

Notices and Forthcoming Events

- There is a **letter from Richard** in each church setting out where we are in forming a new benefice and the changes that you will notice. Please take a copy.
- St Mary's welcomes back HMS Heron Band and Cheddar Male Choir for a wonderful **concert of Christmas Music** on Friday 5th December at 7.30 p.m. Tickets are £15 (£10 under 16s) and are available now from Wedmore Village Stores and Eventbrite. <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/st-marys-church-wedmore-120025430651>
- Can you be a host for the Travelling Cribs for Wedmore and Theale? Both begin their journeys on Advent Sunday morning and if you would like to host Mary, Joseph and the donkey for a night please contact Laura stmarywedmore@gmail.com for Wedmore and Yvonne yhutchison443@gmail.com for Theale.
- The **St Mary's 100 Club** are very grateful for your generous support this year, and it's almost time to renew your membership for 2026, so we will be delivering renewal forms during November. You can also catch us at the Advent Fair. Last year through your generosity we raised £820 towards St Mary's Church funds. We do hope you will be happy to take part in 2026.
- **St Mary's Advent Fair** is on Saturday 29th November 9.30am-12.30pm alongside the Coffee Shop. There will be children's activities, a prayer tent, Christmas goods, tombola's, a raffle and other seasonal stalls. Local musicians will entertain us and look out for the inflatable nativity. If you can help on the day please speak to Lisa Hall or Jo Keen. Bottles for the bottle tombola can be left at Providence House, Grants Lane or in the vestry.
- **The beginning of Advent** is marked with a fifth Sunday benefice communion at Allerton at 10.30am on 30th November and then the lovely service of light at 6pm with Advent hymns, readings and choir anthems.
- Next Sunday is Christchurch's name day, the feast of **Christ the King** and we will be joining together to celebrate communion at 10.30am.
- Come along to Theale Village Hall on Saturday 22nd November 7.30pm for 8pm for a concert in aid of Christchurch in the hall. Featuring **Somerset band 'Hopeville'** playing and singing Americana, Country and Blues. Tickets are £10 (cash please).

The Benefice of the Isle of Wedmore
SUNDAY 16th November 2025 2 Before Advent

We thank God for the dedication of the emergency services.
 We pray that we may use our God given talents for God's good purposes;
 for the grace to love our neighbours as ourselves; especially those with
 whom we disagree;
 for those whose lives are scarred by poverty;
 for the lonely and isolated in our communities.
 for the work of local social services supporting the vulnerable and needy.
 The Sick: from our community –Michael (Red) Redman, Claire Clement, John
 Horne, Jean Winter, Philip Stott, Thomas Hole, Jane Wright and others for
 whom we have been asked to pray - Jamie Trotham, Anne Dyer, Ruth
 Dyer, Alistair Forster, and Elizabeth Nicholls.
 RIP: Norman Ham (Theale)

What's On This Week?

Sunday 16th November: 2 Before Advent

St Mary's	8.00am	BCP Holy Communion	Preb Richard Neill
Holy Trinity	9.00am	Sunday Breakfast	Preb Richard Neill
Allerton Church	9.00am	Parish Communion	Revd Eddie Wills
St Mary's	10.30am	Parish Communion	Revd Eddie Wills
Christchurch	11.00am	Parish Communion	Preb Richard Neill
St Mary's	6.00pm	Start The Week	Karin Weigold

Tuesday 18th November

St Mary's	9.00am	Little Lambs Toddler Group
Around the Benefice	10.30am	Wheel and a Prayer
Christchurch	3.00pm	Christchurch PCC
Moor Road Farm	7.00pm	Allerton PCC

Wednesday 19th November

St Mary's	9.45am	Midweek Communion
Holy Trinity	6.00pm	Holy Trinity PCC
7, The Lerburne	7.30pm	Home Group

Saturday 22nd November

St Mary's	3.00pm	Messy Church
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Sunday 23rd November: Christ the King

Christchurch, Theale	11.00am	Patronal Festival Communion	Preb R Neill/Revd T Connell
Zoom Online	6.00pm	Evening Service	Preb Richard Neill

COLLECT

Heavenly Father,
whose blessed Son was revealed
to destroy the works of the devil
and to make us the children of God
and heirs of eternal life:
grant that we, having this hope,
may purify ourselves even as he is
pure;
that when he shall appear in power
and great glory
we may be made like him in his
eternal and glorious kingdom;
where he is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

OLD TESTAMENT

MALACHI 4.1-2a

See, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble; the day that comes shall burn them up, says the Lord of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. But for you who revere my name the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings.

PSALM 98

- 1 Sing to the Lord a new song, ♦
for he has done marvellous things.
- 2 His own right hand and his holy arm ♦
have won for him the victory.
- 3 The Lord has made known his salvation; ♦
his deliverance has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.
- 4 He has remembered his mercy and faithfulness
towards the house of Israel, ♦
and all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.
- 5 Sound praises to the Lord, all the

earth; ♦
break into singing and make music.

6 Make music to the Lord with the lyre, ♦

with the lyre and the voice of melody.

7 With trumpets and the sound of the horn ♦

sound praises before the Lord, the King.

8 Let the sea thunder and all that fills it, ♦

the world and all that dwell upon it.

9 Let the rivers clap their hands ♦

and let the hills ring out together before the Lord,

for he comes to judge the earth.

10 In righteousness shall he judge the world ♦

and the peoples with equity.

EPISTLE

2 THESSALONIANS 3.6-13

Now we command you, beloved, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from believers who are living in idleness and not according to the tradition that they received from us. For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not idle when we were with you, and we did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it; but with toil and labour we worked night and day, so that we might not burden any of you. This was not because we do not have that right, but in order to give you an example to imitate. For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: Anyone unwilling to work should not eat. For we hear that some of you are living in idleness, mere busybodies, not doing any work. Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to

earn their own living. Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

GOSPEL

LUKE 21.5-19

When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, he said, ‘As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down.’

They asked him, ‘Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?’ And he said, ‘Beware that you are not led astray; for many will come in my name and say, “I am he!” and, “The time is near!” Do not go after them.

‘When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified; for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately.’ Then he said to them, ‘Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and plagues; and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven.

‘But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before

kings and governors because of my name. This will give you an opportunity to testify. So make up your minds not to prepare your defence in advance; for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, by relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death. You will be hated by all because of my name. But not a hair of your head will perish. By your endurance you will gain your souls.

POST COMMUNION

Gracious Lord,
in this holy sacrament
you give substance to our hope:
bring us at the last
to that fullness of life for which we
long;
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Next Week’s Readings:
Jeremiah 23.1-6; Psalm 46; Colossians
1.11-20; Luke 23.33-43

Daily Readings: Matthew 7.1-12;
Matthew 7.13-end; Matthew 8.1-13;
Matthew 8.14-22; Matthew 8.23-end;
Matthew 9.1-17

Psalm 4