

# PARISH OF ST. JOHN HENRY NEWMAN MORECAMBE

## Parish Clergy

### Parish Priest:

Fr Darren Carden

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## Parish office admin:

**St Mary's, Matthias Street,  
Morecambe, LA4 5JR**

**Parish website:** [www.sjhn.org](http://www.sjhn.org)

**Office Tel:** 01524 410501

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**Parish office:** Jackie & Kerry

### Email:

[sjhn.morecambe@lrcd.org.uk](mailto:sjhn.morecambe@lrcd.org.uk)

Parish office hours: Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 9 am till 12 Noon

## 18<sup>TH</sup> February 2024 – First Sunday in Lent

**GOSPEL REFLECTION:** On the first Sunday of Lent, the Gospel reading in each Lectionary cycle is about Jesus' temptation in the desert. This event in the life of Jesus is reported in each of the Synoptic Gospels—Matthew, Mark, and Luke—but it is not found in John's Gospel. This year we read Mark's account of this event.

Compared to the Gospels of Matthew and Luke, the details throughout Mark's narrative are sparse. This is evident in Mark's account of Jesus' temptation in the desert. Mark tells us only that Jesus was led into the desert by the Spirit and that for 40 days he was tempted by Satan. The Gospels of Matthew and Luke explain that Jesus fasted while in the desert, that Satan presented him with three temptations, and that Jesus refused each one, quoting Scripture. Only the Gospels of Matthew and Mark report that angels ministered to Jesus at the end of his time in the desert.

In each of the Synoptic Gospels, the temptation of Jesus follows his baptism by John the Baptist. In Mark's Gospel, we are told that Jesus went into the desert immediately after his baptism, led by the Spirit. Jesus' public ministry in Galilee begins after his temptation in the desert. Mark's Gospel makes a connection between the arrest of John the Baptist and the beginning of Jesus' ministry. Jesus' preaching about the Kingdom of God is in continuity with the preaching of John the Baptist, but it is also something new. As Jesus announces it, the Kingdom of God is beginning; the time of the fulfilment of God's promises is here.

The fact that Jesus spent 40 days in the desert is significant. This recalls the 40 years that the Israelites wandered in the desert after being led from slavery in Egypt. The prophet Elijah also journeyed in the desert for 40 days and nights, making his way to Horeb, the mountain of God, where he was also attended to by an angel of the Lord. Remembering the significance of these events, we also set aside 40 days for the season of Lent.

In Mark's Gospel, the desert marks the beginning of Jesus' battle with Satan; the ultimate test will be in Jesus' final hours on the cross. In a similar way, our Lenten observances are only a beginning, a preparation for and a reinforcement of our ongoing struggle to resist the temptations we face in our lives. During Lent, we are led by the Holy Spirit to remember the vows of Baptism in which we promised to reject sin and to follow Jesus. Just as Jesus was ministered to by the angels, God also supports us in our struggle against sin and temptation. We succeed because Jesus conquered sin once and for all in his saving death on the cross.

## MASS INTENTIONS:

Saturday 17/02	St Mary's St Patrick's	10.00am 6.00pm	Alan Derham RIP Little John and baby Carmen Brannigan RIP
Sunday 18/02	St Mary's St Mary's	8.30am 10.30am	Special intention EMP For a successful operation (MRC)
Tuesday 20/02	St. Patrick's	10.00am	Colleen Murphy Hodman
Wednesday 21/02	St. Mary's St Mary's	10.00am 7.00pm	Maria Ruscillo Get Well Mary Bullock RIP
Thursday 22/02	St Mary's	12.10pm	Alan Edward Anderson Requiem Mass
Friday 23/02	St Patrick's	10.00am	My family and I
Saturday 24/02	St Mary's St Patrick's	10.00am 6.00pm	Angela Riley (RIP) People of the Parish
Sunday 25/02	St Mary's St Mary's	8.30am 10.30am	Anne Quain RIP Ken Ormrod RIP

## FEAST DAYS:

**Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February** is the **Feast of the Chair of St. Peter the Apostle**

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK:** Maria Ruscillo, Irene Benson, Archbishop Patrick Kelly, Dean Brownlee, Davina Tetteh, Terry Bridge, Edgardo Hecate, Dee Rowley, Mary Walsh, Pam (Mary) Clark, Rev Jim Murphy, Winnie Coupe, Zoe Jarman, Alan Anderson, Karen Guerrero, Win Cowell, Tony Manley, Jennifer Doherty and the sick and housebound in the parish and those in local hospitals and nursing homes.

## LATELY DEAD:

Alan Edward Anderson, Edward Quinn

## FUNERALS:

Alan Edward Anderson, Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2024, 12.10pm, St. Marys Church followed by interment at Torrisholme Cemetery for 1.15pm.

Edward Quinn, Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> February 2.30 p.m., St Mary's Church followed by Committal at Lancaster and Morecambe Crematorium at 3.30 p.m.

**1<sup>ST</sup> ANNIVERSARIES:** Please pray for Marilyn Parry and all those whose first anniversaries occur between 18<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> February and all those names on the anniversaries' lists for February which are on the noticeboards in each church porch.

## EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:

Wednesday 9:30 a.m. till 9:55 a.m., followed by 10.00 a.m. Mass, Thursday 11:00 am till 12 noon followed by the 12:10 p.m. Mass and Saturday 10:30 a.m. till 11:00 am

**WEEKLY COLLECTION:** £1287.07

**ATTENDANCE:** 296

# PARISH OF ST. JOHN HENRY NEWMAN MORECAMBE

## PARISH NEWS

### **GIFT AID: IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR TAXPAYERS:**

We are just about to place the order for the gift aid envelopes. If you are a taxpayer and have not signed a gift aid declaration please do so as the parish will receive 25p from the government for every £1 you give, this does not cost you anymore money. Please let us know if you would like a set of gift aid envelopes for your weekly contributions to the church. Alternatively, you can pay your contribution directly into the parish bank account, all forms are available at the back of each church. Also, if you are no longer a taxpayer and have previously signed a gift aid declaration, please let the office know.

**THE GOOD SHEPHERD CHURCH:** as announced last weekend the church will be open for private prayer from 12 noon until 3pm Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2024. The following week, Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2024, 10.00am Mass will be celebrated in the church after which the church will remain open until 3.00pm for private prayer. Saturday the 24<sup>th</sup> February 2024 will be the last opportunity to visit the church before its closure for worship on the 28<sup>th</sup> February 2024 in accordance with the Decree issued by the Bishop.

**RITE OF ELECTION:** This weekend those candidates wishing to become Catholics at Easter attended the Rite of Election at St Peter's Cathedral, Lancaster. Please keep these candidates in your prayers as they continue their preparations during Lent.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION:** We will shortly be commencing the First Holy Communion programme. Please go to the website (<https://www.sjhn.org/forms>) and complete the Communion Form if you would like your child to make their First Holy Communion this year. This week is the last opportunity for you to register you child for this the programme. **No further application will be accepted after Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2024.**

**SENDING YOUR CHILDREN TO OTHER FAITH SCHOOLS NON-CATHOLIC HIGH SHOOLS:** as I have not been approached by any families notifying me that they intend to send their child to a non-Catholic high school I will not be signing any forms for admissions for September 2025.

**THANK YOU:** Thank you to our catechists who prepare members of our congregation for the sacraments in such a meaningful and thoughtful way.

### **EVENTS:**

**TABLETOP SALE:** A tabletop sale will take place in St Mary's Parish Hall on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2024 after 10.30 a.m. Mass.

**LENT SOUP LUNCHESES:** The social committee will be serving soup and bread each Thursday in the parish hall following the 12:10 Mass during lent, except for the first Thursday of the month when the normal SVP lunch will be on.

**QUIZ NIGHT:** Please note that the Parish Quiz Night has been postponed. It will be rearranged for later in the year. We are giving you more time for revision!

Day	Time	Event	Location
Every Sunday	After 10:30am Mass	<b>Tea and Coffee</b>	St Mary's Parish Hall
Every Monday	10.00am-11:30am	<b>Playgroup</b>	St Mary's Parish Hall
Every Tuesday	10.00am	<b>Legion of Mary</b>	St Patrick's
Every Wednesday	12noon-2.00pm	<b>Warm Welcome</b>	St Mary's Parish Hall
Every Friday	2.00pm-3.00pm	<b>Lectio Divina</b>	St Mary's Presbytery
Monday 19th February	10:30am-12noon	<b>Cuppa and Chat</b>	St Patrick's
Monday 26th February	1.00-3.00pm	<b>Bereavement Group</b>	St Mary's Parish Hall
Tuesday 27th February	1:30pm	<b>Bingo</b>	St Patrick's

## OTHER EVENTS:

**CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY:** Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February is a Day of Prayer for the Needy and Hungry of the World. This is also the day we are asked to fast and to contribute the money we save to the CAFOD appeal. The envelopes are available at the back of the church. Please return these envelopes over the weekend of the 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> February 2024.

**DAY OF RENEWAL:** This will take place at St Clare's, Fulwood, led by Gary Stephens, leader of the Prince of Peace Community and the CEO of the New Dawn, Walsingham on Saturday 2nd March 2024 from 10.00am to 4.00pm. Further details are on the poster on the Notice Board.

### THE POPE'S INTENTION FOR FEBRUARY:

FOR THE TERMINALLY ILL

We pray that those with a terminal illness, and their families, receive the necessary physical and spiritual care and accompaniment.

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

*Your ways, Lord, are faithfulness and love  
For those who keep your covenant.*