

Priest in Charge - The Revd Richard Corrie

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

Churchwarden David Lomas

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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 30th August)

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.

CALENDAR AND SPECIAL DAYS

SUNDAY 3RD MAY FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

SUNDAY 10TH MAY SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

THURSDAY 14TH MAY ASCENSION DAY

SUNDAY 17TH MAY ASCENSION SUNDAY

SUNDAY 24TH MAY DAY OF PENTECOST (WHIT SUNDAY)

SUNDAY 31ST MAY TRINITY SUNDAY

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 857

May 2026

FREE

From the Registers

Holy Baptism

5th April

Lauren Green

5th April

Mabel Graham

12th April

Matilda Anne Johnson

25th April

Hudson Todd

'Born of water and the Spirit'

Reverend Richard writes....

There are times in life when things don't go to plan. A job falls through, relationships change, or the future feels uncertain. Whether you are someone of strong faith or simply searching for meaning, these moments can leave you wondering if there is any direction at all. Yet many people - across different walks of life - have found comfort in the idea that our lives may be part of a bigger picture, even when we can't fully see it.

The Bible expresses this simply in Jeremiah 29:11:

“For I know the plans I have for you... plans to give you hope and a future.”

You don't have to have everything figured out to take something from that. It speaks to the possibility that there is purpose, even in the unknown.

Another well-known line, Proverbs 3:5 - 6, encourages us to “trust... and not lean on your own understanding.”

In everyday terms, that might simply mean accepting that we won't always have all the answers - and that's okay.

For some, this trust is deeply rooted in faith in God. For others, it may be more about recognising that life often makes sense in hindsight. Moments that once felt like setbacks can later appear as turning points.

This doesn't mean everything happens for an obvious reason, or that difficulties are easy. But it can be reassuring to consider that we are not entirely adrift. There may be a direction to our lives that becomes clearer with time.

As we move into May - a season often associated with growth and new beginnings - it may be worth pausing to reflect. Perhaps the path you're on, however unclear it feels, is leading somewhere meaningful. And perhaps, in time, you'll be able to look back and see that more was taking shape than you first realised.

God Bless

Rev Richard

CHURCH RUNNING COSTS

In 2025 it cost approximately £1500 a week to keep St Mary's Church open and running. The deficit on the general account was in excess of £8,000 in 2025.

We are thankful to everyone who gives to the church, but currently giving is not covering our costs; we are around £180 a week short. Please keep supporting us as much as you can, and if you don't currently financially support St Mary's maybe you could think about it? If you can give some financial support, please contact the treasurer or any other church official.

GIFT DAY

Thank you so much to those who have returned their Gift Day donations. The total is almost £4,000; if you can take it over, please give a donation to the treasurer.

PRAYER BOOKS

A small number of prayer books are available for sponsorship at a cost of £12. If you are interested, please speak to the Treasurer.

MOTHERS' UNION

On Monday 11th May the Mothers' Union are on a trip to visit a church near Penrith followed by lunch at The Pot Place.

CHRISTIAN AID

A Christian Aid envelope for donations is enclosed with this bulletin to raise funds for this very worthy cause. Additional envelopes are available in church. They may be returned to church any time during this month.

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.

<p style="text-align: center;">WINDOWS APPEAL TARGET £500,000 TOTAL TO DATE – £190,458</p>
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The Windows Appeal total has increased thanks to collections from Wigton Infants School and the Baden-Powell Scouts services and the proceeds from the Border Concert Band Concert held recently.

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

The Annual Parochial Meeting took place on Tuesday 21st April in the Choir Vestry. After many years of service Martin Snape indicated that he would not be seeking reappointment as a churchwarden. We would like to thank him for his many years of service. At the Annual Meeting David Lomas, Sue Mattinson and Roger Peacock were elected as church wardens.

At the PCC Meeting that followed, David Shingler retired as the Vice Chair of the PCC and Jean Monkhouse was elected in his place. We would like to thank David for his many years' service as Vice Chair.

CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL

At the Annual Meeting the Electoral Roll Officer reported on the number on the Electoral Roll.

If you would like to be added to the Electoral Roll, you can make application to either Rev Richard or one of the churchwardens who will make the necessary arrangements.

ST MARY'S HOUSE GROUP

The House Group continues on Tuesday evenings. Copies of the programme are on the table at the back of church.

Christian Funerals

13th March Audrey Watson
30th March Dorothy Middleham

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

150 CLUB

The first drawing of the 150 Club for 2026 has been drawn. Numbers for the remaining draws are still available; see the Treasurer or Rev Richard for details.

COFFEE MORNING

A Community coffee morning will be held on Saturday 18th April 10.00 -11.30am. Proceeds to be shared between Wigton Baden Powell Scouts and St Mary's.

There will be a special service to celebrate St George's Day with the scouts at 3.00pm on Sunday 26th April.

TOTS CHURCH

Unfortunately, due to unforeseen circumstances there will be no TOTS Church on Friday 3rd April. It is hoped to resume in June.

ST MARY'S HOUSE GROUP

This summer we shall be looking 'behind the scenes' at the words of the Lord's Prayer. We meet each Tuesday at 7pm for an hour at the home of Joy and Maynard Hall. Anyone is welcome to come to join us. Copies of the programme are on the table at the back of church.

CONFIRMATION

A confirmation service is booked with Bishop Rob for Sunday 5th July 2026 at St Mary's, Wigton. Anyone who would like to be confirmed, adults or children, please contact Rev Richard.

CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

Children's Society boxes should be returned to church this month. Additional donations may be given to Jean Key or any church official.

CHARITIES

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

FLOWER FUND

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

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.

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!'

CHILDREN

The young people continue to meet each Sunday for their activities at the same time as the 9.30 am service. A warm welcome is extended to all children.

Holy Matrimony

7th September Scott Ethan Allison and Claire Elizabeth McKie
12th September Luke James Stewart and Lauren Rebecca Milburn

'Till death us do part

A CHURCH NEAR YOU

Electronic copies of this bulletin, our weekly pew sheet and how to contact the church and find out what is happening, along with a space to allow you to donate to our Windows Appeal, is available on our 'A Church near you' page. Just go to www.achurchnearyou.com and search for 'St Mary's Wigton'

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You can now give to St Mary's by TEXT - Send - **SMCW**
to 70331 to give £3
to 70970 to give £5
to 70191 to give £10

The text will be charged at your standard message rate.

FOR SALE

There are various faith-based greetings/bereavement cards, holding crosses, and faith pins on the table at the back of church. Please take a look - all profits go to Church funds.

BAPTISMS & WEDDINGS 2025/2026 - Are you thinking about a church wedding for 2025/2026 or looking to have your child baptised in 2025? Please contact Reverend Richard at the earliest opportunity to make sure we get your booking in the diary!
