

Confirmation

Confirmation is when we 'confirm' the promises made by our parents and godparents at our Baptism. It may be that as an adult or young person you feel ready to make these promises for yourself.... 'I turn to Christ'; 'I follow Christ'.

If you feel this is a good time.... we are running some sessions to explore the Christian faith on Monday afternoons in St Mary's House at 5pm. We would love you to join us! Please have a word with a member of Clergy or Debbie in the Office if you would like to find out more.

These are the dates and times of the Sessions:

Session 1: Monday 21 September 5pm-6.30pm

Session 2: Monday 5 October 5pm-6.30pm

Session 3: October 12 5pm-6.30pm

Session 4: October 19 5pm-6.30pm

Rehearsal Monday 19 October 5pm-6.30pm

Confirmation with Bishop Moira at St Mary's Church – Mon. 2 November 7pm

Best wishes, Claire.

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

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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 16 AUGUST 2026 ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

9.30 am	Celtic Communion President: Rev'd Claire Rose-Casemore
11.15 am	Encounter with Communion Rev'd Madeline Bray and Rev'd Claire Rose-Casemore
6 pm	Hymns and Pimms, Weare Giffard

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

SUNDAY 23 AUGUST 2026 TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

8 am	Said Holy Communion President: Rev'd Madeline Bray
9.30 am	Morning Worship with Holy Communion Rev'd Claire Rose-Casemore/Rev'd Madeline Bray
11.15 am	Encounter
1 pm	Baptisms of Remy Gifford & Londyn-Eliza Woods

(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

God of glory,
the end of our searching,
help us to lay aside
all that prevents us from seeking your kingdom,
and to give all that we have
to gain the pearl beyond all price,
through our Saviour Jesus Christ.

FIRST READING: Romans 11.1-2a, 25-26a, 28-32

I ask then: Did God reject his people? By no means! I am an Israelite myself, a descendant of Abraham, from the tribe of Benjamin. God did not reject his people, whom he foreknew.

All Israel Will Be Saved

I do not want you to be ignorant of this mystery, brothers and sisters, so that you may not be conceited: Israel has experienced a hardening in part until the full number of the Gentiles has come in, and in this way all Israel will be saved.

As far as the gospel is concerned, they (Israel) are enemies for your sake; but as far as election is concerned, they are loved on account of the patriarchs, for God's gifts and his call are irrevocable. Just as you who were at one time disobedient to God have now received mercy as a result of their disobedience, so they too have now become disobedient in order that they too may now receive mercy as a result of God's mercy to you. For God has bound everyone over to disobedience so that he may have mercy on them all.

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 15.21-28

The Canaanite Woman's Faith

Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, 'Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon.' But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, 'Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us.' He answered, 'I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.' But she came and knelt before him, saying, 'Lord, help me.' He answered, 'It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs.' She said, 'Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table.' Then Jesus answered her, 'Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.' And her daughter was healed instantly.

DATES OF EVENTS AND MEETING

Tues 18	10.30 am Holy Communion 2.30 pm Reflections
Wed 19	10-11.30 am Stay and Play 11.30 am Moreton Court Holy Communion
Thurs 20	9 am – 4 pm Emergency First Aid at Work Course
Fri 21	11.15 am-1pm Friday Diner
Sat 22	8 am Morning Prayer
Sun 23	8 am Said Holy Communion 9.30 am Morning Worship with Holy Communion 11.15 am Encounter 1 pm Baptisms of Remy Gifford & Londyn-Eliza Woods

6 pm tonight (16 August) - Holy Trinity Church, Weare Giffard Hymns And Pimms

Come along to Holy Trinity Church (Weare Giffard) tonight 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.

Wednesday 26 August (6.45 pm for 7 pm)

Film Night at David Sparkes

Film Night is for single people in St Mary's congregation who enjoy watching films together. It takes places at 'Homelet', Whitehall, Landcross, EX39 5HF. If you would like to attend the next one on 26 August, please let David Sparkes know as space is limited.

Thursday 27 August at 2 pm

Celebration of Life Service for Peter Goodall

Please join us for a Celebration of Life Service for Peter Goodall, a much-loved member of St Mary's Church family.

The service will be on Thursday 27 August at 2 pm in St Mary's Church, followed by light refreshments at the back of church.

Stay and Play

The remaining Stay and Play sessions in the holidays are on Wednesdays, 19 and 26 August from 10-11.30 am.

Help needed with lifts

Please can you consider whether you could help giving the occasional lift when needed by people from our church. This would only be very occasionally. Please speak to Karen Johns or contact her on 07368 637664.

