

Building Works in St Mary's Church

We are excited to let you know that the removal of the first few rows of pews will be taking place from Monday 10 August and is due to take approximately a week. Carpet will be laid in this area shortly after.

We have tried to keep disruption to a minimum by having the work done during the summer holidays. We apologize for any minor disruption and the short notice, but the builders doing the work have a window of time this week, so please bear with us. It is great that we can make progress in the plans for making the area at the front of church a more useable space for services and events.

The National Emergency Briefing film and Friday Diner will still go ahead this week.

Please also note that the downstairs meeting room in St Mary's House is out of action week commencing Monday 10 August for the flooring to be updated as part of plans to make the room more suitable for the Junior Church children and generally improved as a meeting room.

The work on the meeting room has been made possible due to a very kind donation from one of our church family.

We do need some volunteers to help remove pews, possibly on Wednesday. Please can you let Debbie Crawford know either in the office or at church on 9 August and leave a contact number so that Sally Strutt can contact you to confirm the date and time.

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.

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 9 AUGUST 2026

TENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

8 am	Said Holy Communion President: Rev'd Claire Rose-Casemore
10.30 am	All-Age Worship Rev'd Ruth Beckett/Rev'd Claire Rose-Casemore

(11 am Celtic Service, Landcross – Sarah Cordingley)

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)

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 of heaven and earth,
as Jesus taught his disciples to be persistent in prayer,
give us patience and courage never to lose hope,
but always to bring our prayers before you;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

FIRST READING: 1 KINGS 19.9-18

At that place he came to a cave, and spent the night there.

Then the word of the Lord came to him, saying, 'What are you doing here, Elijah?' He answered, 'I have been very zealous for the Lord, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.'

He said, 'Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord, for the Lord is about to pass by.' Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake; and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, 'What are you doing here, Elijah?' He answered, 'I have been very zealous for the Lord, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.' Then the Lord said to him, 'Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram. Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel; and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place. Whoever escapes from the sword of Hazael, Jehu shall kill; and whoever escapes from the sword of Jehu, Elisha shall kill. Yet I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him.'

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 14.22-33

Jesus Walks on the Water

Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. And early in the morning he came walking towards them on the

lake. But when the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified, saying, 'It is a ghost!' And they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, 'Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.'

Peter answered him, 'Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.' He said, 'Come.' So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came towards Jesus. But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, 'Lord, save me!' Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, 'You of little faith, why did you doubt?' When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshipped him, saying, 'Truly you are the Son of God.'

DATES OF EVENTS AND MEETINGS

Mon 10	7.30 pm Standing Committee
Wed 12	10-11.30 am Stay and Play – cancelled 7.30 pm National Emergency Briefing film
Fri 14	11.15 am-1pm Friday Diner
Sat 15	8 am Morning Prayer
Sun 16	9.30 am Celtic Communion 11.15 am Encounter with Communion 6 pm Hymns and Pimms at Weare Giffard

Wednesday 12 August at 7.30 pm – St Mary's Church **National Emergency Briefing Film**

For anyone who missed the chance to see the National Emergency Briefing film back in April, it is being shown again on Wednesday 12 August at 7.30 pm in St Mary's Church.

The film brings together leading expert insights on the climate and nature crisis and presents the national implications of climate and nature breakdown.

Stay and Play

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

Please note that the Stay and Play session planned for 12 August has had to be cancelled due to building works this week.

Sunday 16 August - Holy Trinity Church, Weare Giffard at 6 pm **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.