POSTLEBURY NEWSLETTER
OCTOBER 2026

From the Rectory:

Harvest is one of my favourite festivals. I love attending suppers and auctions, listening to school children singing *Cauliflowers Fluffy*, helping to gather gifts of non-perishable food, which are donated to the local Frome or Shepton Mallet Foodbanks, not forgetting well-known Harvest hymns like:

"We plough the fields, and scatter the good seed on the land, but it is fed and watered by God's almighty hand…."

The chorus sums up perfectly what should be foremost in our minds at harvest:

"All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above; then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord, for all his love."

How often do we take God's abundant gifts for granted? I know that I do sometimes. Crops are being gathered in from our fields, maize, wheat and barley, a vital ingredient in our food chain. Farmers throughout the UK have struggled this year with such a dry summer, and are having to rethink what they plant, due to challenging conditions.

In Africa the absence of rain can mean disaster for a whole village. Whenever it rains, my inclination is to take cover. In Africa rain is seen as a blessing from God – when the rains arrive it is not uncommon for the whole village to run outside and dance!

Thank you dear Lord for the harvest.

For all the good things which you provide in our lives. We thank you for our farmers, and all those involved in producing everything which ends up on our tables at mealtimes. Amen.

Keith.

OCTOBER 2026

Church Services in the Benefice of Stoke St. Michael, Leigh on Mendip and Downhead and in the Parish of Postlebury

2nd October (Friday)
1000 Nunney Holy Communion BCP (Revd. Stephen Kivett)

Sunday 4th October - 18th Sunday after Trinity
0930 Wanstrow Holy Communion
1100 Leigh on Mendip Harvest Communion
1800 Stoke St Michael Evensong (Jane Evans)

8th October (Thursday)
1800 Wanstrow Compline & Meditation

Sunday 11th October - 19th Sunday after Trinity
0930 Nunney Harvest Communion and produce sale
1100 Witham Harvest Communion
1600 Stoke St Michael Harvest Service

16th October (Friday)
1000 Nunney Holy Communion BCP (Revd. David Gatliffe)

Sunday 18th October - Luke the Evangelist/20th Sunday after Trinity
0930 Marston Harvest Communion *
1100 Stoke St Michael Family Communion *
1600 Nunney Messy Church (Lay led)
1700 Wanstrow Harvest Thanksgiving (Revd. Stephen Kivett)
1800 Downhead Evensong

Sunday 25th October - Last Sunday after Trinity
0930 Stoke St Michael Holy Communion (Revd. Graham Witts)
1100 Cloford Holy Communion (Revd. Graham Witts)

All services taken by Reverend Keith Johnson unless otherwise stated
** Reverend Keith Johnson & Preacher Matthew Howson*

From the Registers: September 2026

Baptisms:
13th September, Witham: Cameron Wills
20th September, Stoke St Michael:
Samara Norton & Benjamin Norton, Maurice & Sumner Down

Wedding:
7th September, Leigh on Mendip: Jack Flagg - Grace Rawlins

Funerals:
1st September, Wanstrow: Janet Baker
7th September, Wanstrow & Mendip Crematorium: Laurence Watts
24th September, Marston: Pru Hartley
29th September, Stoke St Michael: Kathleen Udell

Events for your diary:

Little Saplings Stay and Play takes place in term time Wednesdays 0930-1100 in Nunney Village Hall. All carers and pre-school children/infants welcome. Refreshments provided.

Life Group takes place on alternate Thursday evenings in local homes in Nunney. We continue our course looking at the role of angels in the bible and today. All very welcome for a 1930 start for coffee, cake and chat, followed by bible study and prayer. For details of dates and venues contact nunneychurchwardens@gmail.com

Every Friday, 1000-1200: Coffee & Chat, Stoke St Michael Church. All welcome.

Saturday 3rd October, from 1900: Community Concert in Stoke St Michael church. Anyone wishing to perform please contact Simon Francis. Everyone welcome.

Saturday 10th October: Fun Bingo in Leigh on Mendip Memorial Hall. Bar open 1900, eyes down 1930. Entry £5 including table snacks, book of ten games £6. All proceeds to Friends of Leigh Church.

Friends of Wells Cathedral Divine Light Event , Tuesday 6th October: Janet Gough OBE is an author, architectural historian, heritage campaigner and the former Director of Cathedrals and Church Buildings for the Church of England. The talk will be followed by a finger buffet lunch in the Undercroft. Tickets for the tour, talk and lunch are £25.00 each and can be booked by Friends at: www.wellsfriends.org or by those not yet Friends, via Eventbrite: www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/divine-light-tickets

Stoke St Michael Harvest Supper: Sunday 11th October: 1600 service in the Church followed by a three course supper and auction of produce in the Memorial Hall at 1730. Bar applied for. Tickets adults £7.50 and children £4 from Janet Gilham on 01749 840671.

Tuesday 13th October, 1400-1600: Wanstrow Chat Cafe - all welcome.

Parish of Postlebury - Key Contacts

Priest in Charge: Reverend Keith Johnson - keiththevicar@gmail.com 01373 792344
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If you would like to come off our mailing list please contact dataprotectionpostlebury@gmail.com