

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 22th 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 March and April)

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

CALENDAR AND SPECIAL DAYS

SUNDAY 1ST MARCH SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

SUNDAY 8TH MARCH THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

SUNDAY 15TH MARCH FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT (Mothering Sunday)

SUNDAY 22TH MARCH FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

SUNDAY 29TH MARCH PALM SUNDAY

NB: BRITISH SUMMER TIME begins on 29th March

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 855

March 2026

FREE

From the Registers

Holy Baptism

105th February Joshua Major

'Born of water and the Spirit'

Christian Funerals

10th February Margaret Hollick

12th February John Brian Nixon

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

Reverend Richard writes....

Lent is a season that invites us to slow down, to look honestly at our lives, and to turn our hearts again toward God. In the busyness of daily routines, it is easy to drift - to live on the surface of things. Lent calls us deeper. It is a holy pause, a time to remember who we are and whose we are.

The forty days of Lent echo Jesus' forty days in the wilderness. Before beginning his public ministry, he stepped away from the crowds and faced silence, hunger, and temptation. In that desert place, he sought his Father. We, too, are invited into a kind of wilderness - not necessarily a physical one, but an inner space where distractions are quieter and God's voice can be heard more clearly.

Seeking God in Lent is not about spiritual heroics or gloomy self-denial. It is about relationship. When we pray, fast, and give, we are not trying to impress God; we are making room for God. Prayer opens our hearts. Fasting loosens the grip of habits and comforts that can dull our spiritual hunger. Generosity turns us outward in love, reflecting the self-giving heart of Christ.

This season gently asks: What is drawing me closer to God? What is pulling me away? Where do I need forgiveness, healing, or renewal?

As we journey toward Holy Week and Easter, may we allow Lent to shape us. May we seek God not only in church, but in Scripture, in quiet moments, in acts of kindness, and in the faces of those in need. And as we seek him, we trust his promise: when we draw near to God, he draws near to us.

God bless,

Reverend Richard

SERVICES DURING LENT

Sunday 6.30pm Evensong during Lent 2026

This year each evensong service during Lent will be fully sung with our choir and have a visiting preacher. Please do your best to come along to these services not just to support the choir and the preachers, but maybe even as your Lenten discipline for this year? Evensong is a beautiful service and it would be wonderful to have more people with us each week! You are welcome to bring along a friend too!

Sunday 1st March - The Ven Michael Everitt (Dean of Carlisle)

Sunday 8th March - Deanery Evensong with Deanery Choir
The Venerable Stewart Fyfe (Archdeacon of West Cumberland)

Sunday 15th March – Rev Eleanor Hancock (Retired Priest)

Sunday 22nd March – Matt Richards (Pioneer Curate)

Sunday 29th March – The Venerable Ruth Newton (Archdeacon of Carlisle)

CHURCH GIVING

Thank you to everyone who is in our giving scheme, your participation is very much appreciated. The state of the church finances for general purposes is starting to give concern. Since the covid epidemic the income for St Mary's has gradually declined due to inflation and the passing of some regular givers.

The 2025 accounts again show a deficit and the reserves are being seriously eroded due to the increases in the cost of keeping the church warm, the inflation increases and the parish giving to the diocese.

COFFEE MORNING/GIFT DAY

A coffee morning will be held on Saturday 14th March 10.00 -11.30 am. Proceeds will be for St Mary's. Gift Day will be on Mothering Sunday 15th March. There should be an envelope for the gift day with this bulletin, or at the back of church, for cash or cheque donations, which can be brought back to church at the coffee morning, around the weekend of 15th March, or as soon as possible. If you are a tax payer please tick the box on the envelope.

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>WINDOWS APPEAL TARGET £500,000 TOTAL TO DATE – £189,915</p>
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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.

MOTHERS' UNION

The next meeting of the MU is on Tuesday 3rd March at 2.00 pm. The speaker will be Ann Wodeman, Diocesan President.

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.

TOTS CHURCH

Unfortunately, due to unforeseen circumstances there will be no TOTS Church on Friday 6th March or 3rd April. It is hoped to resume in June.

CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

Children's Society boxes have been returned to church and the monies will be forwarded to the charity soon.

DEWODE

The usual DEWODE boxes for Lent can be found on the table at the back of church for you to collect.
