

Wedmore Isle and Moors Benefice
SUNDAY 25th October 2026 Bible Sunday

We thank God for the gift of himself seen and experienced through the Bible.
 We pray for the work of the Bible Society and all who translate and disseminate scripture;
 that we may be changed by our reading of scripture;
 for our local schools and all who lead and teach in them that half term may bring some rest and refreshment;
 for Michael Durston as he prepares for his baptism and confirmation;
 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 (Wedmore); Joan Gott (formerly of Wedmore)

Sunday 25th October: Bible Sunday

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

Wednesday 28th October

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
St Mary's	7.00pm	LWA Training
6, Hervey Close	7.30pm	Home Group

Sunday 1st November: All Saints' Day

Holy Trinity	9.15am	Parish Communion	Revd Eddie Wills
Allerton	9.15am	Family Service	Preb Richard Neill
Holy Cross	9.15am	Morning Worship	Pat Morgan/Jon Glauert
St Mary's	10.45am	Café Church and Seekers	Mary Clark/Claire Gelder
Christchurch	11.00am	Parish Communion	Preb Richard Neill
Allerton	3.00pm	All Souls Service	Revd Joy Hawes
St Mary's	3.00pm	All Souls Service	Preb Richard Neill

COLLECT

Blessed Lord,
who caused all holy Scriptures to be
written for our learning:
help us so to hear them,
to read, mark, learn and inwardly digest
them
that, through patience, and the comfort
of your holy word,
we may embrace and for ever hold fast
the hope of everlasting life,
which you have given us in our Saviour
Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

OLD TESTAMENT

NEHEMIAH 8.1-4a [5-6] 8-12

All the people gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the Lord had given to Israel. Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. The scribe Ezra stood on a wooden platform that had been made for the purpose.

[And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people answered, ‘Amen, Amen’, lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshipped the Lord with their faces to the ground.]

So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, ‘This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn or weep.’ For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. Then he said to them, ‘Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our Lord; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength.’ So the Levites stilled all the people, saying, ‘Be quiet, for this day is holy; do not be grieved.’ And all the people went their way to eat and drink and to send portions and to make great rejoicing, because they had understood the words that were declared to them.

PSALM 119.9-16

⁹ How can young people keep their way pure?

By guarding it according to your word.

¹⁰ With my whole heart I seek you;
do not let me stray from your commandments.

¹¹ I treasure your word in my heart,
so that I may not sin against you.

¹² Blessed are you, O Lord;
teach me your statutes.

¹³ With my lips I declare
all the ordinances of your mouth.

¹⁴ I delight in the way of your decrees
as much as in all riches.

¹⁵ I will meditate on your precepts,
and fix my eyes on your ways.

¹⁶ I will delight in your statutes;
I will not forget your word.

EPISTLE

COLOSSIANS 3.12-17

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord^a has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

GOSPEL

MATTHEW 24.30-35

Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see "the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven" with power and great glory. And he will send out his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

'From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see all these things, you know that he^a is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

POST COMMUNION

God of all grace,
your Son Jesus Christ fed the hungry
with the bread of his life
and the word of his kingdom:
renew your people with your heavenly
grace,
and in all our weakness
sustain us by your true and living bread;
who is alive and reigns, now and for
ever.

Next Week's Readings:

Revelation 34.1-10; Psalm 34.1-10; 1
John 3.1-3; Matthew 5.1-12

Daily Readings:

1 Timothy 6.1-10; 1 Timothy 6.11-end;
Luke 6.12-16; 2 Timothy 1.15-2.13; 2
Timothy 2.14-end; 2 Timothy 3

Psalm 148

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.
- **It's not too late to register to attend Bishop Michael's deanery visit** on Wednesday 4th November in West Huntspill church 7-9pm. 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 6, Hervey Close at 7.30pm. Speak to Richard if you would like to be part of this supportive home group.
- **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** (St Mary Magdalene). 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** from Holy Cross Mark who is currently attending our weekly **confirmation group**. Michael will be baptised and confirmed at the Cathedral on Saturday 7th November at 2pm.
- **Remembrance Sunday** is Sunday 8th November. Services that day are at St Mary's at 10.15 a.m., Holy Cross at 10.45 a.m. and Christchurch at 11.00 a.m. There will also be short Acts of Remembrance on 11th November by the memorials in St Mary's and Allerton churchyards beginning at 10.55 a.m.
- **Operation Christmas Child shoebox appeal** is once more looking for shoeboxes filled with small presents for children in Eastern Europe and Africa. Bagley Baptist Church is our local drop off point. See <https://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/>
- Newcomers aged 9-15 are welcome to join **Mark Church Youth Group**. We meet monthly on the second Friday at 6.30pm-8pm. Contact Yolanda on 07725 149581, Karen on 07788 478429 or email markyouth913@gmail.com to find out more.
- **Holy Cross Church** is holding its **Christmas Fair** on Saturday 14th November. St Mary's Christmas Fair will be on Saturday 5th December.
- **Julie Faulkner's funeral** is to be in St Mary's on Monday 9th November at 1.00 p.m.

- **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

To report any safeguarding concerns please contact stmarywedmore@gmail.com
The diocesan safeguarding team can be contacted at 01749 588917