

## Notices and Forthcoming Events

- **Lent Lunches:** Heather Banwell is hosting on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March in aid of St Mary's. Please contact Heather to book on 01934 712216.
- **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'. This week we will be at St Mary's Church.
- **Local Mezzo soprano Ester Kosar** is in concert in St Mary's on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March, 7pm. 'An evening serenade with voice, piano and violin. Tickets are £20 with under 21's free. Please pay cash on the door. There will be complimentary food and drinks available at the beginning and in the interval.
- Please note dates for **Annual Church Meetings:** St Mary's – Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April; Holy Cross – Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May; Christchurch – Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> April; Allerton - Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> May; Holy Trinity – TBA at the moment.
- Easter Flowers – If you would like to donate towards Easter flowers at St Mary's in memory of a loved one. Please speak to Liz Anderson. For Holy Cross please speak to Heather Popham.
- **Palm Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March** will be a benefice service in Holy Cross Mark. For those who would like to join the procession meet at **White Horse Inn at 10.00 am**. The procession will arrive at Holy Cross Church at **10.30 am** for a service of Holy Communion. **Holy Week** - as usual Holy week services will be spread across the five Churches.
- **Church Electoral Roll** – As we prepare for annual meetings it's time to confirm electoral roll numbers. If you don't think you are on the roll for your church and want to join please contact your electoral roll officer. These are Don Gaudoin (Wedmore), Philip Bevan (Allerton), Elizabeth Coulter (Theale), David Sisson (Blackford) and Joan Thompson (Mark). Electoral roll forms are available in each church and need to be completed and returned by the middle of April either to church or directly to the electoral roll officer.
- **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](mailto:stmarywedmore@gmail.com) or on [wedmorevic@gmail.com](mailto:wedmorevic@gmail.com)
- Vicarage Number: 01934 713566
- Good Neighbours Scheme: 01934 806299

**Wedmore Isle and Moors Benefice**  
**SUNDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2026 Lent 5**

We thank God for the cross of Jesus, the symbol of our salvation;  
 For those who volunteer to help others in our communities;  
 We pray for those for whom a bereavement is very raw;  
 for the grace to use Lent wisely;  
 that we may discern God's promised and preferred future for our own  
 lives, our church and our community;  
 for those working in our hospitals;  
 that the conflict in The Gulf and Middle East can be resolved peacefully  
 and swiftly;  
 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, George Osbourne and  
 others for whom we have been asked to pray - Jamie Trotham, Anne  
 Dyer, Ruth Dyer, and Elizabeth Nicholls.

RIP: Liz Merryfield (Formerly of Blackford)

**What's On This Week?**

**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March: Lent 5**

Holy Trinity	9.15am	Sunday Breakfast	Venetia Hopkins
Allerton	9.15am	Morning Worship	Johnny Torrens Spence
Holy Cross Mark	9.15am	Parish Communion	Preb Richard Neill
St Mary's	10.45am	Morning Worship	Revd Eddie Wills/Claire Gelder
Christchurch	10.45am	Parish Communion	Preb Richard Neill

**Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March**

St Mary's	9.00am	Little Lambs Baby and Toddler
Sedgemoor Crem	11.00am	Funeral of Peter Brading
St Mary's	1.00pm	Concert Rehearsal

**Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March**

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
John Moorcroft's	7.00pm	Bell Ringers AGM

**Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March**

	12 noon	Lent Lunch
St Mary's	8.00pm	Lectio in Lent

**Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March**

St Mary's	3.00pm	Messy Church
St Mary's	7.00pm	Ester Kostar Concert

**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March: Palm Sunday**

White Horse Mark	10.00am	Palm Sunday Procession	Preb Richard Neill
Holy Cross Mark	10.30am	Palm Sunday Service	Preb R Neill/Revd T Connell

## **COLLECT**

Most merciful God,  
who by the death and resurrection  
of your Son Jesus Christ  
delivered and saved the world:  
grant that by faith in him who  
suffered on the cross  
we may triumph in the power of his  
victory;  
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**

### **EZEKIEL 37.1-14**

The hand of the Lord came upon me,  
and he brought me out by the spirit  
of the Lord and set me down in the  
middle of a valley; it was full of  
bones. He led me all round them;  
there were very many lying in the  
valley, and they were very dry. He  
said to me, 'Mortal, can these bones  
live?' I answered, 'O Lord God, you  
know.' Then he said to me,  
'Prophesy to these bones, and say to  
them: O dry bones, hear the word of  
the Lord. Thus says the Lord God to  
these bones: I will cause breath to  
enter you, and you shall live. I will  
lay sinews on you, and will cause  
flesh to come upon you, and cover  
you with skin, and put breath in you,  
and you shall live; and you shall  
know that I am the Lord.' So I  
prophesied as I had been  
commanded; and as I prophesied,  
suddenly there was a noise, a  
rattling, and the bones came  
together, bone to its bone. I looked,

and there were sinews on them, and  
flesh had come upon them, and skin  
had covered them; but there was no  
breath in them. Then he said to me,  
'Prophesy to the breath, prophesy,  
mortal, and say to the breath: Thus  
says the Lord God: Come from the  
four winds, O breath, and breathe  
upon these slain, that they may live.'  
I prophesied as he commanded me,  
and the breath came into them, and  
they lived, and stood on their feet, a  
vast multitude. Then he said to me,  
'Mortal, these bones are the whole  
house of Israel. They say, "Our  
bones are dried up, and our hope is  
lost; we are cut off completely."  
Therefore prophesy, and say to  
them, Thus says the Lord God: I am  
going to open your graves, and bring  
you up from your graves, O my  
people; and I will bring you back to  
the land of Israel. And you shall  
know that I am the Lord, when I  
open your graves, and bring you up  
from your graves, O my people. I  
will put my spirit within you, and  
you shall live, and I will place you  
on your own soil; then you shall  
know that I, the Lord, have spoken  
and will act, says the Lord

## **PSALM**

### **PSALM 130**

Out of the depths have I cried to  
you, O Lord;  
Lord, hear my voice; •  
let your ears consider well the voice  
of my supplication.  
2 If you, Lord, were to mark what is  
done amiss, •

O Lord, who could stand?  
3 But there is forgiveness with you,  
•  
so that you shall be feared.  
4 I wait for the Lord; my soul waits  
for him; •  
in his word is my hope.  
5 My soul waits for the Lord,  
more than the night watch for the  
morning, •  
more than the night watch for the  
morning.  
6 O Israel, wait for the Lord, •  
for with the Lord there is mercy;  
7 With him is plenteous redemption  
•  
and he shall redeem Israel from all  
their sins.

## **EPISTLE**

### **ROMANS 8.6-11**

To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the

Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

## **GOSPEL**

### **JOHN 11.1-45**

*Today's Gospel reading is very long, so there is not enough room to print it here.*

## **POST COMMUNION**

Lord Jesus Christ,  
you have taught us  
that what we do for the least of our  
brothers and sisters  
we do also for you:  
give us the will to be the servant of  
others  
as you were the servant of all,  
and gave up your life and died for  
us, but are alive and reign, now and  
for ever.

### **Next Week's Readings:**

#### **Matthew 21.1-11**

Isaiah 50.4-9a

Psalms 31.9-16

Philippians 2.5-11

Matthew 26.14 – 27end

### **Daily Readings:**

Hebrews 11.17-31; Hebrews 11.32-12.2;

Romans 5.12-end; Hebrews 12.14-end;

Hebrews 13.1-16; Hebrews 13.17-end

Psalm 54