

Priest in Charge The Revd Richard Corrie

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PLEASE NOTE: - THURSDAY IS NORMALLY REVEREND RICHARD'S DAY OFF

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Churches Together in Wigton, Solway Plain Mission Community

SERVICES AT ST MARY'S

SUNDAYS

8.00 am HOLY COMMUNION (Book of Common Prayer, 1662)

9.30 am THE PARISH EUCHARIST and SUNDAY SCHOOL
(NEXT SUNG MATTINS will be 29th March)

6.30 pm EVENING PRAYER (Book of Common Prayer, 1662)

WEEKDAYS

Holy Communion is celebrated every Tuesday at 9.45 am (Book of Common Prayer) and Wednesday at 12.45 pm.

Tots Church 1st Friday in the month. (not January)

Prayer for Peace, Saturdays 9.00 am to 10.00 am (come and go as you wish)

CALENDAR AND SPECIAL DAYS

SUNDAY 4TH JANUARY EPIPHANY

SUNDAY 11TH JANUARY THE BAPTISM OF CHRIST

SUNDAY 18TH JANUARY SECOND SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY

SUNDAY 25TH JANUARY THE CONVERSION OF PAUL

SUNDAY 1ST FEBRUARY PRESENTATION OF CHRIST IN THE TEMPLE
- (CANDLEMAS)

Holy Communion is regularly administered in the Cumberland Infirmary. The Chaplain may be contacted via the hospital on 01228 523444

Material for the bulletin and weekly pew sheet should be sent to

d.lomas46@btinternet.com

tel: 016973 43862

**St Mary's
Parish Church Wigton**



**MONTHLY
NEWS BULLETIN**

No 853

January 2026

FREE

From the Registers

Christian Funerals

2nd December Thomas Pigg

'In sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life'

Reverend Richard writes....

A New Year, an Open Door

As January 2026 begins, I would like to wish you a very happy and blessed New Year. The turning of the calendar is always a moment filled with mixed emotions. There is hope and anticipation for what lies ahead, but often also a quiet awareness of what has been difficult in the year just gone. New Year's resolutions come and go, yet the deeper questions remain: What really matters? What do I want this year to be about?

For many people, a new year brings a longing for change. We think about becoming healthier, kinder, more patient, or more at peace. January can feel like an invitation to start again. In the Christian faith, that invitation is at the very heart of the message of Jesus. Again and again in the Gospels, Jesus invites people not to have their lives perfectly in order first, but simply to come to him.

Jesus' words are wonderfully simple and reassuring: "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." There are no conditions attached. He does not say, "Come when you have everything sorted out," or "Come when your faith is strong enough." He says, "Come as you are." Tired, doubtful, joyful, hopeful, or unsure — all are welcome.

Perhaps 2026 could be the year you take a small step closer to Jesus. That step does not need to be dramatic. It might be lighting a candle and saying a quiet prayer. It might be opening a Bible for the first time in a while. It might be coming along to a service, not because you feel you should, but because you are curious, or because you are looking for peace, or simply because you want to sit somewhere that reminds you that you are not alone.

At St Mary's Wigton, our doors — and hearts — are open. Whether you have been part of church life for many years, or whether you feel unsure, rusty, or even sceptical, you are welcome.

As this new year unfolds, may you know that you are loved, valued, and invited — just as you are — to walk with Jesus into whatever 2026 may hold.

Reverend Richard.

WINDOWS APPEAL

Sponsorships of window panes are invited at a cost of £5 per pane, contact the Treasurer for details. Limited-Edition Windows Appeal mugs with a picture of St Mary's are still available at a cost of £5.

WINDOWS APPEAL TARGET £500,000
TOTAL TO DATE – £188,321

150 CLUB

Membership of the 150 Club which helps with the fundraising for our Windows project is due for renewal for 2026. Numbers are £10 each per year and there will be four draws a year (subject to the number sold) with prizes for each draw of £60, £40, £20 and £10. If you would like to keep your same numbers for 2026, or purchase a number for the draw, please contact Rev Richard or the Treasurer and make payment.

MOTHERS' UNION

The Mothers' Union will be meeting for Christmas Lunch on 13th January 2026 at the Greenhill Hotel.

CHURCH GIVING

Thank you to everyone who is in our giving scheme, your participation is very much appreciated.

If you would like a set of envelopes for 2026, please speak to the Treasurer or any church officer.

FLOWER FUND

Donations towards the flower fund are always welcome, please support this if you can.

TOTS CHURCH

There will be no Tots Church in January.

The next Tots Church will be at 10.0am on 6th February for Mums, Dads, Carers and little ones. Please come along for a fun time of worship and play followed by coffee and cakes. This is for everyone whether a churchgoer or not.

CONFIRMATION

Confirmation - We have a confirmation service booked with Bishop Rob for Sunday 5th July 2026 at St Mary's, Wigton. If anyone is thinking or knows someone who might be thinking that they would like to be confirmed then please contact Rev Richard.

FREE MONEY FOR ST MARYS!!

If you shop online, please could you do it through 'Easyfundraising.' All you have to do is download their app or go through their website, sign up and choose St Mary's Wigton as your cause. Then every time you shop with a registered retailer the church will get a donation! It costs you nothing at all but will really help St Mary's. Please tell your friends and family too!

CHURCH LIBRARY

The church library has not seen very much use over the past few months. Perhaps the new year might give us time to sit cosy and read a good Christian book? Recently added to the library are 'Wild Bright Hope', the Church's Big Read for 2025. It is a collection of lively short contributions by young Christian writers from a variety of jobs and backgrounds. Also, there is Elaine Storkey's book looking at the key roles played by women in the Bible. Not pulling its punches, it is called 'Women in a Patriarchal World'!

CHARITIES

Please return your USPG boxes to church so that the money can be forwarded to this worthy charity.

POSTAGE STAMPS

Used postage stamps, especially the Christmas ones, can be placed in the box provided at the back of church. Thank you all for your used stamp donations.

Please trim your stamps to approximately 1cm around each stamp as this will save hours of trimming time. Thank you again for your kind donations.