

PARISH OF ST. JOHN HENRY NEWMAN MORECAMBE

Parish Clergy

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Parish office hours: Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 9 a.m. till 12 Noon

14th January 2024 – Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

GOSPEL REFLECTION: Although the liturgical season of Ordinary Time begins this week, today's reading continues with the celebration of the Baptism of the Lord, which concludes the Christmas season. Today's reading from the Gospel according to John immediately follows John the Baptist's testimony about Jesus and his identification of Jesus as the Lamb of God. Having been baptised by John, Jesus begins to gather followers. The first followers sought out Jesus because of the testimony and witness of John the Baptist.

We are familiar with the title that John the Baptist uses for Jesus - the Lamb of God. We hear it weekly at the fraction rite during Mass. For those who heard John the Baptist, however, this title recalled key themes from the Old Testament. It alludes to the paschal lamb offered as a sacrifice when God freed the Israelites from slavery in Egypt, the event that is commemorated by the Jewish Passover celebration. The designation also recalls the prophet Isaiah's description of the suffering servant of Israel. In using this name for Jesus, John the Baptist predicts Jesus' passion and death and the new interpretation of Passover that will begin with Jesus' Last Supper.

We learn in today's reading how Jesus' first followers were gathered. The first two, Andrew and another man, were followers of John the Baptist. After hearing John's testimony, they became followers of Jesus. During their time with Jesus, the details of which are not specified, Andrew and the other follower came to believe that Jesus was the Messiah. Andrew then brings his brother, Simon, to Jesus. Immediately, Jesus gave Simon a new name, calling him *Peter*, which means "rock" in Greek. The renaming of Simon to Peter is reported in all four of the Gospels.

In the exchange between Andrew, the other disciple, and Jesus, we see an example of the usual pattern for first-century Jewish rabbinical schools. Jews sought out rabbis and established themselves as disciples of a particular rabbi. Jesus appears to have been unique in that he sought out individuals, inviting them to be his followers. In the passage that follows, John's Gospel tells us how Jesus took the initiative in calling Philip and Nathanael.

Jesus asks Andrew and the other disciple, "What are you looking for?" This is a telling question, and one that we might often ask of ourselves. John the Baptist testified to Jesus' identity, the Lamb of God, using the framework of the Old Testament. Andrew, Simon, and the other first disciples were looking for the Messiah, whom they also came to know as the Son of God. What do we look for and what do we find in Jesus?

MASS INTENTIONS:

Saturday 13/01	St Mary's St Patrick's	10.00am 6.00pm	Frank Dunne RIP Pat and Frances Margey
Sunday 14/01	St Mary's St Mary's	8.30am 10.30am	People of the Parish Allan Davis RIP
Tuesday 16/01	St. Patrick's	10.00am	William and Margaret Turner RIP
Wednesday 17/01	St. Mary's St Mary's	10.00am 7.00pm	Terry and Mary Bridge and deceased relatives NO MASS
Thursday 18/01	St Mary's	12.10pm	Smylie and Jordan family
Friday 19/01	St Patrick's	10.00am	Muriel Cadan and family
Saturday 20/01	St Mary's St Patrick's	10.00am 6.00pm	Beryl Woods and family Megan Clifton RIP
Sunday 21/01	St Mary's St Mary's	8.30am 10.30am	Alan Parry RIP Joan Margaret Rowlands Get well

FEAST DAYS:

Wednesday 17th January is the **Feast of St. Anthony**

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK: 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, Deacon John McCann, and the sick and housebound in the parish and those in local hospitals and nursing homes.

LATELY DEAD: Frances Maria Chester, Maureen McGuire, Linday Purcell

FUNERALS: Frances Maria Chester, 29th January 2024 at St Marys Church, at 11:30 a.m. and burial at Torrisholme at 12:30 p.m.

1ST ANNIVERSARIES: Please pray for June Margaret Kitchen and those whose first anniversaries occur between 14th and 21st January and all those names on the anniversaries' lists for January 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: £1290.89

ATTENDANCE: 251

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PARISH NEWS

WELCOME TO OUR PARISH: If you are new to the area, or are visiting us just for the weekend, you are very welcome! Please introduce yourself to Fr Darren or Deacon John. Please could new parish members and parish members who have not yet done so complete a parish registration form. There are also gift aid forms and bank standing order forms available at the back of Church.

TEA AND COFFEE: Tea and coffee are available in the church hall after the 10:30 am Mass on Sunday. Why not come along, have a chat and a cuppa and meet new friends? Everyone is very welcome!

HOLIDAY: Please note that I will be away on holiday from Sunday 7th January 2024 until Friday 26th January 2024. We welcome Monsignor Verity who will be covering the Masses whilst I am away. Deacon Stephen Pendlebury will be covering any funerals and will deal with arrangements and will assist at any funeral Masses. Please note there will be no Wednesday evening Masses whilst I am away.

ALTAR SERVERS: Congratulations to our altar servers who were presented with medals during the 10.30 a.m. Mass last Sunday. Hayley received a bronze medal and was enrolled as a server. Alice, Adam, John, Thomas, George and Ted received silver medals for 10 years as altar servers and were enrolled as Members of the Fraternity of St Stephen. Thank you to all our servers who serve with such reverence and dedication.

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.

EVENTS:

Day	Time	Event	Location
Every Sunday	After 10:30am Mass	Tea and Coffee	St Mary's Parish Hall
Every Monday	10.00am-11:30am	Playgroup	St Mary's Parish Hall
Every Tuesday	10.00am	Legion of Mary	St Patrick's
Every Wednesday	12noon-2pm	Warm Welcome	St Mary's Parish Hall
Every Friday	2.00pm-3.00pm	Lectio Divina	St Mary's Presbytery
Monday 8 th January	10:30am-12noon	Cuppa and Chat	St Patrick's
Monday 15 th January	1.00-3.00 pm	Bereavement Group	St Mary's Parish Hall
Tuesday 16 th January	1:30pm	Bingo	St Patrick's

SAVE THE DATE - QUIZ NIGHT – Friday 2nd February 2024: Students from the OLCC Uganda Project are holding a quiz night at St Patrick’s Church on Friday 2nd February, starting at 7 pm. They will be planning some interactive fun rounds as well as more traditional ones. Tickets are £4 to include light refreshments. They will be available from Ali Bates at St Patrick’s or Pat Ormesby at St Mary’s in January. You can also pay ‘on the door’ but it would be useful to let us know numbers. All proceeds from the evening will be used to support our Ugandan Partner Communities. Thank you for your support.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 2024: Next year’s Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes will take place from 23rd to 30th July 2024. The Youth Section will travel by coach with an evening and a day sightseeing in Paris 22nd July – 1st August 2024. For further information please check out the Diocesan Pilgrimage website: www.lancasterlourdes.co.uk or email: operationsdirector@lancasterlourdes.co.uk For the youth trip please email: youth@lancasterlourdes.co.uk

CAFOD: CAFOD, the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development, are looking for people to give some time and join them in their mission. Could you help in our parish, inspiring our church to help build a better world or by visiting our local schools? Or raise a voice and campaign for justice or perhaps speak for CAFOD throughout the area? Could you support local volunteers or share your admin or people skills to help CAFOD keep costs low? Training and support are provided. See cafod.org.uk/Volunteer for more information or get in touch with lancaster@cafod.org.uk Or could you take part in The Big Lent Walk? cafod.org.uk/walk”

We have published our Annual Report which can be found on our website. It contains features on our core values; hope, dignity, compassion and solidarity along with a summary of our income and expenditure, an update of our key commitments and stories from our work around the world and here in England and Wales.

THE POPE’S INTENTION FOR JANUARY:

FOR THE GIFT OF DIVERSITY IN THE CHURCH

Let us pray that the Holy Spirit helps us recognise the gift of different charisms within the Christian community, and to discover the richness of different ritual traditions in the heart of the Catholic Church.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

*Here I am, Lord!
I come to do your will.*