

Notices and Forthcoming Events

- **Annual Church Meetings:** Holy Cross on Sunday 10th May and Allerton on Tuesday 19th May at 7pm. The booklet for Mark APCM is available in church.
- All five **PCCs** will be meeting together on **Tuesday 5th May**. The focus will be on supporting our local schools and we will hear from a headteacher.
- **St Mary's Tower Tours** will take place on Monday 4th May from 10am. Entry will be £7 per person including tea and cakes. Children must be 8+ and accompanied by an adult. For further information contact dahopkins@aol.com or on 07984 924432.
- We have **two pilgrimage walks** in May to look forward to. The annual churches together pilgrimage from Cheddar to Wells is on Saturday 9th May. On Sunday 17th May we are hoping to have a parish walk for rogation tide, with groups setting off from Mark, Allerton, Theale and Blackford following short services and walking to St Mary's for a joint service. Further details soon.
- The **Wednesday Home Group** continues on Wednesday 13th May at Auster House, St Medard Road. New members are welcome, we will be looking at Gracious Dialogue – A guide to listening and speaking well about Israel and Palestine. Please speak to Richard if you want to join us.
- **Christian Aid week** begins on Sunday 10th May and locally we will be holding a coffee morning at Holy Cross Church on Wednesday 13th May 10.30am – 12 noon. Raffle and cakes available.
- This week Holy Cross welcomes Robbie Clipson and his family and friends for his christening.
- A **coffee morning** is being held on Monday 4th May at Mark Village Hall. Entrance is £2.50, all proceeds go to Cancer Research. 10am – 12 noon. There are plants, raffle, craft, books, puzzles and coffee and cake. There is a local folk group entertaining as well!
- **Wedmore Festival** – This begins on Saturday 9th May with the opening of the free art exhibition in St Mary's church. Come along and enjoy the talent of local artists. 9th – 17th May 10am – 4pm. The festival closes with the Wedmore Ensemble Sunday 17th May in St Mary's. Don't forget Liam is accompanying the silent movie 'Phantom of the Opera' on Saturday 16th May.

- **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 3rd May 2026 Easter 5**

We thank God for the work of Open Doors.

We pray for parts of the world where Christians are persecuted;
for the mission of our churches that we may grow in numbers and depth of spirituality;
for Robbie as he is baptised into God's family;
for Larry and Shelly as they begin their married life together;
for refugees and all who are displaced because of poverty or violence;
for those who are scarred or threatened by domestic abuse;
for the elderly and vulnerable living in care homes and for those who care for them;
that God will raise up from among us men and women to public ministry;
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 and Elizabeth Nicholls.

RIP: Barbara Sweet (Blakeway)

What's On This Week?

Sunday 3rd May: Easter 5

Holy Trinity	9.15am	Parish Communion	Revd Eddie Wills
Allerton Church	9.15am	Family Service	Preb R Neill/Jane Midgley
Holy Cross	9.15am	Morning Worship	LWA
St Mary's	10.45am	Café Church, Guest Speaker	Preb Richard Neill
Christchurch	10.45am	Parish Communion	Revd Eddie Wills
Holy Cross	12.45pm	Baptism of Robbie Clipson	
St Mary's	6.00pm	Start the Week	Venetia Hopkins

Monday 4th May

St Mary's	10.00am	Tower Tours	
Mark Village Hall	10.00am	Cancer Research Coffee Morning	

Tuesday 5th May

St Mary's	9.00am	Little Lambs baby and toddler group	
Blackford V.Hall	7.00pm	Joint Benefice PCC	

Wednesday 6th May

St Mary's	9.45am	Midweek Communion	
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Friday 8th May

St Mary's	3.00pm	The Tea Set	
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Saturday 9th May

St Mary's	10.00am	Opening of Art Exhibition	
Holy Trinity	10.00am	Blackford Churchyard Working Group	
Cheddar Baptist Church	8.30am	Churches Together Pilgrimage	

Sunday 10th May: Easter 6

St Mary's	8.00am	BCP Holy Communion	Preb R Neill
Holy Cross	9.15am	Worship Together & APCM	Preb R Neill/Revd J Hawes
St Mary's	10.45am	Worship Together	Revd J Hawes
St Mary's	6.00pm	Start the Week	Karin Weigold

COLLECT

Risen Christ,
your wounds declare your love for
the world
and the wonder of your risen life:
give us compassion and courage
to risk ourselves for those we serve,
to the glory of God the Father.

NEW TESTAMENT

ACTS 7.55-END

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Stephen gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. 'Look,' he said, 'I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!' But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, 'Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.' Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, 'Lord, do not hold this sin against them.' When he had said this, he died

PSALM 31.1-5,15-16

1 In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge;
let me never be put to shame; ♦
deliver me in your righteousness.
2 Incline your ear to me; ♦
make haste to deliver me.
3 Be my strong rock, a fortress to save me,
for you are my rock and my stronghold; ♦
guide me, and lead me for your name's sake.
4 Take me out of the net

that they have laid secretly for me, ♦
for you are my strength.
5 Into your hands I commend my spirit, ♦
for you have redeemed me, O Lord God of truth.
15 'My times are in your hand; ♦
deliver me from the hand of my enemies,
and from those who persecute me.
16 'Make your face to shine upon your servant, ♦
and save me for your mercy's sake.'

EPISTLE

1 PETER 2.2-10

Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation— if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in scripture: 'See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.'
To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe, 'The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner',
and
'A stone that makes them stumble, and a rock that makes them fall.'
They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light.

Once you were not a people,
but now you are God's people;
once you had not received mercy,
but now you have received mercy.

GOSPEL

JOHN 14.1-14

Jesus said to his disciples, 'Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling-places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.'

Thomas said to him, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?' Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.'

Philip said to him, 'Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.' Jesus said to him, 'Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me?

Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, "Show us the Father"? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do

not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.'

POST COMMUNION

Eternal God,
whose Son Jesus Christ is the way,
the truth, and the life:
grant us to walk in his way,
to rejoice in his truth,
and to share his risen life;
who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

Next Week's Readings:

Acts 17.22-31; Psalm 66.7-end; 1 Peter 3.13-end; John 14.15-21

Daily Readings:

Luke 4.38-end; Luke 5.1-11; Luke 5.12-26; Luke 5.27-end; Luke 6.1-11; Luke 6.12-26

Psalm 81