Notices and Forthcoming Events

- 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)'
- There will be **All Souls Services** at St Mary's and Allerton Church on the 1st November at 3pm. Relatives of those whose funerals we have taken during the year will be invited but the services are open to anyone. Do let Richard know in writing if you might wish to come or if there is anyone whose name you wish to be remembered at either service.
- **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
- The **Wednesday home group** meets next on Wednesday 28th October at 7, Hervey Close at 7.30pm. Speak to Richard if you would like to be part of this supportive home group.
- All are welcome to this week's **Deanery gathering** which is an open evening for all who are involved in or are in 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.
- '**Exploring Your Spiritual Journey'** is a year long course run by the Diocese. The 2027 dates are out, please see the leaflet and posters in church and speak to Richard, Joy or Eddie if you are interested.
- **"Comic & Curious" Concert** at Chapel Allerton Church 7.20 pm Saturday 24th October. Featuring a miscellany of cheerfully anarchic and irreverent songs, music and verse by talented local artistes; all supported by the celebrated Allerton Village Orchestra and Choir, who bring their rich melodic repertoire to the event .Cash bar. Tickets £10 from Johnny Torrens-Spence (johnnytspence@yahoo.co.uk or 01934 710188).
- **The Friends of St Mary's** 2026 Christmas card is now on sale at The Cottage Gallery or from David Hopkins (07984 924432)
- It has been announced that **Sam Healey** is to be the next Vicar of **Taunton Minster** Church (Saint Mary Magadalene). We are delighted for Sam and this is a significant post in the diocese. Sam will start in the new year. Please remember him and his family at this time of transition.
- **Forthcoming PCC Meetings** in November: Tuesday 3rd – St Mary's; Tuesday 10th – Christchurch; Thursday 12th – Allerton; Wednesday 18th – Holy Trinity; Thursday 19th – Holy Cross.
- Please remember in your prayers Michael and Oliver who are currently attending our weekly confirmation group. The diocesan confirmation is in the Cathedral on Saturday 7th November at 2pm.
- St Mary's welcomes the **district bellringers** on Saturday 24th October, all are welcome to join them for their celebration service at 4.30pm after their AGM.
- **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 18th October 2026 Allerton Dedication Festival

We thank God for the witness and service of Allerton church through the ages.
We pray for the current church community in Allerton;
for our brothers and sisters of different churches in Cheddar Valley;
for the children and young people in our care;
for our local schools and all who lead and teach in them;
for Michael and Oliver, preparing for confirmation;
for Nico as he is baptised into God's family;
that we may be empowered to steward well the gifts of creation;
that we may learn to love our neighbours as ourselves;
that we will live courageous lives as we seek to follow Christ;
for the work of Cheddar Valley Foodbank.
The Sick: from our community –Michael (Red) Redman, Claire Clement, John Horne, Jean Winter, Noreen Stott, George Osborne, and others for whom we have been asked to pray - Jamie Trotham and Anne Dyer.
RIP: Julie Faulkner (West End, Wedmore); Joan Gott (formerly of Wedmore)

Sunday 18th October: Trinity 20/Allerton Dedication

Allerton	9.15am	Allerton Dedication	Revd Joy Hawes
St Mary's	12.45pm	Baptism of Nico Sarris-Cousins	

Tuesday 20th October

St Mary's	9.00am	Little Lambs Toddler and Baby Group
Around the Benefice	10.00am	Wheel and a Prayer
St Mary's	7.00pm	LWA Training

Wednesday 21st October

St Mary's	9.45am	Midweek Communion
St Mary's	10.30am	Wedmore First School Academy Harvest Rehearsal

Thursday 22nd October

St Mary's	1.45pm	Wedmore First School Academy Harvest Service
Blackford Village Hall	6.30pm	Deanery Synod – Festival of Lay Ministry

Saturday 24th October

St Mary's	3.00pm	District Bellringers AGM and Service
Allerton Church	7.30pm	Comic and Curious Concert

Sunday 25th October: Bible Sunday

Holy Trinity	9.15am	Sunday Breakfast	Preb Richard Neill
Holy Cross	9.15am	Café Church	LWA/Revd Eddie Wills
St Mary's	10.45am	Parish Communion	Revd Tony Connell
Christchurch	11.00am	Morning Praise	Preb Richard Neill

COLLECT
Almighty God, to whose glory we celebrate the dedication of this house of prayer:
we praise you for the many blessings you have given to those who worship you here:
and we pray that all who seek you in this place may find you, and, being filled with the Holy Spirit, may become a living temple acceptable to you;
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
1 KINGS 8.22-30
Then Solomon stood before the altar of the Lord in the presence of all the assembly of Israel, and spread out his hands to heaven. He said, 'O Lord, God of Israel, there is no God like you in heaven above or on earth beneath, keeping covenant and steadfast love for your servants who walk before you with all their heart, the covenant that you kept for your servant my father David as you declared to him; you promised with your mouth and have this day fulfilled with your hand. Therefore, O Lord, God of Israel, keep for your servant my father David that which you promised him, saying, "There shall never fail you a successor before me to sit on the throne of Israel, if only your children look to their way, to walk before me as you have walked before me." Therefore, O God of Israel, let your word be confirmed, which you promised to your servant my father David.

'But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Even heaven and the highest heaven cannot contain you, much less this house that I have built! Have regard to your servant's prayer and his plea, O Lord my God, heeding the cry and the prayer that your servant prays to you today; that your eyes may be open night and day towards this house, the place of which you said, "My name shall be there", that you may heed the prayer that your servant prays towards this place. Hear the plea of your servant and of your people Israel when they pray towards this place; O hear in heaven your dwelling-place; heed and forgive.

PSALM 122
I was glad when they said to me, •
'Let us go to the house of the Lord.'
And now our feet are standing •
within your gates, O Jerusalem;
Jerusalem, built as a city •
that is at unity in itself.
Thither the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, •
as is decreed for Israel,
to give thanks to the name of the Lord.
For there are set the thrones of judgement, •
the thrones of the house of David.
O pray for the peace of Jerusalem: •
'May they prosper who love you.
'Peace be within your walls •
and tranquillity within your palaces.'
For my kindred and companions' sake, •
I will pray that peace be with you.
For the sake of the house of the Lord our God, •
I will seek to do you good.

EPISTLE
HEBREWS 12.18-24
You have not come to something that can be touched, a blazing fire, and darkness, and gloom, and a tempest, and the sound of a trumpet, and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that not another word be spoken to them. (For they could not endure the order that was given, 'If even an animal touches the mountain, it shall be stoned to death.' Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, 'I tremble with fear.') But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

GOSPEL
MATTHEW 21.12-16
Then Jesus entered the temple and drove out all who were selling and buying in the temple, and he overturned the tables of the money-changers and the seats of those who sold doves. He said to them, 'It is written,
"My house shall be called a house of prayer";
but you are making it a den of robbers.'

The blind and the lame came to him in the temple, and he cured them. But when the chief priests and the scribes saw the amazing things that he did, and heard the children crying out in the temple, 'Hosanna to the Son of David', they became angry and said to him, 'Do you hear what these are saying?' Jesus said to them, 'Yes; have you never read, "Out of the mouths of infants and nursing babies you have prepared praise for yourself"?'

POST COMMUNION
Father in heaven,
whose Church on earth is a sign of your heavenly peace,
an image of the new and eternal Jerusalem:
grant to us in the days of our pilgrimage that, fed with the living bread of heaven, and united in the body of your Son,
we may be the temple of your presence,
the place of your glory on earth,
and a sign of your peace in the world;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Next Week's Readings:
Nehemiah 8.1-4a [5-6] 8-12; Psalm 119.9-16; Colossians 3.12-17; Matthew 24.30-35

Daily Readings:
1 Timothy 1.1-17; 1 Timothy 1.18-end of 2; 1 Timothy 3; 1 Timothy 4; 1 Timothy 5.1-16; 1 Timothy 5.17-end

Psalm 145