayer

We welcome Eleanor Galliver as she is baptised at St Mary's today, and pray for Eleanor as she starts her Christian journey.

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.