

**NEXT SUNDAY 10 DECEMBER 2017  
ADVENT 2  
CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL**

NOTICES  
ONLY



ST MARY'S  
PARISH  
CHURCH  
BIDEFORD

Readings: 2 Peter 3: 8-15a; Mark 1: 1-8

- 8 am HOLY COMMUNION  
Celebrant and Preacher:  
Rev'd Leigh Winsbury
- 9.30 am COFFEE AND CROISSANT before ..
- 10 am ALL AGE SERVICE  
Led by Rev'd Claire and the Team
- 11.30 am COMMUNION  
Celebrant: Rev'd Claire
- 12.30 pm BAPTISM of Arlia and Nylah Taylor  
Rev'd Claire Rose-Casemore
- 4.30 pm SINGING CAROLS around the trees

**THIS WEEK'S READINGS AND SERVICES**

**Monday 4 December**

Ps 50; Isa 25: 1-9; Matt 12: 1-21

**Tuesday 5 December**

Isa 11: 1-10; Ps 72: 1-4,18-19; Luke 10: 21-24  
10.30 am Communion, MU Corp Rev'd Claire

**Wednesday 6 December, Nicholas, Bishop of Myra, c. 326**

Ps 7; Isa 28: 1-13; Matt 12: 38-end

**Thursday 7 December**

Ps 42; Isa 28: 14-end; Matt 13: 1-23

**Friday 8 December, The Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

Ps 25; Isa 29: 1-14; Matt 13: 24-43

**Saturday 9 December**

Ps 9; Isa 29: 15-end; Matt 13: 44-end  
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*  
opening hours: 10 am-12 noon, Mon-Fri 474078  
St Mary's House, 9 Church Walk, Bideford. EX39 2BP  
Email: admin@stmaryschurchbideford.org  
website: www.stmaryschurchbideford.org

**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 3 DECEMBER 2017  
ADVENT SUNDAY  
CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL**

*WELCOME, ESPECIALLY to members of the Village Churches of our Mission Community at our 10 am 5 Parish Advent Carols and Communion! Please stay for tea or coffee after the service—we would love to chat with you.*

If you don't normally take communion but would like God's blessing, please come up to the altar rail holding this bulletin. Alcohol free wine is available at the 10 am service: please go to the right hand side of the altar and then ask the chalice administrator.

This morning's preacher at the 8 am service is Rev'd Alan Glover.

There is no evening service tonight due to the Christmas Lights being switched on in the town, and our *CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL* being open until 8 pm. (See times below for the rest of the week.)

The final *CRAFT STALL* and raffle for the Appeal Fund is **today** after the 10 am service, after which people are encouraged to take away with them the things they made but which didn't sell, with our grateful thanks.

**Tomorrow's ADVENT QUIET AFTERNOON** has been **CANCELLED** due to illness - real apologies.

Our usual *CHRISTMAS CARD BOARD* is there for those who would like to send one card to the Church Family as a whole. Thanks, as always, to Richard Southon for this.

**CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL**

- Sunday 3 December 2 - 8 pm
- Monday 4 December 10 - 4 pm
- Tuesday 5 December 10 - 8 pm
- Wednesday 6 December 10 - 4 pm
- Thursday 7 December 10 - 7 pm
- Friday 8 December 10 - 7 pm
- Saturday 9 December 10 - 7 pm
- Sunday 10 December 2 - 4.30 pm,  
after which we sing carols around the trees

*Refreshments daily, including lunches 12 - 2 pm*

*HELPING THE NHS TO HELP YOU, this Tue* 5 Dec, 7.30 pm St Peter's Church, High St, Barnstaple, sponsored by Exeter Diocese. See poster.

*CHRISTIAN AID CAROL CONCERT, this Tue* 5 Dec at 7 pm in High St Methodist Church. All welcome.

TorrAge Ageing Well *CAROL CONCERT* in St Mary's **this Wed**, 6 December at 4.30 pm - all are welcome, with festive tea afterwards.

Bideford Rotary *CAROL SERVICE this Thurs*, 7 Dec, at 7 pm with mulled wine and mince pies beforehand from 6.30 pm. All welcome.

*CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION* at Weare Giffard Hall, with the 4 Parishes Choir **this Fri** 8 Dec 7 pm.

Please note there will be NO bulletins for Sundays 24 and 31 December.

Thank you for praying for the 2 posts which have been recently advertised. Announcements will be made shortly.

The *PANTO TICKETS* are ready for collection in exchange for the relevant money. Please see Maggie Murray, or phone her on 477568.

*ALPHA IS COMING* - right after Christmas, starting Thur 4 January to Thur 15 March 6.30-9 pm. It's for people searching for purpose and meaning and looks at the basics of Christian faith. If you would like to be part of the new Alpha group or have any questions please contact David Sparkes on david.sparkes@hotmail.co.uk.

We're holding a 5 Parish *ADVENT-IN-ONE* course when we will unwrap those familiar Bible readings we hear at the carol service each year. Choose your time and venue from 7 pm Wed 13 December in St Mary's, or at 2 pm Thurs 14 December at Littleham Village Hall.

December's *MOTHERS' UNION* on Mon 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!

On Wed 13 Dec at 2 pm Juliet Hopkins brings us *CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS AND FLOWERS* followed by festive tea. Do come, and bring your friends.

*REFLECTIONS* for 19 December is at 12.30 pm (not 2.30 pm this month) for a *Bring and Share Christmas Lunch*. Please contact Maggie Webster [maggiwebster0@gmail.com](mailto:maggiwebster0@gmail.com) or 01805 625209 (for an idea of numbers). All very welcome.

*FREEWILL OFFERING ENVELOPES* for next year are available for collection at the back, by the pigeon holes.

A reminder that all *VERBAL NOTICES* at the end of the 10 am Sunday service should be given to the churchwardens, in writing, before the service, and

the president of the day will read them out. Thank you.

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

*CARDS FOR GOOD CAUSES* is open in church until Wed 13 Dec, 10-4 pm Mon-Fri, 10-1 pm Sats.

## **DIARY DATES**

⇒ *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.

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

Monday: Northdene, Northdown Drive  
Tuesday: Northdown Road, South View Terrace  
Wednesday: South Bank Drive, Oaklands  
Thursday: Ochil Close, Old Town  
Friday: Albert Place, Orchard Hill  
Saturday: Orchard Gardens, Orchard Rise

### **Please pray for those who are sick:**

Jean and Jack Bale, Maryanne Benson, David Bertie, Trish Bishop, Sandra Cartwright, Nicky Day, Cynthia Ettling, Tyler Hooper, Pam Jarvis, Graham Johnston, Jean Jones, Eileen King, Enid Parish, Alan Power, Beryl Pullin, Kevin Smith, Jen Vickers, Iris Way, Phyllis Ward.

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

## **Dates of Events and Meetings**

*Start of CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL - see p1 for times*

Mon 4 Dec	6-7.30 pm Cryptonites Youth Group
Tue 5 Dec	9.45 am Yr 2 St Mary's School visit 7 pm Christian Aid Carol Concert, High St Methodist Church
Wed 6 Dec	9.45 and 11 am Music Makers 4.30 pm TorrAge Carol Service in church
Thu 7 Dec	7 pm Taize at Landcross 6.30 for 7 pm Rotary Carol Concert
Sun 10 Dec	9.30 for 10am All Age svce; 11.30 am HC 11.30 am nativity rehearsal (St M's Hse) 12.30 pm Baptism of Arlia & Nylah Taylor 4.30 pm Singing carols around the trees
Mon 11 Dec	all day strike 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

## **COLLECT**

Almighty God, as your kingdom dawns, turn us from the darkness of sin to the light of holiness, that we may be ready to meet you in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

## **BIBLE readings**

1 Corinthians 1: 3-9; Mark 13: 24-end  
(see separate sheet)