

Wedmore Isle and Moors Benefice
SUNDAY 4th October 2026 Trinity 18/Harvest

We thank God that all are invited to be part of His new creation.
 We pray that we may be open to noticing God at work in our communities;
 that our churches may be communities that model God's gracious and
 inclusive invitation;
 for the children and young people in our care;
 for local farmers and all those involved in agriculture;
 that we may be empowered to steward well the gifts of creation;
 that we may learn to love our neighbours as ourselves;
 for Austin and Harriet as they begin their married life together;
 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: Colin Mogg (Wedmore)

Sunday 4th October: Trinity 18/Harvest

Holy Trinity	9.15am	Parish Communion	Revd Tony Connell
Holy Cross	9.15am	Parish Communion	Preb Richard Neill
Allerton	9.15am	Harvest Festival	Revd Joy Hawes
St Mary's	10.45am	Harvest Festival/Seekers and Creche	Preb R Neill
Christchurch	11.00am	Parish Communion	Revd Eddie Wills
The Vicarage	5.30pm	Confirmation Group	
St Mary's	6.00pm	Start the Week	Venetia Hopkins

Tuesday 6th October

St Mary's	9.00am	Little Lambs Toddler and Baby Group
St Mary's	7.30pm	Wells Cathedral Concert

Wednesday 7th October

St Mary's	9.45am	Midweek Communion
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Friday 9th October

St Mary's	3.00pm	The Tea Set
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Saturday 10th October

Holy Trinity	10.00am	Blackford Churchyard Working Group
St Mary's	7.30pm	Wedmore Opera 'Lights, Camera...Opera!'

Sunday 11th October: Trinity 19

St Mary's	8.00am	BCP Holy Communion	Preb R Neill
Allerton	9.15am	Worship Together - Communion	Preb R Neill
Christchurch	11.00am	Worship Together - Communion	Revd E Wills
St Mary's	6.00pm	Start the Week	Claire Gelder

COLLECT

Almighty and everlasting God,
increase in us your gift of faith
that, forsaking what lies behind
and reaching out to that which is before,
we may run the way of your
commandments
and win the crown of everlasting joy;
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

Isaiah 5.1–7

Let me sing for my beloved
my love-song concerning his vineyard:
My beloved had a vineyard
on a very fertile hill.
He dug it and cleared it of stones,
and planted it with choice vines;
he built a watch-tower in the midst of it,
and hewed out a wine vat in it;
he expected it to yield grapes,
but it yielded wild grapes.
And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem
and people of Judah,
judge between me
and my vineyard.
What more was there to do for my vineyard
that I have not done in it?
When I expected it to yield grapes,
why did it yield wild grapes?
And now I will tell you
what I will do to my vineyard.
I will remove its hedge,
and it shall be devoured;
I will break down its wall,
and it shall be trampled down.
I will make it a waste;
it shall not be pruned or hoed,
and it shall be overgrown with briars and
thorns;
I will also command the clouds
that they rain no rain upon it.
For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts
is the house of Israel,
and the people of Judah
are his pleasant planting;
he expected justice,

but saw bloodshed;
righteousness,
but heard a cry!

Psalm 80.9–17

9 You brought a vine out of Egypt; ♦
you drove out the nations and planted it.
10 You made room around it, ♦
and when it had taken root, it filled the
land.
11 The hills were covered with its
shadow ♦
and the cedars of God by its boughs.
12 It stretched out its branches to the Sea ♦
and its tendrils to the River.
13 Why then have you broken down its
wall, ♦
so that all who pass by pluck off its
grapes?
14 The wild boar out of the wood tears it
off, ♦
and all the insects of the field devour it.
15 Turn again, O God of hosts, ♦
look down from heaven and behold;
16 Cherish this vine which your right hand
has planted, ♦
and the branch that you made so strong
for yourself.
17 Let those who burnt it with fire, who cut
it down, ♦
perish at the rebuke of your countenance.

EPISTLE

Philippians 3.4b–14

even though I, too, have reason for
confidence in the flesh.
If anyone else has reason to be confident in
the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the
eighth day, a member of the people of
Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew
born of Hebrews; as to the law, a
Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the
church; as to righteousness under the law,
blameless.

Yet whatever gains I had, these I have
come to regard as loss because of
Christ. More than that, I regard everything
as loss because of the surpassing value of
knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake
I have suffered the loss of all things, and I

regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on towards the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

GOSPEL

Matthew 21.33–46

‘Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watch-tower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them, saying, “They will respect my son.” But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, “This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.” So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?’ They said to him, ‘He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and

lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.’ Jesus said to them, ‘Have you never read in the scriptures:

“The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone;

this was the Lord’s doing,
and it is amazing in our eyes”?

Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.’

When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

POST COMMUNION

We praise and thank you, O Christ, for this sacred feast:

for here we receive you,

here the memory of your passion is renewed,

here our minds are filled with grace,
and here a pledge of future glory is given,
when we shall feast at that table where
you reign

with all your saints for ever.

Next Week’s Readings:

Isaiah 25.1-9; Psalm 23; Philipppians 4.1-9; Matthew 22.1-14

Daily Readings:

Acts 26.1-23; Acts 26.24-end; Acts 27.1-26; Acts 27.27-end; Acts 28.1-16
Acts 28.17-end

Psalm 139 vs 1-18

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>
- **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.
- The **Wednesday home group** meets on Wednesday 14th October at Auster House, St Medard Road at 7.30pm. Speak to Richard if you would like to be part of this supportive 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.
- '**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.
- Wedmore Opera are holding a concert in St Mary's on Saturday 10th October. **Lights, Camera...Opera!** Is inspired by some of the opera's most memorable moments on screen. Tickets are £15 from Wedmore Village Store or online at www.wedmoreopera.com
- • **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