

Notices and Forthcoming Events

- **Lent Lunches:** All welcome and please contact the host to book a place. Anne Blandford is hosting on Tuesday 17th March in aid of Cheddar Valley Foodbank, 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.
- **The Creative Lent Course** continues on Wednesday 18th 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.
- **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.
- **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.
- Next Sunday is **Mothering Sunday** and will be marked with All Age Services at all our Churches and with the usual gifts of flowers. Why not invite friends and family to join you in Church that day
- **Melissa Neill** has been taking the Cancer Research UK 14 dips in February challenge and diving into cold water in Sheffield, if you are able to contribute to her fundraising she will be very grateful. Go to <https://fundraise.cancerresearchuk.org/page/melissas-giving-page-3761>
- The legal process to create the new benefice is now underway, thankfully. It will take a few months before everything is signed off by the powers that be. There should be a letter detailing the scheme in each church.
- **Local Mezzo soprano Ester Kosar** is in concert in St Mary's on Saturday 28th 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.
- There will be flyers available next Sunday in church detailing what is happening across our benefice during **Holy Week**.
- Please note dates for **Annual Church Meetings**: St Mary's – Sunday 26th April; Holy Cross – Sunday 10th May; Christchurch – Tuesday 21st April; Allerton - Tuesday 12th May; Holy Trinity – TBA at the moment.
- **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 8th March 2026 Lent 3

We thank God for the hospitality we receive from friends and strangers.
 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 who act as peace keepers and peace makers in dangerous parts of the world;
 that the conflict in The Gulf and Middle East can be resolved peacefully and swiftly;
 for those we know who are trapped in the Middle East;
 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, and others for whom we have been asked to pray - Jamie Trotham, Anne Dyer, Ruth Dyer, and Elizabeth Nicholls.

RIP: Mike Patten (Kingsway, Mark); Peter Brading (King Alfred Way, Wedmore); Gladys Baxter (Danes Lea)

What's On This Week?

Sunday 8th March: Lent 3

St Mary's	8.00am	BCP Holy Communion	Preb Richard Neill
Holy Trinity	9.15am	Worship Together (Communion)	Revds J Hawes/R Neill
St Mary's	10.45am	Worship Together (Communion)	Preb Richard Neill
St Mary's	6.00pm	Start the Week	Karin Weigold

Monday 9th March

St Mary's	2.00pm	Deanery Parish Safeguarding Officer meeting
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Tuesday 10th March

St Mary's	9.00am	Little Lambs Baby and Toddler Group
The Vicarage	7.30pm	Wedmore Standing Committee

Wednesday 11th March

St Mary's	9.45am	Midweek Communion
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Thursday 12th March

Holy Cross Mark	8.00pm	Lectio in Lent
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Friday 13th March

St Mary's	3.00pm	The Tea Set
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Saturday 14th March

Holy Trinity	10.00am	Blackford Churchyard Working Group
Wedmore V.Hall	9.45am	Marriage Preparation Day

Sunday 15th March: Lent 4

Holy Trinity	9.15am	Morning Worship	TBA
Allerton	9.15am	All Age Communion	Preb Richard Neill
Holy Cross Mark	9.15am	Café Church	LWA
St Mary's	10.45am	All Age Communion	Preb Richard Neill
Christchurch	10.45am	Morning Worship	Revd Tony Connell
St Mary's	6.00pm	Start the Week	Claire Gelder

COLLECT

Almighty God,
whose most dear Son went not up
to joy but first he suffered pain,
and entered not into glory before
he was crucified:
mercifully grant that we, walking
in the way of the cross,
may find it none other than the
way of life and peace;
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

EXODUS 17.1-7

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarrelled with Moses, and said, 'Give us water to drink.' Moses said to them, 'Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?' But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?' So Moses cried out to the Lord, 'What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.' The Lord said to Moses, 'Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you

struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.' Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarrelled and tested the Lord, saying, 'Is the Lord among us or not?'

PSALM

PSALM 95

- 1 O come, let us sing to the Lord; •
let us heartily rejoice in the rock
of our salvation.
- 2 Let us come into his presence
with thanksgiving •
and be glad in him with psalms.
- 3 For the Lord is a great God •
and a great king above all gods.
- 4 In his hand are the depths of the
earth •
and the heights of the mountains
are his also.
- 5 The sea is his, for he made it, •
and his hands have moulded the
dry land.
- 6 Come, let us worship and bow
down •
and kneel before the Lord our
Maker.
- 7 For he is our God; •
we are the people of his pasture
and the sheep of his hand.
- 8 O that today you would listen to
his voice: •
'Harden not your hearts as at
Meribah, on that day at Massah in
the wilderness,

9 ‘When your forebears tested me,
and put me to the proof, •

though they had seen my works.

10 ‘Forty years long I detested that
generation and said, •

“This people are wayward in their
hearts;

they do not know my ways.”

11 ‘So I swore in my wrath, •

“They shall not enter into my
rest.” ’

EPISTLE

ROMANS 5.1-11

Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. Much more surely then, now

that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

GOSPEL

JOHN 4.5-42

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

POST COMMUNION

Merciful Lord,
grant your people grace to
withstand the temptations
of the world, the flesh and the
devil,
and with pure hearts and minds to
follow you, the only God;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Next Week’s Readings:

Exodus 2.1-10; Psalm 34.11-20; 2
Corinthians 1.3-7; Luke 2.33-35

Daily Readings:

Hebrews 4.14-5.10; Hebrews 5.11-6.12;
Hebrews 6.13-end; Hebrews 7.1-10;
Hebrews 7.11-end; Hebrews 8

Psalm 46