

# MOMSS MAGAZINE

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High Summer on the Moor  
Painting by Anne Farmer

## SEPTEMBER 2024

News & Views for our MOMSS villages of  
Middlezoy, Othery, Moorlinch, Stawell,  
Sutton Mallet and Greinton

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# MOMSS MAGAZINE

This publication is hand delivered  
**FREE** to over 1,040 homes within the  
villages in the United Benefice:  
**Middlezoy, Othery, Moorlinch,  
Stawell, Sutton Mallet & Greinton**

It can also be found at:  
[www.middlezoyvillagehall.org.uk](http://www.middlezoyvillagehall.org.uk)  
and [www.stawellvillage.info](http://www.stawellvillage.info) and  
[www.achurchnearyou.com/Othery](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/Othery) page

MOMSS is issued 11 times a year (there is a joint December/January issue) and is designed as a Community Magazine. It is produced by volunteers, with the authority of the United Benefice Churchwardens, for the villagers' benefit.

## **EDITORIAL COMMITTEE**

**Committee:** Richard Graham, Anita Winslade, Jane Stryker, Isobel Davis

**Editor this month:** Anita Winslade

**Compiler this month:** Jane Stryker

## **NEWS ARTICLES**

We regret we cannot guarantee inclusion of articles or photographs and may need to edit copy due to space limitations.

**Submitting articles:** Copy preferred in Microsoft Word format.

Email to [momssgeditor@live.co.uk](mailto:momssgeditor@live.co.uk)  
300 word limit please.

Submit handwritten copy via one of the members of the committee if you are unable to find someone to help you transfer it to email. We cannot guarantee its accurate inclusion.

**Submitting photos or artwork:**

also [momssgeditor@live.co.uk](mailto:momssgeditor@live.co.uk)

We gladly accept news and views from all groups or individuals, however, the Committee has overriding editorial control. We cannot accept liability for loss or damage arising from any error, inaccuracies or omission from any copy or advertising. The views expressed in the magazine are not necessarily those of the United Benefice, the Editorial teams or

the publisher.

## **MOMSS Publishing House Style**

Articles submitted to the magazine are put into MOMSS house style. This uses Gill Sans 10pt for general text with Gill Sans bold 10pt for sub-headings. Arial Black 10pt is used for main headings. Example of our date format is '25 December' – the st, rd, th are only used after dates with no month alongside. There is no need to insert year unless referring to year ahead. We use a 12 hour time format eg '5.30pm'. Italics, bold or underlining will not be included.

## **Advertising costs**

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For further pricing information and technical details phone

Jane Stryker Tel: 01458 210661

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Please note: Copy and payment for adverts must be received by 12<sup>th</sup> of the month (see date of deadlines on this page).

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**DON'T FORGET !**  
October edition deadlines:  
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## ***FROM THE EDITOR***

Hooray! Summer arrived and got into its usual stride - sun, rain, dry, wet, warm, humid, misty, chilly! Yes our British summer arrived!

While many people have been taking their holidays during July and August not much seemed to be actually happening so with few reports of activities from our regular contributors I have turned to other sources of information to provide readers with additional items to interest or puzzle them.

This edition contains appeals, entertainments, education and invitations. Something for someone (for you maybe?), some things for many (hopefully), some things to please (always intended), some things may annoy (sorry - that might be me!), something to help (it may be just what you are looking for) and something revealed (to reassure and soothe). And don't forget our advertisers! They offer their services and hope readers will find they are just what they need.

Take your pick, read every article, search every page, here is the next chapter as we progress through September and on to October.

Well, I shall be holidaying for a few days exploring the countryside and the seaside, hoping for a sunny period - probably having more British summer weather as usual. I wish you all a happy summer holiday whenever and wherever you take it.

Anita Winslade, Editor

01823 698368



## ***GENERAL ITEMS***

### **SKY AT NIGHT**

#### **Sky Diary**

September 2024

#### **Sunrise, Sunset**

Beginning of September 6.26am-7.55pm

End of September 7.12am-6.50pm

#### **Moon Phases**

New Moon 3rd / First Quarter 11th / Full Moon 18th / Last Quarter 24th

#### **Planets**

Venus is still low in the west at sunset and sets around 8pm, Jupiter and Mars both appear in the east before midnight while Saturn is at opposition on the 8th being opposite the sun at midnight and visible all night long.

#### **Constellation**

The Great Square of Pegasus is prominent due south now and is a useful constellation in two ways. First how many stars can you see within the square? The greater number of

stars seen shows a good dark sky level but unfortunately the fewer stars seen reflects a bad level of light pollution which is a growing problem locally. The second is more fun because the top left star which belongs to the neighbouring constellation of Andromeda points the way to the Andromeda Galaxy, the light of which takes over 2.5 million years to reach us.

### **Phenomena**

The first super moon of 2024 is on Wednesday 18 September when there is also a partial lunar eclipse but at only 8% obscured will be hardly noticeable.

*Paul Adamson 01823698156*

### **SOMERSET LEVELS STARGAZERS**

Our September meeting is on Wednesday 25th at 7.30pm in Othery Village Hall TA7 0QU when the club treasurer Richard Kilbey will be giving a varied talk on his own home observatory, planetary motion and Sir William Herschel. We also have a night sky guide for October and Astronomy News. Admission is £3 with membership available. Free tea and coffee are also provided. We are also on Zoom. For more details please contact [somersetlevelstargazers@hotmail.com](mailto:somersetlevelstargazers@hotmail.com). Follow us on Facebook

*Paul Adamson 01823698156*

### **WESTERN FRONT ASSOCIATION**

The next meeting of the Western Front Association will take place in Othery Village Hall at 7.30pm on Wednesday 11 September. The subject will be *The Poppy of Honour Memorial* by Terry Williams. Terry will describe how he and a group of like-minded enthusiasts banded together to create the permanent Poppy of Honour memorial based here in the West Country. It really is a fascinating story of how a small germ of an idea was brought to fruition and how the memorial has travelled the world and will find a permanent home near Taunton. WFA and non-members alike are equally welcome to attend.

*Pat Adamson, Secretary Somerset branch WFA*



Pegasus Constellation



## **FARM DIARY**

This is written for non-farmers who live surrounded by farmland.

**In the Field.** September is often a drier month than August which happens to be our third wettest month of the year and when we harvest cereals and other combinable crops. Also, we have learnt through bitter experience that oil seed rape is best drilled in August to catch this rain. The author is referring to central Somerset. A lot of farmers start drilling wheat in September in order to manage all their acreage. We delay this till October. There are several reasons for this but perhaps the main one is to frustrate black grass germination which tails off later in the year. Black grass is one of cereal growers' chief problems as it produces so many seeds and has a wide germination window. It probably also has the ability to leach chemicals into the soil to restrict competition from other plants. We have let it get ahead of us in the past and lost between a half and two thirds of the wheat crop. This means we made a loss on those acres. September is the month for ploughing (when employed) and cultivations. For black grass, false seedbeds are used. That is, the ground is lightly cultivated to encourage the germination of the black grass which is then destroyed prior to the cereal being drilled.

**Dairy.** According to Ro Collingborn, as reported in the Western Daily Press of 20th July, dairy is good for us. The Prospective Urban Rural Epidemiology Study (PURE) took place in 22 countries over nine years following over 136,000 individuals aged 35 - 70 looking at mortality and heart health. Developed and developing countries, rich and poor were in the study which was completed in 2018. The results were conclusive. Dairy consumption was not associated with higher likelihood of cardio-vascular disease, strokes or mortality. It showed that dairy consumption did not raise total or bad (LDL) cholesterol. Dairy consumption was associated with a lower risk of type 2 diabetes. Dairy protein is high quality and easily absorbed. It reduces inflammation. Dairy is nutrient rich. Dairy in the study considered milk, cheese and yoghurt. The American Food and Drug Administration has allowed a qualified health claim for yoghurt to be put on their pots that "eating at least three servings a week" may reduce the risk of type 2 diabetes. This Farm Diary author is biased.

**Flowers.** One of the Sustainable Farm Incentive (SFI) options is a herbal ley. Using a certain mix of plants, including herbs and grasses, attracts government support and the output of the field can be used - cut or grazed. Our field that has been much admired had a variety of plants in it including phacelia, buck wheat,

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clovers and an annual rye grass that we have not grown before. The phacelia has been flowering with a purple flower and is covered in bees. We are using this option instead of field beans in our five year crop rotation. Whilst the latter is a good cereal break crop, it does not consistently produce a financial return.

*Richard Graham*

## **MIDDLEZOY AND OTHERY SCHOOLS SPACES AVAILABLE FOR 2024/25**

**Middlezoy and Othery are two small schools situated in the heart of the beautiful Somerset Levels.**

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Our aim is for our children to leave us as happy, confident, independent individuals with a positive outlook on life and resilience to take on their next challenge.

Our recent GOOD Ofsted report noted that "pupils demonstrate the school vision of honesty, respect and trust throughout their daily interactions with each other"

And praised the "happy, welcoming and friendly" environment and the schools' commitment to ensuring that all pupils have access to a broad and balanced curriculum.

We are always happy to show visitors around, and you would be warmly welcomed to come and visit our wonderful schools.

*Lindsay Hayward, Headteacher,*  
Othery Village School, Fore Street,  
Othery, Bridgwater,  
Somerset, TA7 0PX.  
Phone: 01823 698464  
Email: [office@othmid.ppat365.org](mailto:office@othmid.ppat365.org)



# **STAWELL & SUTTON MALLET VILLAGE NEWS**

Information is available on the website [www.stawellvillage.info](http://www.stawellvillage.info)

## **ST FRANCIS CHURCH, STAWELL**

### **Harvest Supper**

St Francis Church, Stawell will be holding our annual Harvest Supper on 28 September at the village hall. Tickets will be available from Ralph, 01278 722934 and Ruth, 01278 722914, £10 adults and £5 for primary school children.

This is an opportunity for villagers to get together and for any newcomers to make new friends. *Ruth Peberdy*

### **Coming Events**

Sunday 22nd 10am Harvest thanksgiving service

Saturday 28th 10am 'til 12 noon Coffee Morning at Belinda Beake's, The Old Apple Store.

*St Francis Church Committee*

## **OPEN DAYS AND MORE AT SUTTON MALLET CHURCH**

On Saturday August 17 we welcomed the local community for 'Summertime Teatime' - an afternoon get together which featured many delicious homemade cakes, tea and a chance to meet up and chat. Villagers and guests were very generous and we raised over £150 for the Churches Conservation Trust. The event coincided with the arrival of a new bench, gifted by Olivia and Robert Temple, which was much admired and appreciated by all.

The CCT describes its annual Heritage Open Days as 'England's largest festival of history and culture'. In Sutton Mallet we will be joining in this festival during the weekend of 7/8 September with informational displays in the church which will include a rare opportunity to see the silver chalice dating from 1573. To see it, please join us on the morning of Saturday 7 September 10-12 noon - locally made refreshments will be available along with a warm welcome.

Recently the CCT has had the church inspected by a historic buildings architect as one of the many inspections and works that it funds. If you make a donation you can rest assured that all the money raised goes towards the running and repair costs of the churches - the organisation costs are funded separately.

The pandemic from 2020 onwards prevented much from happening - it is encouraging that since last Summer we have been able to hold more regular events, fundraising and work to clear and maintain the churchyard. Improvement is noticeable week by week - please come and visit our lovely church which is open and ready to welcome you every day.

*Mortimer Rhind-Tutt* (CCT Volunteer) [mortimer.rt@gmail.com](mailto:mortimer.rt@gmail.com)

Churches Conservation Trust [www.visitchurches.org.uk](http://www.visitchurches.org.uk)

CCT Representative Marie Leverett [mleverett@theccct.org.uk](mailto:mleverett@theccct.org.uk)



## ***GREINTON VILLAGE NEWS***

### **VILLAGE NEWS**

There are two big events in Greinton's social calendar coming up in September. The first is our annual Harvest Barn Dance, which takes place on Saturday 21st in the marquee next to the village hall (courtesy of the Roebuck family). Doors open at 6:30pm and, following the resounding success of last year, Hobson's Choice will be returning, providing live music through the evening. There will be possibly the best value cash bar in Somerset, plus the usual hog roast (vegetarian options also available), and a tombola/raffle. It really is the best possible way to get together with friends and neighbours, have a chat and enjoy a dance or two and generally let your hair down. Unfortunately, we have had to bow to the inevitable and increase admission prices very slightly, but have introduced reduced rates for teenagers for the first time: £10 for adults, £6 for under 18s and free entry for primary school children.

The second takes place the following weekend on Sunday 29th - there will be a Harvest Celebration in the parish church, starting at 5pm. As usual, this is not a formal church service, but a programme of songs, readings and music to allow us to reflect on the changing seasons and give thanks for the harvest. This event depends upon volunteers stepping forward to read (or play/sing), so please don't be shy – you will be welcomed with open arms. As always, suggestions for appropriate items (any song, poem or other reading, piece of

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music with an autumn/harvest theme) to include will be gratefully received. Monthly pub nights continue as usual – the next ones are on Friday 6 September, Friday 4 October and Friday 2 November.  
*Toby Crispin*

## **MIDDLEZOY VILLAGE NEWS**

### **WEEKLY COFFEE MORNINGS**

Every Monday (excluding bank holidays) 10am-12 noon at the Methodist Chapel. Tea/ coffee/hot chocolate and biscuits. Books, jigsaws, knitting patterns and a bric-a-brac stall. Come along and have a cuppa with your friends or come and make new friends. Everyone welcome. *Jill Darby (Co-ordinator)*

### **MIDDLEZOY WOMEN'S SOCIAL CLUB**

The summer outing to Exmouth on Tuesday 6 August went very well with the weather being kind to us. The stop-off on the way to Darts farm shop was a great idea with tea/coffee and cake going down a treat. Look out for our next event on Saturday 28 September - this will be the annual coffee morning for McMillan Cancer Support. 10.30am -12 noon at the village hall. Lots of home-made cakes to enjoy. *Jill Darby (Chair)*

### **HOLY CROSS CHURCH**

#### **Bells**

An investigation of the bells and support system in the tower at Holy Cross has recently been undertaken by John Taylor and Sons, one of major bell foundry companies in the UK.

The conclusion of the investigation was that the headstocks on the tenor bell and the Nr 5 should be replaced and that the structural support system should be reinforced. The PCC sought advice from John Hallett, the Diocesan Bell Tower Advisor, and at their meeting in August agreed to proceed with the remedial work. The estimated cost is £35,000 (excluding VAT). The process of raising the funds by fund raising events and grants and obtaining the faculty from the Diocese will now commence. The bells will continue to be pealed for practice and services. Quarter peals will be restricted and no long peals will be permitted.

#### **Open Tower Day**

The second Open Tower Day of the year will be held on Sunday 15 September. The tower will be open from 2pm and there will be entertainment, exhibitions and the usual range of homemade cakes and refreshments.

#### **Harvest Breakfast**

Our harvest celebrations this year will be a Harvest Breakfast on Sunday 22 September in the church at 10.00am. All welcome.  
*Ian Campbell, Churchwarden*



## MIDDLEZOY SHOP AND POST OFFICE

Our little community shop seems like a Tardis as we expand our stock range of food and household items and continue to build our local produce offer.

Our Fresh Bake Friday has proved very popular with granary and white sourdough, loaves, rolls, pastries, donuts, and cakes from the Somerset Bakery & Deli. To make sure you don't miss out, you can place an order in the shop by end of Tuesday.

We continue to stock meat, cheese and eggs from Regency Butchers freshly delivered each Friday. Orders can be placed by calling into the shop if there is anything specific you need.

We have some lovely local crafts, greetings cards, locally produced jams and chutneys and our popular Middlezoy honey.

Our newest local supplier is Somerset Chocolate Company with their range of delicious chocolate bars, gift boxes and other treats.

We have expanded our stationary/packaging range to cater for those working at home and those visiting our Post Office, alongside making sure our toiletries and home medicine sections are well stocked with all you need.

We will be opening a Community Bookshop during September stocked with donated books and funds from this will support the village Monday Coffee Morning.

We continue to rely on brilliant volunteers who offer a helpful, friendly service. We always welcome new volunteers so get in touch if you have an hour or two a week to spare to support any aspect of running the shop. The committee are keen to hear new ideas of what we could stock and of new local suppliers. Contact [middlezoyvillageshop@outlook.com](mailto:middlezoyvillageshop@outlook.com) Follow us on Facebook for shop and Post Office updates.

Thank you for your continued support of our great community resource!

*The Middlezoy Village Shop Committee*



## MIDDLEZOY VILLAGE HALL

### New bar in place

The new bar is now installed down at the village hall. It's a great success. Many thanks to Barry Paffey who built and installed it.

Friday evenings down at the village hall are still very popular along with the food waggons attending. It is nice to see, on a sunny summer's evening, families come down for a bite to eat and a few drinks whilst sitting on the veranda.

Our next big event down at the village hall is going to be on Saturday 28 September when we have the Revolvers playing: this is a 60s band and they are excellent - you can see them on YouTube. Tickets are now on sale both online and at the village shop. This will be a very good evening of music and dancing. As a committee we are still looking for more people



to come and join us. So, if you can spare a little bit of time, we would love to see you. We meet at the village hall the first Monday of every month and we are a very friendly bunch. Anybody interested please contact me.

In the autumn we're looking to put on more events on Saturday night so watch this space. Finally I would just like to thank all the Friday night bar volunteers. Without you the bar would not run and it is thanks to you all that Friday nights are such an ongoing success. Thank you all.

*Paul Baker, Acting Chair*

## **MIDDLEZOY METHODIST CHURCH**

### **Thank you so much!**

For supporting the Anniversary Favourite Hymns, and helping to eat the Cream Tea! Hope everyone enjoyed themselves.

### **Salad and Sweet Lunches**

Thank you too to everyone who has supported the Salad and Sweet lunches during the summer – we have raised much-needed funds for our ongoing costs, and enjoyed some lovely opportunities for friendship over food.

Thank you for your contributions and for your support.

### **The Peekaboo Gang Toddler Group**

This will resume on Friday mornings from 6 September, 9.30am-12 noon – come when you want, for as long as you want. A friendly group for under 3s and their parents/carers.

### **Booking the Methodist Church for your events:**

Don't forget that the Chapel space and back room are available to hire - phone Jill Darby on 698000.

### **Services during September:**

Sunday 8 September, 10.30am United Service at the Methodist Church, led by Reverend Annie Deche.

Sunday 22 September, 6.30pm – Circuit Service with Holy Communion, to celebrate Harvest Festival.

*Revd Deborah Kirk,*

*Minister [deborah.m.kirk@gmail.com](mailto:deborah.m.kirk@gmail.com)  
01823 334854*

*Ildiko Haraszti Minister-in-Training*

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# ***OTHERY VILLAGE NEWS***

## **OTHERY PARISH COUNCIL**

We will meet as usual on Monday 9 September in Othery village hall.

*Councillor Vicki Jones, Vicki Ivins vicki\_ivins@hotmail.com*

## **ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH**

The church is currently only open from 9am to 3.30pm, Mondays to Fridays during school term days and for church services. Genuine visitors can phone 07714 672316 to arrange for access at other times.

*Churchwardens and PCC*

## **FOURTH ANNUAL CLASSIC AND VINTAGE VEHICLES ROAD RUN Saturday 7 September**

The annual church fundraising Othery Road Run returns this year on Saturday 7 September. The event is to be held by kind permission in Chirpy Davis's field at the top end of the village. The best way to enter the ground is by the entrance off of Pathe Lane.

Vehicles will start lining up from 1pm and with all in position for judging at 3pm and the first vehicle away at 3.30pm on a circular route.

The entry fees for vehicles are £10 prebooked via Mervyn 01823 698368 or £12 on the day at the gate. The general public will have free entry for viewing, admiring and socialising etc.

Teas, coffees and light refreshments will be on sale to all from 1pm and a Pig Roast from 5pm.

*Anthony Betty, Road Run Committee Chairman, 07801 233676*

## **OTHERY STREET FAYRE 'THANK YOU' EVENING**

We are having a 'Thank You' Cheese and Wine evening on Wednesday 11 September at 7.30pm in the Church Room for all who helped with the Fayre. Please let me know if you wish to attend so we have an idea of numbers for catering. This is an important event to reward our volunteers and hopefully trying to recruit more people to help organise next year's event on Saturday 21 June. I can provide you with more details.

*Anthony Betty, OSF Committee Chairman, 07801 233676*

## **OTHERY HARVEST FESTIVAL AND SUPPER**

On Sunday 22 September we will be celebrating Harvest Thanksgiving with a Harvest Communion Service in St Michael's church from 10am, led by Rev Jane Durham, when we invite people to bring their harvest offerings to the service.

On Monday 23 September we will be having our annual Harvest Supper in Othery village hall. Ticket prices are £22 per adult and available from Mervyn Winslade (01823 698368) and Iris Calder (01823 698243). The village hall doors will be open from 7pm and the meal will be served from 7.30pm. There will



be a bar available during the evening and there will also be a raffle.

After the meal, profits raised from the auction of harvest produce will be given to the special project at Musgrove Park Hospital, Taunton.

*Mervyn Winslade and Anthony Betty,  
Churchwardens*

## **OTHERY VILLAGE HALL**

The committee would like to say a big thank you to everyone that supported the barbecue on 26 July. It was lovely to see so many faces old and new and we hope a great time was had by all. Thank you to Stuart and James in particular for the cooking and to Kathy for her work in the kitchen. We raised a great amount of money which will keep the hall looking as wonderful as it does and help fund future events.

Talking of future events, please note a change to the advertised date for the Halloween party which will now take place on Friday 25 October to avoid clashing with Bridgwater Carnival. Tickets will be £7 per adult and £3 per child. Music, food and games included!

We are pleased to announce that Enrico's Pizza will be at the Hall every second Friday of the month.

### **Upcoming events**

AGM - Tuesday 15 October; Quiz - Friday 18 October 7.00pm; Halloween Party – Friday 25 October; Children's Xmas Party - Sunday 8 December

And to get us all in the festive spirit we will be holding a carol singing event on Friday 20 December. We hope to have some children from Middlezoy and Othery School leading us in singing some carols, with mince pies and mulled wine being served free. Please come and join us for what will be a lovely festive occasion.

### **Regular events**

Happy hour at the village hall bar on the first Friday of the month. All drinks and snacks 40% off from 7pm to 8.30pm.

Wednesday 11 September – 7.30pm Western Front Association

Wednesday 25 September – 7.30pm Somerset Stargazers

Thursdays – 10am Toddler Group (5th, 12th, 19th, 26th) 7.30pm Short Mat Bowls

Fridays – 11am Pilates. 7pm Bar Night

## **YOGA AND PILATES CLASSES**

**YOGA at Middlezoy Village Hall  
Wednesdays 11am**

**And**

**PILATES at Westonzoiland Village Hall  
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(Facebook and Instagram)



## And finally

If you have any ideas for events that you would like to see held at the village hall or are happy to volunteer some time to supporting the above planned events or on the Friday night bar then please contact the committee using the contacts below.

*Rachael Selway, Secretary, Othery Village Hall Management Committee*

*Email: otheryvillagehall@hotmail.co.uk*

*Tel: 07456 653252*

*Website: www.otheryvillagehall.org.uk*

## TUESDAY COFFEE MORNINGS

Coffee Mornings are held in the Church Room every Tuesday between 10am and 12 noon. We offer tea, hot chocolate and a variety of coffees including cappuccino and fresh coffee so there is something to suit everyone's taste. We also have a selection of home-made marmalade and sometimes chutney! We have a number of books for sale (25p each) with a varied selection of authors and we even have jigsaw puzzles for those of you who fancy a challenge. This is a great opportunity to meet up with friends and relax for a while, so please come along and join us - you'll be made very welcome.

*Coffee Morning Committee*

## OTHERY BOOK READING GROUP

The group recently discussed *We were the Mulvaney*s, an international bestseller, by Joyce Carol Oats.

The Mulvaney's are seemingly blessed by all that makes life sweet. The perfect American family living the perfect life on High Point farm, just outside Mt. Ephraim, New York. They are respected and liked by everyone. But something happens on Valentine's Day, 1976. An incident involving the pretty sixteen year old daughter, Marianne Mulvaney, destroys the family and is hushed up in the town. This is never discussed within the family. The consequences which follow are tragic. It is the story of the rise, fall and ultimate redemption of an American family.

*We were the Mulvaney*s illustrates society's unjust and hypocritical view of often laying the blame on the victim of this type of crime rather than the perpetrator.

The group had a lively discussion with everyone contributing their opinions. Nearly all said that they cared about the characters as they struggled in their individual and imperfect ways to comprehend the situation they found themselves in. Most felt that generally there

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was too much description and unnecessary detail throughout the book which diverted attention away from the story and which was unnecessary. Many found the beginning a little tedious but having persevered enjoyed the ending. The consensus was that the group enjoyed the book and were happy with this choice. *Lynette Golledge*

## **MOORLINCH VILLAGE NEWS**

### **THE MOORLINCH MEET**

#### **With a bowl of chilli and a lot of chat - 7 September**

Join us for a traditional Moorlinch get-together with friends and neighbours at the Moorlinch church hall on Saturday 7 September 5pm-8pm. Choose a bowl of delicious chilli (different options include vegan, meat, spicy etc) and 'meet and greet' everyone, enjoy some fun and entertainment, games, raffle and more; come and make it a lovely Saturday night family outing.

The evening will be £5 per adult to cover food costs (chilli and a pudding). Children are very welcome and there will be no charge for their food. We'll have some soft drinks available but please BYO if you fancy something stronger.

You're welcome to pay on the night but please let us know you're coming so we can make sure there is plenty of food! Contact Sam Dawe [sam.eastend@gmail.com](mailto:sam.eastend@gmail.com), or Mary Mason [marydavismason@gmail.com](mailto:marydavismason@gmail.com) ASAP if you haven't already let us know. Looking forward to seeing you there! *Sam Dawe*



### **MOORLINCH HARVEST SUPPER**

#### **Saturday 28 September at 7pm**

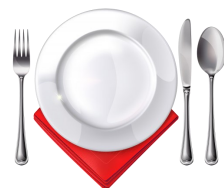
Our traditional Harvest Supper will be held in the church hall.

Vegetarian option and lots of tasty desserts. All welcome.

Bring your own drink. Tickets £10 for adults and £5 for under 14s.

Book your tickets by Tuesday 25 September and pay on the door.

Or book your ticket by emailing Jane on [stryker.jps@gmail.com](mailto:stryker.jps@gmail.com) or Pam on [pcoombes@hotmail.com](mailto:pcoombes@hotmail.com).



### **HARVEST CELEBRATION WEEKEND**

We will be decorating the church with harvest flowers and produce for the weekend of 5/6 October and close the weekend with our Harvest Celebrations at 5pm. Lots of cider and a picnic to be had at this celebration! More details both on local media and in next month's MOMSS+G magazine.

### **MOORLINCH CRAFT AND COFFEE MORNING**

#### **Back by popular demand! 2 November, Moorlinch church hall**

Following our successful pre-Christmas Craft and Coffee fundraising event for Crisis at Christmas (and other charities) the last couple of years, we are all set to do it again on 2 November in Moorlinch church hall. I've been inundated with requests for stalls and have even got a reserve list can you believe?!

The Moorlinch Stitch Club continues going from strength to strength and are planning a

stall with beautiful stitched and embroidered items already being created, from which all the proceeds will go to Crisis. We have a fused glass artist for the first time and a variety of new card stalls. As well as this you will find homemade breads, cakes, chutneys, jams, and the handmade items like last year... woodcrafts, covered books, bags, knitted mittens and socks, Christmas decorations ...the lot! We are planning for a good raffle too. We are already excited and hope you can make this date and start your Christmas gift shopping to support a great cause (32 Christmas places for homeless people were achieved last year...can we make it more?). Some stall holders are also supporting their own charities, so lots of people will benefit. Contact [sam.eastend@gmail.com](mailto:sam.eastend@gmail.com) (and for the Moorlinch Stitch Club) Sam Dawe

## ***BENEFICE, DEANERY AND DIOCESAN ITEMS***

### **PROCESSES NOW WE ARE IN VACANCY**

The Churchwardens are the people to contact for arranging baptisms, weddings and funerals during the vacancy of the post of Priest-in-Charge for the United Benefice of MOMSS&G. Details of normal regular services are being arranged with the Area Dean and will be published as usual in this magazine and on posters. *UB Churchwardens*

### **CHURCHES AND CHAPELS**

#### **Open Daily**

The United Benefice churches in Middlezooy and Stawell are open daily for private prayer; see their notice boards for their opening times. Othery church is currently only open from 9am to 3.30pm, Mondays to Fridays during school term days and for church services. Genuine visitors can phone 07714 672316 to arrange for access at other times.

### **FROM THE REGISTERS**

#### **Deaths/Funerals:**

Doreen FOX of Othery died on Tuesday 30 July and her funeral and burial was in Othery Cemetery on Thursday 15 August.

Maurice SMITH of Middlezooy died on ??? and his funeral was held at Sedgemoor Crematorium on Wednesday 21 August.

### **BENEFICE/MIDDLEZOY PRAYER GROUP**

Please do not think you have to be a member of the local churches as we are very willing to pray for anyone who asks. The prayer group feel it is needed so please do not hesitate to get in touch by emailing [middlezooyprayers@gmail.com](mailto:middlezooyprayers@gmail.com).

*The Prayer Group*

### **BISHOP'S LETTER**



#### **Reimagining generosity**

In John's Gospel, the first of the signs that Jesus offers to show who he is happens at a wedding in the town of Cana in Galilee (John 2: 1-11). Jesus saves the whole event from being a social disaster. The presenting issue is that the wine runs out. This exposes the families that have organised the event to the possibility of severe embarrassment. Rather than modelling lavish hospitality, they are in danger of showing themselves to be stingy

and disorganised. Thankfully Jesus's mum is alerted to the situation and gets Jesus on the case. He comes up with a solution and all is well.

What gets me every time about this story is the scale and the quality of the solution that Jesus presents. If my calculations are right, Jesus saves the day by creating the equivalent of six wheelie bins full of wine. And not just your supermarket bottom shelf stuff. The wine he provides is of the very best quality – stuff that would delight sommeliers and wine snobs the world over.

In his first action, Jesus could have chosen to show any number of things about himself – his wisdom, his power, his goodness or so on. What's striking is that he begins by revealing that he is someone of astonishing and abundant generosity. This is at heart who Jesus is. If this is who Jesus is, then that means that this is who God is too. For "in God there is no unChristlikeness". In his first action, Jesus is showing us that at heart, God is abundantly and astonishingly generous.

If we're all made in God's image, might that be at heart who we're called to be too? Often, the call to be generous can be portrayed as hard and difficult, about self-sacrifice and denial, of the costly call to put others first. But what if we reimagined what being generous means? If we understood being generous as in fact the way to reveal and enjoy our true selves – lavishly, abundantly, joyfully... merrily?

A wheelie bin of wine anyone?

*Bishop Michael Beasley*

## **News in brief**

### **Are you joining the Wave of Prayer?**

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, will be joining Bishop Michael at a number of prayer events over the 24 hours in the diocese. You can join in as individuals or communities.

Friday, 6 September

19:30 - 21:30 - Movement Worship Night, St Michael's Without, Bath

Saturday, 7 September

09:00 – 10:00 Junction 24 Market, Bridgwater

10:30 – 11:30 St Francis Church, Bridgwater

12:15 – 13:45 Nailsea School

15:00 – 16:15 St Mary's Church, Frome

St Mary's, Timsbury has volunteers reading all 150 psalms while Wrington benefice is holding a prayer breakfast.

Find out how you can join in at [www.bathandwells.org.uk/faith/diocesan-wave-prayer](http://www.bathandwells.org.uk/faith/diocesan-wave-prayer)

### **Digital giving on a roll**

Churches across Bath and Wells are already starting to reap the reward of the Church of England's Digital Giving Roll-out, having raised over £51,000 between them since November 2023, when 79 parishes were supported to access a discounted contactless unit. Holy Trinity Church, Binegar, overcame its uncertainty about going contactless and have raised nearly £500 on their device, while the rural parish of Lyng has raised over £800 it might not otherwise have received.

### **Lottery boost for Porlock church**

St Dubricius Church in Porlock has been awarded a £179,335 grant by The National

Lottery Heritage Fund to conserve its spire and roof.

Reverend Ann said: "The church has been at the centre of village life for centuries and is a beacon for both visitors to the village and residents. The last re-shingling was done by village craftsmen using timber from just up thecombe. We intend to replicate that as far as is practical, and also to use the project to promote the local heritage, not only of our church building, but of the wider community."

If your church requires funding for essential repairs or transformative missional projects, do contact the Giving and Funding Team for help in identifying potential funders.

## **THE WI - MORE THAN JAM AND JERUSALEM**

### **Think fun and frolics, trips and treats**

There are talks, activities and events for every woman, single or wed. You can have a bit of fun, make friends, try a new hobby or just explore a new venue. Whichever WI you attend you can be sure of a warm welcome.

### **WIs near us**

Ashcott and Pedwell	7.30pm	3rd Thursday	Ashcott Village Hall, TA7 9PZ.
Shapwick Starlets	7.30pm	2nd Tuesday	Village Hall, Station Road, TA7 9NJ.
Westonzoyland	7.30pm	2nd Wednesday	Village Hall Cheer Lane TA7 0EZ

Local times can vary so it is best to contact to Somerset Federation before attending for the first time 01278 287034.

### **Westonzoyland WI**

Come to our September meeting on Wednesday 11 September and meet us for our shared Harvest meal.

Should you fancy a night out with the girls, come and see us. We welcome you.

For any further information please email: [zoywisec@gmail.com](mailto:zoywisec@gmail.com) or call Gill Wilkinson, Secretary, on 01823 698429.

*Gill Wilkinson*

## **MUSIC ON THE LEVELS**

**Free Concert Sunday 29 September at 3pm**

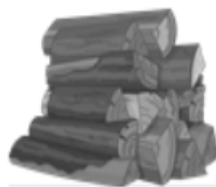
**St Mary's Church, Main Road, Westonzoyland, TA7 0EP**

**Reg Meuros, the singer-songwriter from Somerset**

He is a modern folk troubadour whose themes encompass love, death, political and social events. He will bring us songs from a forthcoming song cycle about the life of Woody Guthrie - Fire and Dust - with his acclaimed release *Stolen from God*.

In February 2020, when challenged by a resident of Westonzoyland to write a song about the village, he composed a moving

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tribute to the many who fought and died at the Battle of Sedgemoor in 1685, and travesty of justice that followed.

Refreshments are available at a modest charge from 2.15pm until the start of the performance. In order to help with the artists' and other costs a raffle is held. In addition, donations are encouraged. It costs around £400 to put on a concert.

Up to now we've never exceeded the church's capacity and never had to turn anyone away, BUT please note, seats are available on a first come, first served basis.

Any further information

Frank Challenger 01278 699071 email: [f.challenger@icloud.com](mailto:f.challenger@icloud.com)



## **SOMERSET BUS PARTNERSHIP**

### **Bus It This September**

September is an important month for bus users and for all those thinking of switching to going by bus.

### **September is CATCH THE BUS MONTH.**

Also in Somerset, September is one of the only two opportunities in the year that bus companies can change their bus timetable. So, bus operators have been looking at their schedules, checking their passenger numbers and some will be making changes from 1st September to optimise their returns.

So, if you can go online, do check your local bus routes to see what your bus times are from 1st September. The best way of doing this is to go to [www.bustimes.org](http://www.bustimes.org), put in the number of your local bus route and bus times for your local stop will appear. Somerset Bus Partnership has also listed all the bus services which will change in September including a link to the new timetables: <https://www.somersetbuspartnership.co.uk/busservices> Given the financial emergency declared by Somerset Council, Somerset hasn't the money to increase its funding of buses so the best way of ensuring you keep your local buses is to BUS IT whenever you can... especially this month as it's Catch the Bus Month!

By supporting your local bus services whenever you can, you're playing your part in ensuring there are buses for those in your local community, young and old, who don't drive or don't have access to a car hence are dependent on buses. Transport accounts for 45% of carbon emissions in Somerset, so reduce your environmental impact and travel by bus. It's good for your pocket too as a single bus fare costs just £2 or less and that's guaranteed through to the end of the year.

To celebrate Catch the Bus Month, Somerset Bus Partnership is organising over 25 bus stalls across Somerset. We will have all the local bus timetables at these stalls to give away free. To find out where your nearest bus stall is: <https://www.somersetbuspartnership.co.uk/events>

We are also in need of volunteers to help out for an hour or two at a bus stall. Get in touch if you can help. Contact us: [somersetbuspartnership@gmail.com](mailto:somersetbuspartnership@gmail.com)

So BUS IT during September's CATCH THE BUS MONTH.

Peter Travis, Co-Chair, Somerset Bus Partnership



## APPLES AND ORCHARDS

Living in this part of the world we are surrounded by orchards....or we used to be. Over the past 50 years over 50% of our orchards have been lost. Most of the orchards we see around us are cider orchards where you can find apples such as Kingston Black, Dabinet, Yarlington Mill, Tom Putt and Hangdown growing.



In the UK alone we have developed over 2,500 varieties of apples. This means you could eat a different UK variety every day for over 6 years!

Some interesting varieties include:

**Core Blimey** - a highly flavoured cox-like apple, but easier to grow than the popular cox

**Christmas Pippin** – cox-style apple discovered recently from a ‘wildling’ seed, an apple thrown out of a train onto a railway siding which unlike most other new varieties developed from a pip rather than from grafting

**Bloody Ploughman** – reputedly takes its name from a ploughman who was caught stealing apples and shot by a gamekeeper. His wife got the bag of apples and threw them on the rubbish heap and one of the seedlings that emerged was rescued by a workman and subsequently named.

**Winter Banana** – an apple that tastes like bananas, seriously – it does!

Evidence has shown that apples grew wild in Britain in the Neolithic period. The earliest known mention of apples in England was by King Alfred in about 885 AD in his writings of *Gregory's Pastoral Care*.

The costard is one of our oldest English apple varieties, first mentioned under the name of Poma Costard in the fruiterers bill of Edward I in 1292 at which time it was sold for one shilling (5p) per hundred. It is difficult to find a true costard these days but must have been grown very extensively since the retailers were called costardmongers, now known as costermongers.

### Wassailing

An old cider county tradition, wassailing usually takes place on January 17th - Old Twelfth Night. The idea is to protect the trees from evil spirits and to make sure they produce a plentiful crop in the coming season. The best or oldest tree is chosen to represent them all,

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and is known as the Apple Tree Man, which is feted as a guardian of the orchard. Cider is poured on the roots, pieces of toast or cake soaked in cider are placed in the fork of the tree or hung from the branches for the robins (spirits of the trees). The tips of the lower branches are drawn down and dipped into a bucket of cider and the tree is toasted with cider and songs. Then the trees are rapped and a huge din is made to drive away evil spirits and wake the sleeping trees. Buckets are beaten and shot guns fired through the top-most branches. Many believed that if the trees weren't wassailed then there would be no apples.

And best of all this wonderful fruit can be eaten raw, boiled, pureed, put in pies and cakes and baked.

## **SOMERSET APPLE CAKE**

### **INGREDIENTS**

4 ounces butter	6 ounces dark brown sugar
2 eggs, beaten	8 ounces whole meal flour
1 teaspoon ground mixed spice	1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
2 teaspoons baking powder	1 lb cooking apple, peeled, cored and chopped
3-4 tablespoons milk	1 tablespoon clear honey
1 tablespoon light brown sugar	

### **METHOD**

Grease and line a deep 7" round cake tin with greaseproof paper.

Cream the butter and sugar together until pale and fluffy. Add the eggs, a little at a time, beating well after each addition.

Add the flour, spices and baking powder and mix well. Fold in the apples and enough milk to make a soft dropping consistency.

Turn the mixture into the prepared tin and bake at 325F for 1 1/2 hours, until well risen and firm to the touch. Turn out on a wire rack to cool.

When the cake is cold, brush with the honey and sprinkle with the light brown sugar.



## ***USEFUL INFORMATION***

### **FOODBANKS**

#### **DONATION POINTS**

**Middlezoy:** Holy Cross Church, Village Coffee Mornings or Meadowbank, 11a Main Road.

**Othery:** St Michael's Church Porch.

**Moorlinch:** Spring Cottage, Pit Hill Lane, Moorlinch or St Mary's Church Porch

**Stawell:** The Old Post Office, Stawell

**To obtain assistance from a Foodbank** you need a referral from: Citizens Advice Bureau: Clarence House High St, Bridgwater, TA6 3BH 03444 889623 or your Village Agent, local GP surgery, schools, health visitors and social workers.

**Bridgwater Foodbank** can be contacted by email [info@bridgwater.foodbank.org.uk](mailto:info@bridgwater.foodbank.org.uk) or phone 01278 434636 or 07804 119273 (Open Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays). They will help put you in touch with one of the agencies that can help with a referral.

**Langport Cares** email [langportcares/foodbank@gmail.com](mailto:langportcares/foodbank@gmail.com)

## DEFIBRILLATOR MACHINES

From the scene of an incident, call 999, ask for Ambulance.

Ascertain the condition of the patient. If a defibrillator is required give the following information about the nearest machine.

		Call sign
Greinton Phone box	TA7 9BW	CHT-RT-1583
Middlezoy Chapel	TA7 0NZ	SC0253
Middlezoy Village Hall	TA7 0PG	SC0254 (machine at car park end)
Moorlinch Farm	TA7 9BU	
Othery Village Hall	TA7 0QU	
Stawell Village Hall	TA7 9AD	

Within 200m of a defibrillator they can give you the code to open the cabinet on post code alone, farther away the call sign is required.

## HOUSEHOLD RECYCLING & REFUSE COLLECTIONS

The schedules for the MOMSS & G area are:

### MIDDLEZOY

Recycling Boxes, every week:	Wednesdays 4, 11, 18, 25 Sept, 2 Oct
Black Wheeled Bins, every 3 weeks:	Wednesdays 7, 18 Sept, 9 Oct
Garden Waste Bins, every other week:	Mondays 9, 23 Sept, 7 Oct

### OTHERY

Recycling Boxes, every week:	Fridays 6, 13, 20, 27 Sept, 4 Oct
Black Wheeled Bins, every 3 weeks:	Fridays 6, 27 Sept, 18 Oct
Garden Waste Bins, every other week:	Thursdays 5, 19 Sept, 3 Oct

### MOORLINCH, STAWELL, SUTTON MALLETT & GREINTON

Recycling Boxes, every week:	Wednesdays 4, 11, 18, 25 Sept, 2 Oct
Black Wheeled Bins, every 3 weeks:	Wednesdays 7, 18 Sept, 9 Oct
Garden Waste Bins, every other week:	Thursdays 12, 26 Sept, 10 Oct

## RECYCLING CENTRES

### Summer opening hours (April to September)

9am-6pm weekdays and 9am-4pm weekends. Full details of each site, location, opening times, materials they will accept etc. can be found at [www.somersetwaste.gov.uk/recycling/centres](http://www.somersetwaste.gov.uk/recycling/centres)

## MOBILE LIBRARY

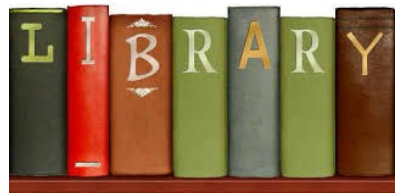
### Taunton Area, Route P

The service continues every 4 weeks on Fridays: Next visit: 12 September

Stawell Village Hall	10.10am - 10.40am
Moorlinch Tapmoor Road Junction	10.55am - 11.15am
Middlezoy Main Road Bus	12.20pm-1pm

For further information about reading books online contact Libraries Direct on

0300 123 2224 or visit [www.somerset.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.somerset.gov.uk/libraries)



# MOMSS COMMUNITY INFORMATION

Please advise [momssgeditor@live.co.uk](mailto:momssgeditor@live.co.uk) of amendments/additions

## ANGLICAN CHURCH INFORMATION

### Priest-in-charge: Vacancy

Contact your village Churchwarden or contact person listed below

### United Benefice Readers

Pauline Davies 01278 451280 and Richard Graham 01278 722284

### Parish Auxiliary Lay Ministers

Mervyn Winslade (Othery); Ruth Peberdy (Stawell)

### Churchwardens

Middlezoy: Ian Campbell 01823 698790

Othery: Mervyn Winslade 01823 698368 Anthony Betty 07801 233676

Moorlinch: Fiona Hixon 01458 211096

Stawell contact: To be arranged

Sutton Mallet contact: Brian Lishman 01278 722579

Greinton contact: Jean Heywood 01458 210497

## METHODIST CHAPEL MIDDLEZOY

**Minister:** Rev Deborah Kirk 01823 334854

Local Contact: Jill Darby [jilldrb@gmail.com](mailto:jilldrb@gmail.com) 01823 698000

Bookings: <https://middlezoychapeluk.wordpress.com/bookings/> or Jill Darby (above)

## PARISH COUNCILS/MEETINGS

Middlezoy—Chairman: Paul Baker 01823 698082

Othery—Chairman: Andrew Tizzard 01823 690284

Moorlinch—Meeting Chairman: Anne Farmer 01458 210393

Stawell and Sutton Mallet—Chairman: Philip Jay

Greinton—Enquiries: Toby Crispin 01458 210227

## VILLAGE AMENITIES

**Middlezoy:** The George Inn 01823 698215;

Shop 01823 587222 open Mon, Tues 8.45am-1.00, 1.30-4.30pm, Wed 8.45am-11.00am,

Thurs, Fri 8.45am-1.00, 1.30-5pm, Sat 8.45am-12 noon;

P.O. 01823 698981 open Mon, Tues 10.00am-1.00, 1.30-4.30pm, Wed closed,

Thurs, Fri 10.00am-1.00, 1.30-5pm, Sat closed; Village Hall 07885 195418

**Othery:** School 01823 698464; Othery Village Hall 01823 690482

**Moorlinch:** Ring O'Bells 01458 210358; Church Hall 01458 210755

**Stawell & Sutton Mallet:** Village Hall 01278 723665

**Greinton:** Village Hall 01458 210277

**POLICE:** Emergencies only tel: 999 ; Non emergencies tel: 101

**CRIMESTOPPERS:** 8am-10pm Weekdays 0800 555111;

**NHS:** Tel: 111

**DISTRICT PCSOs:** Georgia Coles 07889 659466; Tom Russell 07935 013566

## VILLAGE AGENTS

To contact a Village Agent ring 01823 331222 and they will find the most suitable person to deal with your query. Referrals can also be made via doctors' surgeries.



## SERVICES CHART FOR CHAPEL AND UB CHURCHES SEPTEMBER 2024

DATE	TIME	EVENT	VENUE
<b>September</b> 1 Sun	10.00 am	United Benefice Communion Service	Holy Cross, Middlezoy
8 Sun	10.00 am 10.00 am 10.00 am 10.30 am	Holy Communion Morning Prayer Morning Worship Joint Worship For All	St Michael's, Othery St Mary's, Moorlinch St Francis, Stawell Methodist Chapel, Middlezoy
15 Sun	10.00 am	United Benefice Communion Service	St Michael's, Othery
22 Sun	9.30 am 10.00 am 10.00 am 10.00 am 6.30 pm	Breakfast Café Harvest Breakfast Service Harvest Communion Service Harvest Family Service Circuit Communion Service	Church Hall, Moorlinch Holy Cross, Middlezoy St Michael's, Othery St Francis, Stawell Methodist Chapel, Middlezoy
29 Sun	10.00 am	United Benefice Communion Service	St Mary's, Moorlinch
<b>October</b> 6 Sun	10.00 am	Sutton Mallet Harvest Service	Sutton Mallet Church

### The Common Worship (Year B) readings and lessons for the services:

DATE	SEASON	READINGS
various dates	Harvest Festival (Year B)	OT: Joel, chapter 2, verses 21 to 27 Psalm: 126 Epistle: 1 Timothy, chapter 2, verses 1 to 7 Gospel: Matthew, chapter 6, verses 24 to 4 (the end)
<b>September</b> 1 Sun	Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity	OT: Song of Solomon, chapter 2, verses 8 to 13 Psalm: 45, verses 1, 2 and 6 to 9 Epistle: James, chapter 1, verses 17 to 27 (the end) Gospel: Mark chapter 7, verses 1 to 8, 14, 15 and 21 to 23
8 Sun	Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity	OT: Proverbs, chapter 22, verses 1, 2, 8, 9, 22, 23, Psalm: 125 Epistle: James, chapter 2, verses 1 to 17 Gospel: Mark, chapter 7, verses 24 to 37 (the end)
15 Sun	Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity	OT: Proverbs, chapter 1, verses 20 to 23 Psalm: 19 Epistle: James, chapter 3, verses 1 to 12 Gospel: Mark, chapter 8, verses 27 to 38
22 Sun	Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity	OT: Proverbs, chapter 31, verses 10 to 31 (the end) Psalm: 1 Epistle: James, chapter 3, verse 13 to chapter 4, verses 3, 7, 8a Gospel: Mark, chapter 9, verses 30 to 37
29 Sun	Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity	OT: Esther, chapter 7, verses 1 to 6, 9, 10, and chp 9, vv 20 to 22 Psalm: 124 Epistle: James, chapter 5, verses 13 to 20 (the end) Gospel: Mark, chapter 9, verses 38 to 50 (the end)