

Notices and Forthcoming Events

- **Warm in Wedmore** comes to end this week so do pop into the Masonic Hall for coffee, soup and conversation. We'll be open between 10.30 a.m. and 2.00 p.m. and a different local group will host each week. **Holy Cross coffee morning** continues every Wednesday 10.30am – 12 noon in church.
- **Lent Lunches:** All welcome and please contact the host to book a place. 4th March David and Anna Knight are holding a lent lunch in aid of Sue Ryder Hospices. Please contact David to book on 01934 712388. Anne Blandford is hosting on Tuesday 17th March, please contact on 713045. Heather Banwell is hosting on Thursday 26th March in aid of St Mary's. Please contact Heather to book on 01934 712216.
- **Friends of St Mary's AGM/Skittles/Fish & Chips.** Tuesday 3rd March at The Post & Wicket. Contact David Hopkins if you would like to join in (07984 924432)
- **The Creative Lent Course** continues on Wednesday 4th March, 7.15pm until 8.45pm in St Mary's Lady Chapel. There are still spaces available. Please let Sue Smith or Joy know if you are able to attend.
- **Lectio in Lent** – During lent each of our churches will take it in turn to host Compline on a Wednesday evening at 8pm. Each time we will look at the Sunday Gospel reading by prayerfully reading using 'Lectio Divina'. There are flyers in each church.
- **Twelve Olympians Live** – St Mary's welcomes back Richard Bean on Friday 6th March for an amazing concert of electronic music, featuring his own compositions and favourites Vangelis. Tickets at £10 are available from Wedmore Village Stores and online at www.universe.com/events/twelve-olympians-live-tickets-59PR67
- **Holy Cross** welcomes Tim Pitman (AKA the voice of Somerset) for a concert on Friday 20th March. 7pm for 7.30pm. Tickets are £10 from Eventbrite. Call 01278 641067 for further information.
- 'This year's service for The **World Day of Prayer** on Friday 6th March is being hosted for our local area by St Peter's West Huntspill at 11.00 a.m. The material this year is from Nigeria. All Welcome.'
- **Clash of the Choirs** is back on Saturday 21st March in St Mary's. Ten local choirs battle it out to impress the notoriously unreliable 'Clapometer'. Tickets for this sell-out event are on sale at The Paper Shop or via Eventbrite.
- A few people have asked about Richard's sermon from Ash Wednesday. You can read it at <https://iowsermons.blogspot.com/2026/02/richards-sermon-for-ash-wednesday-2026.html>
- **Wheel and a Prayer** returns this Tuesday, now with an added leg to include Mark.
- **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](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)

- You can contact us via email: stmarywedmore@gmail.com or on wedmorevic@gmail.com
- Vicarage Number: 01934 713566
- Good Neighbours Scheme: 01934 806299

Wedmore Isle and Moors Benefice
SUNDAY 22nd February 2026 Lent 1

We thank God that he has identified with our experiences and for his power to strengthen and save.

We pray for the wisdom to know our own weaknesses and the strength to withstand temptation;
 for the grace to use Lent wisely;
 for those suffering from poverty in our local area and for the work of the Cheddar Valley Foodbank;

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: Roger Reeson (Andy's dad)

What's On This Week?

Sunday 22nd February: Lent 1

Holy Trinity	9.15am	Sunday Breakfast	Preb Richard Neill
Holy Cross, Mark	9.15am	Parish Communion	Revd Tony Connell
Allerton Church	9.15am	Morning Worship	LWA
St Mary's	10.45am	Morning Worship	Claire Gelder
ChristChurch	10.45am	Parish Communion	Preb R Neill/Revd E Wills

Tuesday 24th February

St Mary's	9.00am	Little Lambs Baby and Toddler Group
Around the Benefice	10.30am	Wheel and a Prayer

Wednesday 25th February

St Mary's	9.45am	Midweek Communion
St Mary's	10.30am	St Mary's Walking Group
Bagley Baptist Church	11.00am	Christchurch Fellowship Group
	3.00pm	Home Communion for Paul and Iris Rowlett
	6.00pm	Holy Trinity PCC

Thursday 26th February

Holy Trinity, Blackford	8.00pm	Lectio in Lent
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Sunday 1st March: Lent 2

Holy Trinity	9.15am	Parish Communion	Revd Eddie Wills
Allerton Church	9.15am	Family Service	Preb Richard Neill
Holy Cross	9.15am	Morning Worship	LWA
St Mary's	10.45am	Café Church, Seekers and Creche	Revd J Hawes/ M Clark
Christchurch	10.45am	Parish Communion	Revd Eddie Wills
St Mary's	6.00pm	Start the Week	Venetia Hopkins

COLLECT

Almighty God,
whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days
in the wilderness,
and was tempted as we are, yet without
sin:
give us grace to discipline ourselves in
obedience to your Spirit;
and, as you know our weakness,
so may we know your power to save;
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

GENESIS 2.15–17; 3.1–7

The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. And the Lord God commanded the man, ‘You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die.’ Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, ‘Did God say, “You shall not eat from any tree in the garden?”’ The woman said to the serpent, ‘We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; but God said, “You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.”’ But the serpent said to the woman, ‘You will not die; for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.’ So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

PSALM 32

1 Happy the one whose transgression is forgiven, ♦
and whose sin is covered.
2 Happy the one to whom the Lord imputes no guilt, ♦
and in whose spirit there is no guile.
3 For I held my tongue; ♦
my bones wasted away
through my groaning all the day long.
4 Your hand was heavy upon me day and night; ♦
my moisture was dried up like the drought in summer.
5 Then I acknowledged my sin to you ♦
and my iniquity I did not hide.
6 I said, ‘I will confess my transgressions to the Lord,’ ♦
and you forgave the guilt of my sin.
7 Therefore let all the faithful make their prayers to you
in time of trouble; ♦
in the great water flood, it shall not reach them.
8 You are a place for me to hide in;
you preserve me from trouble; ♦
you surround me with songs of deliverance.
9 ‘I will instruct you and teach you
in the way that you should go; ♦
I will guide you with my eye.
10 ‘Be not like horse and mule which have no understanding; ♦
whose mouths must be held with bit and bridle,
or else they will not stay near you.’
11 Great tribulations remain for the wicked, ♦
but mercy embraces those who trust in the Lord.
12 Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the Lord; ♦
shout for joy, all who are true of heart

EPISTLE

ROMANS 5.12–19

Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned— sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come.

But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgement following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. If, because of the one man's trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. For just as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

GOSPEL

MATTHEW 4.1–11

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. The tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.' But he answered, 'It is written,

"One does not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God." '

Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, 'If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written,

"He will command his angels concerning you",

and "On their hands they will bear you up,
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone." '

Jesus said to him, 'Again it is written, "Do not put the Lord your God to the test." '

Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour; and he said to him, 'All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.' Jesus said to him, 'Away with you, Satan! for it is written,

"Worship the Lord your God,

and serve only him." '

Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

POST COMMUNION

Lord God,
you have renewed us with the living bread from heaven;
by it you nourish our faith,
increase our hope,
and strengthen our love:
teach us always to hunger for him who is the true and living bread,
and enable us to live by every word
that proceeds from out of your mouth;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Next Week's Readings:

Genesis 12.1-4a; Psalm 121; Romans 4.1-5,13-17; John 3.1-17

Daily Readings:

Galatians 3.23-4.7; Galatians 4.8-20;
Galatians 4.21-5.1; Galatians 5.2-15;
Galatians 5.16-end; Galatians 6

Psalm 41