

**NEXT SUNDAY 17 DECEMBER 2017  
ADVENT 3**

Readings: 1 Thess 5: 16-24; John 1: 6-8,19-28

- 8 am HOLY COMMUNION  
Celebrant: Rev'd Claire Rose-Casemore  
Preacher: Rev'd Penny Dobbin
- 10 am PARISH COMMUNION  
Celebrant: Rev'd Claire Rose-Casemore/Rev'd Leigh Winsbury  
Preacher: Rev'd Penny Dobbin
- 7 pm SERVICE OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS followed by mulled wine and mince pies

**THIS WEEK'S READINGS AND SERVICES**

**Monday 11 December**

Ps 30; Isa 30: 1-18; Matt 14: 1-12

**Tuesday 12 December**

Ps 56; Isa 30: 19-end; Matt 14: 13-end  
10.30 am Communion, Rev'd Alan Glover

**Wednesday 13 December, Ember Day**

Ps 62; Isa ch 31; Matt 15: 1-20

**Thursday 14 December, John of the Cross, Poet, Teacher, 1591**

Ps 54; Isa ch 32; Matt 15: 21-28

**Friday 15 December, Ember Day**

Ps 86; Isa 33: 1-22; Matt 15: 29-end

**Saturday 16 December, Ember Day**

Ps 42; Isa ch35; Matt 16: 1-12

8 am Prayers

**CONTACT TELEPHONE NUMBERS**

Team Rector:  
Rev'd Claire Rose-Casemore 475765  
Rev'd Leigh Winsbury 422256  
Rev'd Alan Glover: (self supporting) 479542  
Churchwardens: Chris Hall 479450/07521 956006  
Sheila Pullin 07789 112400  
Parish Administrator: Maddy Bray 474078  
Pastoral Care Co-ordinator Lynn Winsbury 422256

*Church Office*  
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ST MARY'S  
PARISH  
CHURCH  
BIDEFORD

**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 DECEMBER 2017  
2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

*WELCOME* to our worship this morning!

We hope you enjoy the coffee and croissant before our 10 am service.

Our 10 am All Age service continues at **11.30 am** with a short *COMMUNION SERVICE* to which everyone is welcome. (if you'd like alcohol free wine, please let the chalice administrator know).

And there's more tea or coffee after the 10 am service—we would love to chat with you.

This morning's preacher at the 8 am service is Rev'd Leigh Winsbury.

Today is your last chance to bring friends and family to our *CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL* 2-4.30 pm, and we shall end it with *SINGING CAROLS AROUND THE TREES* at 4.30 pm.

There is no other evening service tonight.

We *WELCOME* Arlia and Nylah Taylor, together with their family and friends, as they come to be baptised into the Church Family at 12.30 pm.

**Tomorrow's** *MOTHERS' UNION*, 11 Dec, at 2.30 pm has Alan Glover talking to us about 'Aspects of Christmas'. Not just MU members can come: all are welcome, including men!

**This Wed** 13 Dec at 2 pm Juliet Hopkins brings us *CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS AND FLOWERS* followed by festive tea. Do come!

The 5 Parish *ADVENT-IN-ONE* course when we unwrap those familiar Bible readings we hear at the carol service each year is **this Wed** 13 Dec

**CHRISTMAS SERVICES**

- Sunday 17 December **CAROL SERVICE 7 pm** followed by mulled wine and mince pies.
- Christmas Eve **NATIVITY SERVICE 2 pm & 4 pm**, especially for families with young children, but all are very welcome (*It's repeated, choose your time*)
- Christmas Eve **MIDNIGHT MASS 11.30 pm**
- **Christmas morning FAMILY COMMUNION** with carols at **10 am**.

at 7 pm in St Mary's, OR at 2 pm **this Thurs**, 14 Dec, at Littleham Village Hall.

**Next Sunday** we have our *SERVICE OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS* at 7 pm, after which we serve mulled wine and mince pies. Please invite your friends to this and come along yourself!

We would be grateful for any *MINCE PIES* for next Sunday's Carol service: please bring them before the service, or ideally to the 10 am service.

Next Sunday is *UCAN SUNDAY* when your gifts of cans and/or cash would be appreciated for those in need. Make your gifts extra Christmassy!

*THANK YOU* to all who have contributed so much for the Christmas Tree Festival: *it's greatly* appreciated.

Please make sure you've picked up your hard copy of the new 3 month *ROTA* (already emailed out to those on email).

Please note there will be NO bulletins for Sundays 24 and 31 December. So please let Maddy know of any notices for 7 January by 20 December.

Congratulations to Bekah Tanton who has been appointed our new *CHILDREN'S, YOUTH AND FAMILY TEAM LEADER* to oversee all our children's and young people's work, starting on 1 January. (An announcement about our new Administrator will be made shortly.) Thank you for your prayers.

A total of £788 was raised from our 3 craft stalls, inc £90 from the raffle: *THANK YOU* for your tremendous effort and generosity! Remaining crafts will be taken to the Children's Hospice shop or the Children's Society shop.

If you ordered *PANTO TICKETS* please see Maggie Murray to pick them up, if you haven't already, or phone her on 477568. *Last chance next Sunday!*

*CHRISTMAS MESSY CHURCH* will be on Wednesday 20 December, 10-12.30 pm.

*ALPHA IS COMING*. Thursdays starting 4 January to 15 March 6.30-9 pm: for people searching for purpose and meaning looking at Christian faith basics. If you'd like to be part of the new group or have any questions, please contact David Sparkes on david.sparkes@hotmail.co.uk. And if you can provide a meal, or part, for any week see/email Sue Sparkes sue\_sparkes@hotmail.co.uk.

*REFLECTIONS* for 19 December is at 12.30 pm (not 2.30 pm this month) for a *Bring and Share Christmas Lunch*. Do you know someone who is lonely who you might like to invite? All are very welcome.

*CAROLOKE* at the Crealock Arms is on *Monday*, 18 December at 8 pm.

*LIGHT UP A LIFE* on Sat 16 Dec is in *St Mary's Church* this year (not the Pannier Market), at 6 pm. All very welcome.

Hallsannery *CHRISTMAS CONCERT*, Wed 20 Dec, 7 pm with the "Teacher's Rock Choir" in aid of North Devon Hospice.

*CARDS FOR GOOD CAUSES* finishes **this Wed**, 13 Dec, 10-4 pm Mon-Fri.

#### **Please pray for those people living in:**

Monday: Osbourne Close, Park Avenue  
Tuesday: Park Lane, Pitt Lane  
Wednesday: Hillcroft Place, Hillside Terrace  
Thursday: New Row, Pynes Lane  
Friday: Pynes Walk, Quarry Close  
Saturday: Queens Street, Raleigh Hill

**Please remember the souls of the departed** - Dorothy Cheetham - and the families of those who have recently been bereaved, and those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

#### **Dates of Events and Meetings**

Mon 11 Dec all day dismantle the Tree Festival  
2.30 pm Mothers' Union  
6 pm Cryptonites  
Tue 12 Dec 7.30 pm Parish Prayer, St M's House  
Wed 13 Dec 9.45 and 11 am Music Makers  
2 pm Tea with Friends  
7 pm Advent-in-One Course, in church  
Thu 14 Dec 10 am ETW Christingle service  
12 noon Bideford College rehearsal for ...  
1.30 pm B'ford College Yr 7 Carol service  
2 pm Advent-in-One course, Littleham Village Hall  
Fri 15 Dec Friday Diner Christmas Special  
2 pm St Mary's School Christingle service  
Sat 16 Dec 1.30 pm Wedding Blessing  
6 pm Light up a Life, *in church*  
Sun 17 Dec 11.30 am Nativity rehearsal after service  
7 pm Service of 9 Lessons and Carols  
Mon 18 Dec 7.30 pm Standing Committee  
8 pm Caroloke at Crealock Arms, L'ham  
Tue 19 Dec 12.30 pm Reflections bring and Share Christmas lunch  
7.15 am All Age Planning, at Maddy's  
Wed 20 Dec 10-12.30 pm Messy Church  
Thu 21 Dec 6 pm Nativity service Rehearsal  
Fri 22 Dec 2.30 pm Moreton Court Carol service  
4.30 pm Nativity Svce Dress Rehearsal  
Sun 24 Dec CHRISTMAS EVE  
8 and 10 am HC  
2 and 4 pm Nativity Service  
11.30 pm Midnight Mass  
Mon 25 Dec CHRISTMAS DAY - 10 am HC  
Sun 31 Dec 8 and 10 am HC

#### **COLLECT**

Almighty God, purify our hearts and minds, that when your Son Jesus Christ comes again as judge and saviour we may be ready to receive him, who is our Lord and our God.  
**Amen**

#### **BIBLE readings**

2 Peter 3: 8-15a; Mark 1: 1-8  
(see separate sheet)