

Diary Notes

- Thu 20 Dec 7.00pm** Derek has invited everyone to the Rectory for mulled wine & mince pies, carol singing gathered around a fire (and maybe have marshmallows!) Please let Derek know if you are able to come along.
- Fri 1 Feb 7.30pm** Quiz Night in aid of North Devon Hospice at Appledore Community Centre. £7 p/p including refreshments. Teams of 6. For more information or to book a table, phone Jenny Rutter 01237 422710 or 01237 474627.

We will again be donating Christmas presents to the Women's' Refuge. A maximum of £10 per gift please, ideally wrapped with a label on the outside giving a rough idea of who it would be for. Suggested ages 0-1, 2-5, 6-9 and also something for Mum. Please also state whether it is for a boy or a girl. **Deadline Monday Lunchtime 17th December.** Leave them at Church or drop them off to Derek please. Thank you.

Floodlighting the Church

As we no longer have our Church Magazine, those who have in the past sponsored flood lighting of the church, please do continue: a monthly list of dedications will be displayed on the Church Notice Boards. The dedications will also be included on St Mary's website www.appledorestmarys.com and on St Mary's facebook page www.facebook.com/AppledoreStMarys/. If you wish to sponsor flood lighting the Church, perhaps in memory of a loved one on particular dates, please contact me on 01237 476968, or at 1 Odun Road, Appledore, EX39 1PT. For inclusion in January's lights, details of dates and dedications need to reach me before the end of December please. Thank you, Peter Dixon.

and finally ...

"Gifts from the heart are the most important gifts we can give at Christmas. All too often this is something that gets forgotten in the midst of all the commercialisation and it's easy to cave into the pressure of buying more and more, even if it means piling up debt. Intangible gifts, those which enrich our lives in heart, soul and spirit, are the best gifts we can give to the important people in our lives."

When we focus on the good and perfect gifts God has given us and share them with others, it won't matter how many gifts are under the tree.



Agnus Day appears with the permission of www.agnusday.org

Have a blessed Sunday ,,, a happy, healthy and fulfilling week and a Happy Christmas!



Welcome to St Mary's Church, Appledore



www.appledorestmarys.com and on Facebook

*Torridge Coastal Mission Community
of Appledore, Northam, Westward Ho! & Abbotsham*

◆ Admin office (Mon/Wed/Fri 9am-12pm): Vickey on 01237 470003 ◆
Team Rector: Derek Arnold Assisting Priest: Sandra Juniper

Churchwardens: Tom More & David Foster Licensed Readers: Nigel Price & Anne Foster

Sunday 16th December 2018 Third Sunday of Advent

The Collect for Today

God for whom we watch and wait, you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way of your Son: give us courage to speak the truth, to hunger for justice, and to suffer for the cause of right, with Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Today's Hymns

A&M 269 Hills of the north rejoice
Sheet When Jesus came to Jordan
MP 249 How lovely on the mountains
MP 708 To God be the glory

Today's Readings

Zephania 3: 14-end (p 947*)
Philippians 4: 4-7 (p 1181*)
Luke 3: 7-18 (p 1029*)

[*page nos refer to red bibles on pews]

Advent 3 – John the Baptist

Jesus said, 'No one more important than John the Baptist has ever been born; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.'

Amen. Come soon, Lord Jesus!

The third candle is lit and this response is used:

Jesus is the light of the world.

A light no darkness can ever put out.

We sing:

Advent candles tell their story
as we watch and pray,
longing for the Day of Glory,
'Come, Lord, soon,'
we say.

Pain and sorrow, tears and sadness
changed for gladness
on that Day.

John the Baptist, by his preaching
and by water poured,
brought to those who heard his teaching
news of hope restored:
'Keep your vision strong and steady,
and be ready
for the Lord.'

St Mary's Services & Events to end December

MON 17 DEC	19.00 Torchlight Procession & Carol Service
SUN 23 DEC	09.10 Church on the Mat
ADVENT 4	10.30 Lessons & Carols
MON 24 DEC	16.00 Crib Service
CHRISTMAS EVE	23.30 Midnight Communion
TUE 25 DEC	10.30 Family Service with Holy Communion
CHRISTMAS DAY	
SUN 30 DEC	09.10 Church on the Mat
1st SUN of XMAS	10.30 TEAM SERVICE - HOLY COMMUNION

PLEASE NOTE: When the 10.30 service is a Communion, there will be someone (usually Erica or Paul) in St Anne's Chapel at Communion-time ready to say a prayer for healing or any other reason with anyone who comes to sit with them.

Please include
in your prayers



- all who are sick, their families and carers
- all who are recently bereaved
- our Church team and mission community
- all who are suffering from loneliness, depression, confusion, violence, oppression, famine, fire, flood, earthquakes and storms.

Loving God, in this season of longing, as we await the coming of your Son and our Saviour. It is difficult for us to remember that this is a holy time. There are many distractions: commitments seem to pile up, and expectations are high. In the midst of our busy world, our busy lives, we need your help to remind us of what is important and necessary. Amen.

PLEASE
Do let Linda know of anyone who needs to be added to our Prayer List (including yourself) or if anyone no longer needs to be on it.

Prayer Chain Requests

If you are in need of urgent prayer support, please telephone one of the following who will pass your request along the chain. Any information given will be treated confidentially: 476608, 471457, 422808, 423511, 478400, 471099, 423513, 473207.

SERVICES AT ST MARY'S, APPLEDORE

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SUN 23 DEC 09.10 Church on the Mat
ADVENT 4 10.30 Lessons & Carols
MON 24 DEC 16.00 Crib Service
CHRISTMAS EVE 23.30 Midnight Communion
TUE 25 DEC 10.30 Family Service with Holy Communion
CHRISTMAS DAY
SUN 30 DEC 09.10 Church on the Mat
10.30 TEAM SERVICE – with Holy Communion

(Please refer also to St Mary's Church Appledore Facebook page)

SERVICES AT ST MARGARET'S, NORTHAM

Sun 23 Dec 10.00 Holy Communion

SERVICES AT HOLY TRINITY, WESTWARD HO!

Sun 23 Dec 10.30 Holy Communion

SERVICES AT ST HELEN'S, ABBOTSHAM

Sun 23 Dec 08.00 Holy Communion
11.00 Morning Worship/Matins

Mission Community Online Calendar

The Torridge Coastal Mission Community has an online calendar that can be accessed via the following link:

<https://teamup.com/ksu4nmg9vuyfk9hm1n>

Copy and paste the link into your browser and you can see details of services and events happening in the Mission Community.

Thank you for joining us at St Mary's today. We are always delighted to welcome new people so do please introduce yourself and join us after the service for refreshments and fellowship.

Please take this Pew Sheet with you and maybe pass it on to someone who is unable to come to church but would perhaps enjoy reading it.

Uncle Wainwright's Charity Shop on Appledore Quay

Raising funds for St Mary's Church

Open Weds & Sats 10am to 4pm plus other holiday times & festivals

Visit our Facebook page!

Please do not leave items outside the shop.

We are always grateful for donated goods and we particularly need good quality clothing, fiction paperbacks and bric-a-brac PLEASE!

Collections at St Mary's We do not pass round the collecting plate during services at St Mary's. We'd rather you gave what you can afford willingly, by putting your donation in the box by the entrance, rather than feel obliged when a plate is passed around. If you can gift-aid your donation so that we can reclaim tax from the government, or you would just prefer it not to be seen, please use the yellow envelope. If you would like envelopes for regular Giving, please ask one of the Welcomers or a Churchwarden. ALL MONEY FROM THIS BOX IS TAKEN UP DURING THE OFFERTORY HYMN IN THE MAIN SERVICE EACH WEEK. You can also donate by sending a text to 70070 with the message Mary39 plus the amount you wish to donate. (Mary39 is our Parish Code and is not case sensitive).



Harbour

Now that the cold dark weather is upon people without adequate homes and income, so needs include basic items of clothing, especially for the cold weather. Please remember that the box continues to be at the back of the church for your regular gifts of food: these can be used for snacks and lunches at the Harbour Centre in Queen Street, Bideford for those in need. It is open Mon-Thurs 10-1. On Fridays St Mary's Bideford have a Diner at lunchtime. Paul will always pass on any money gifts.

Luke 3:7-18 New Revised Standard Version, Anglicised (NRSVA)

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.' And the crowds asked him, 'What then should we do?' In reply he said to them, 'Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.' Even tax-collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, 'Teacher, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.' Soldiers also asked him, 'And we, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.' As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.' So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.