

Notices and Forthcoming Events

- Our next **Messy Church** in St Mary's is on Saturday 24th January from 3-5pm. This coincides with the RSPB big garden watch so we hope to spend some time counting birds in the churchyard.
- **Warm in Wedmore** continues next Wednesday and Thursday, pop into the Masonic Hall for coffee, soup and conversation. We'll be open between 10 a.m. and 2.00 p.m. and a different local group will host each week.
- **Sunday 8th February** sees a joint service to mark the beginning of our new benefice. There will be an evensong at St Mary's at 5.00 p.m. followed by a social gathering. A combined choir from Holy Cross and St Mary's will be singing at the service and both choirs would love to welcome new members. Holy Cross choir practice is every Wednesday evening at 7.30pm and St Mary's choir practice is every Thursday evening at 7.15pm. Speak to Nigel (Holy Cross) or Liam (St Mary's) if you want to find out more.
- **Holy Cross Congregation** – This newsletter is produced every week and is an opportunity to share news of forthcoming events etc. Please email stmarywedmore@gmail.com if you would like anything included. The newsletter is sent out via email each week, if you would like to be included on the email list please pick up and complete one of the forms in church.
- **Wednesday Home Group** – This begins again on Wednesday 21st January at 7.30pm. New members welcome, please speak to Richard.
- **Christingle marmalade** is on sale from Suzanne Metters, please call on 01934 712515 or 07749810809 if you wish to get some. They are £3 a pot or 10 for £25. All proceeds to Cheddar Food Bank.
- Allerton church are holding a '**Thank you**' evening on Saturday 24th January, at the home of Matthew and Lindy Paul to acknowledge all those who contribute to the life of the church.

- **Online services and contact details**

<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/10871> for Updates, newsletters and more.

<https://www.facebook.com/St-Marys-Wedmore-384215139101196> Daily Prayer at 9.00 a.m. [Click here for the order for service](#) (also available on our website)

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCocp711gYgJ2q0YJ5O2Qifg/> Our YouTube channel where you will find daily prayer and our Sunday Service videos

- You can contact us via email: stmarywedmore@gmail.com or on wedmorevic@gmail.com
- Vicarage Number: 01934 713566
- Good Neighbours Scheme: 01934 8062

Wedmore Isle and Moors Benefice
SUNDAY 18th January 2026 Epiphany 2

We thank God for His call of each of us;	for those who have been instrumental in shaping our faith.
We pray	that we may respond to God's call wherever that may lead us;
	for the unity of the church;
	for those scarred and held back by poverty;
	for the lonely and isolated in our communities;
The Sick:	from our community –Michael (Red) Redman, Claire Clement, John Horne, Jean Winter, Noreen Stott, Thomas Hole, Iris Rowlett and others for whom we have been asked to pray - Jamie Trotham, Anne Dyer, Ruth Dyer, and Elizabeth Nicholls.
RIP	Peter Julian (Hazel Anstey's father)

What's On This Week?

Sunday 18th January: Epiphany 2

Holy Trinity	9.15am	Morning Worship	Preb Richard Neill
Holy Cross, Mark	9.15am	Friends and Family Service	LWA
Allerton Church	9.15am	Parish Communion	Revd Tony Connell
St Mary's	10.45am	Parish Communion	Preb Richard Neill
ChristChurch	10.45am	Morning Worship	LWA
St Mary's	6.00pm	Start the Week	Karin Weigold

Monday 19th January

The Swan	11.30am	Wardens' Meeting
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Tuesday 20th January

St Mary's	9.00am	Little Lambs Baby and Toddler Group
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Wednesday 21st January

St Mary's	9.45am	Midweek Communion
Holy Cross	10.30 am	Coffee Morning
	2.30pm	Home Communion for Peter Popplewell
	7.30pm	Home Group

Friday 23rd January

Holy Trinity	12.00pm	Internment of ashes of Bessie Kerton
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Saturday 24th January

Wedmore Cemetery	11.30am	Internment of ashes of William Agnew
St Mary's	3.00pm	Messy Church
Moor Road Farm	6.30pm	Allerton 'Thank You' Evening

Sunday 25th January: Epiphany 3

Holy Trinity	9.15am	Sunday Breakfast	Revd Eddie Wills
Holy Cross, Mark	9.15am	Parish Communion	Revd Joy Hawes
Allerton Church	9.15am	Morning Worship	Preb Richard Neill
St Mary's	10.45am	Morning Worship	Revd Joy Hawes
ChristChurch	10.45am	Parish Communion	Revd Eddie Wills

COLLECT

Almighty God,
in Christ you make all things new:
transform the poverty of our nature by the
riches of your grace,
and in the renewal of our lives
make known your heavenly glory;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

OLD TESTAMENT

ISAIAH 49.1-7

Listen to me, O coastlands,
pay attention, you peoples from far away!
The Lord called me before I was born,
while I was in my mother's womb he
named me.
He made my mouth like a sharp sword,
in the shadow of his hand he hid me;
he made me a polished arrow,
in his quiver he hid me away.
And he said to me, 'You are my servant,
Israel, in whom I will be glorified.'
But I said, 'I have laboured in vain,
I have spent my strength for nothing and
vanity;
yet surely my cause is with the Lord,
and my reward with my God.'
And now the Lord says,
who formed me in the womb to be his
servant,
to bring Jacob back to him,
and that Israel might be gathered to him,
for I am honoured in the sight of the Lord,
and my God has become my strength—
he says,
'It is too light a thing that you should be my
servant
to raise up the tribes of Jacob
and to restore the survivors of Israel;
I will give you as a light to the nations,
that my salvation may reach to the end of
the earth.'
Thus says the Lord,
the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One,
to one deeply despised, abhorred by the
nations,
the slave of rulers,
'Kings shall see and stand up,

princes, and they shall prostrate
themselves,
because of the Lord, who is faithful,
the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen
you.'

PSALM 40.1-12

1 I waited patiently for the Lord; ♦
he inclined to me and heard my cry.
2 He brought me out of the roaring pit,
out of the mire and clay; ♦
he set my feet upon a rock and made my
footing sure.
3 He has put a new song in my mouth,
a song of praise to our God; ♦
many shall see and fear
and put their trust in the Lord.
4 Blessed is the one who trusts in the
Lord, ♦
who does not turn to the proud that follow
a lie.
5 Great are the wonders you have done, O
Lord my God.
How great your designs for us! ♦
There is none that can be compared with
you.
6 If I were to proclaim them and tell of
them ♦
they would be more than I am able to
express.
7 Sacrifice and offering you do not desire ♦
but my ears you have opened;
8 Burnt offering and sacrifice for sin you
have not required; ♦
then said I: 'Lo, I come.
9 'In the scroll of the book it is written of
me
that I should do your will, O my God; ♦
I delight to do it: your law is within my
heart.'
10 I have declared your righteousness in
the great congregation; ♦
behold, I did not restrain my lips,
and that, O Lord, you know.
11 Your righteousness I have not hidden in
my heart;
I have spoken of your faithfulness and
your salvation; ♦
I have not concealed your loving-kindness
and truth
from the great congregation.

12 Do not withhold your compassion from me, O Lord; ♦

let your love and your faithfulness always preserve me

EPISTLE

1 CORINTHIANS 1.1-9

Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes, To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind— just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you— so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

GOSPEL

JOHN 1.29-42

The next day he saw Jesus coming towards him and declared, ‘Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, “After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.” I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel.’ And John testified, ‘I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, “He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes

with the Holy Spirit.” And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God.’ The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, ‘Look, here is the Lamb of God!’ The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, ‘What are you looking for?’ They said to him, ‘Rabbi’ (which translated means Teacher), ‘where are you staying?’ He said to them, ‘Come and see.’ They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o’clock in the afternoon. One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. He first found his brother Simon and said to him, ‘We have found the Messiah’ (which is translated Anointed). He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, ‘You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas’ (which is translated Peter).

POST COMMUNION

God of glory,
you nourish us with your Word
who is the bread of life:
fill us with your Holy Spirit
that through us the light of your glory
may shine in all the world.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Next Week's Readings:

Jeremiah 1.4-10; Psalm 67; Acts 9.1-22;
Matthew 19.27-end

Daily Readings:

Matthew 24.1-14; Matthew 24.15-28;
Matthew 24.29-end; Matthew 25.1-13;
Matthew 25.14-30; Matthew 25.31-end

Psalm 22 vs 22-31