

Notices and Forthcoming Events

- **Bishop Fiona** will be visiting the benefice on Sunday 27th and Monday 28th September. She will be at Theale Harvest festival and lunch and will be meeting various people from across the benefice on Monday.
- **Reverend Eddie Wills** will be formerly licensed by Bishop Fiona as associate priest for our benefice at the Theale Harvest Service.
- **The Children's Society Box Opening** takes place in St Mary's on Saturday 3rd October during the Coffee Shop. For those unable to attend, please bring your box to Sue Burton at Combe Cottage, Combe Batch, by Friday 2nd.
- St Mary's Church, Wedmore, will be open to various charities to give them the opportunity to sell their Christmas cards, calendars and gifts. The Sale will take place on **Saturday 7th November from 10.00 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.** Some stalls are still available if you wish to encourage your favourite to have a free pitch. Contact Sue Burton (sjburton1012@gmail.com)
- **Harvest Festival dates** are: - Christchurch 27th September 11.00am with lunch in the village hall afterwards (please contact Elizabeth on 07761833449 for lunch tickets) ; Holy Trinity 27th September 5pm; Allerton 4th October 9.15am; St Mary's 4th October 10.45am with lunch in church afterwards (please contact either Heather Banwell or Heather Hector for tickets)
- **Bishops Michael and Fiona** are visiting all deaneries across the autumn and for us this means a visit from Bishop Michael on Wednesday 4th November in West Huntspill church 7-9pm. It's an opportunity for him to hear about what is going on and to also share some of the tools and resources available to help us in our mission and ministry, including news of grant funding available through the diocese for different projects. The meeting is open to all and please register via <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/JUfZ3eNshM>
- St Mary's is hosting part of the **Crook Peak Festival** on Tuesday 29th September, Harriet Riley a solo percussionist. Tickets on the door at £10.
- **St Mary's congregation** – don't forget to complete the short questionnaire in the porch about the proposed sculpture to commemorate the Treaty of Wedmore between Alfred and Guthrum.
- **Bagley Baptist Church** invite all ladies to a special 'Ladies Event' being held on Saturday 26th September from 10am-1pm. A guest speaker Rachel Riddall, senior leader at Woodlands Church will be speaking. Breakfast and lunch included, please email contactus@bagleybaptist.co.uk to let them know numbers.
- The **Wednesday home group** meets next on Wednesday 30th September. Speak to Richard if you would like to be part of this supportive evening home group.
- Please see the **note in each church** from a gentleman called **Colin** looking for a permanent place to stay around Mark and offering to work.
- The **next Deanery gathering** is an open evening for all who are involved in or are interested in some form of Lay Ministry. The 'Celebration of Lay Ministry' is on Thursday 22nd October in Blackford Village Hall from 6.30pm and will include an opportunity to hear stories from those involved in various aspects of ministry.
- **Theale Café** returns on Saturday morning, a week later than usual.

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)

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

To report any safeguarding concerns please contact stmarywedmore@gmail.com

The diocesan safeguarding team can be contacted at 01749 588917

Wedmore Isle and Moors Benefice

SUNDAY 20th September 2026 Trinity 16/Harvest

We thank God for our own families;
that Jesus Christ humbled himself for our sakes;
We pray that we may respond to God's call joyfully and with purpose;
for local surgeries and all those involved in healthcare;
for local farmers and all those involved in agriculture;
that we may learn to love our neighbours as ourselves;
that we will live courageous lives as we seek to follow Christ;
for those who suffer domestic abuse or are in abusive relationships;
The Sick: from our community –Michael (Red) Redman, Claire Clement, John Horne, Jean Winter, Noreen Stott, George Osborne, Kate Morgan, Molly Rossiter and others for whom we have been asked to pray - Jamie Trotham, Anne Dyer and Elizabeth Nicholls.

Sunday 20th September: Trinity 16

Holy Cross	9.15am	Harvest Festival	Preb Richard Neill/LWA
Holy Trinity	9.15am	Sunday Breakfast	Mary Clark
Allerton	9.15am	Parish Communion	Revd Joy Hawes
St Mary's	10.45am	Reordering Celebration Eucharist	Revs J Hawes/R Neill
Christchurch	11.00am	Morning Worship	Angee Stott
St Mary's	6.00pm	Start the Week	Claire Gelder

Monday 21st September

The Vicarage	7.00pm	Wedmore Standing Committee
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Tuesday 22nd September

St Mary's	9.00am	Little Lambs Toddler and Baby Group
Holy Trinity	9.00am	Hugh Sexey visit to Holy Trinity
St Mary's	7.30pm	LWA gathering

Wednesday 23rd September

St Mary's	9.45am	Midweek Communion
Holy Cross	1.00pm	Funeral of Peter Higman

Saturday 26th September

Theale V.Hall	10.00am	Theale Community Café
St Mary's	3.00pm	Messy Church

Sunday 27th September: Trinity 17

Holy Cross	9.15am	Parish Communion	Preb Richard Neill
Allerton	9.15am	Morning Worship	LWA
St Mary's	10.45am	Morning Worship	Claire Gelder/Mary Clark
Christchurch	11.00am	Harvest Festival Communion	Revd Eddie Wills
Holy Trinity	5.00pm	Harvest Evensong	Preb Richard Neill

COLLECT

O Lord, we beseech you mercifully to hear the prayers

of your people who call upon you; and grant that they may both perceive and know

what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to fulfil them; 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.

Jonah 3.10 – 4.11

When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed to the Lord and said, ‘O Lord! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. And now, O Lord, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.’ And the Lord said, ‘Is it right for you to be angry?’ Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

The Lord God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He

said, ‘It is better for me to die than to live.’

But God said to Jonah, ‘Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?’ And he said, ‘Yes, angry enough to die.’ Then the Lord said, ‘You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labour and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?’

Psalm 145.1–8

- 1 I will exalt you, O God my King, ♦
and bless your name for ever and ever.
- 2 Every day will I bless you ♦
and praise your name for ever and ever.
- 3 Great is the Lord and highly to be praised; ♦
his greatness is beyond all searching out.
- 4 One generation shall praise your works to another ♦
and declare your mighty acts.
- 5 They shall speak of the majesty of your glory, ♦
and I will tell of all your wonderful deeds.
- 6 They shall speak of the might of your marvellous acts, ♦
and I will also tell of your greatness.
- 7 They shall pour forth the story of your abundant kindness ♦
and joyfully sing of your righteousness.
- 8 The Lord is gracious and merciful, ♦
long-suffering and of great goodness.

EPISTLE

Philippians 1.21-30

For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labour for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God’s doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well— since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

GOSEL

MATTHEW 20.1-16

‘For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the labourers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o’clock, he saw others standing idle in the market-place; and he said to them, “You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.” So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o’clock, he did the same. And about five o’clock he went out and found others standing around; and he

said to them, “Why are you standing here idle all day?” They said to him, “Because no one has hired us.” He said to them, “You also go into the vineyard.” When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, “Call the labourers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.” When those hired about five o’clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, “These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.” But he replied to one of them, “Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?” So the last will be first, and the first will be last.’

POST COMMUNION

Almighty God,
you have taught us through your Son that love is the fulfilling of the law: grant that we may love you with our whole heart
and our neighbours as ourselves;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Next Week’s Readings:

Ezekiel 18.1-4,25-end; Psalm 25.1-8;
Philippians 2.1-13; Matthew 21.23-32

Daily Readings:

2 Timothy 3.14-end; Acts 19.21-end;
Acts 20.1-16; Acts 20.17- end; Acts
21.1-16; Acts 21.17-36

Psalm 132