

## PARISH OF ST. JOHN HENRY NEWMAN MORECAMBE

### Parish Clergy

#### Parish Priest:

Fr Darren Carden

**Email:** ppsjhnparish@gmail.com

**Office Tel:** 01524 410501

**Mobile phone:** 07305228729

**Deacon:** Rev. John McCann

Tel: 01524 421795



### Parish office admin:

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

**Parish website:** www.sjhn.org

**Office Tel:** 01524 410501

**Mobile phone:** 07305228729

**Parish office:** Jackie & Kerry

**Email:** sjhnparish@gmail.com

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

## 4<sup>TH</sup> February 2024 – Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

### GOSPEL REFLECTION:

Today we continue to read from Mark's Gospel, learning more about the ministry of Jesus. Jesus cured Simon's mother-in-law, and she immediately began to serve Jesus and his disciples. Jesus also cured many others who were brought to him, healing their illnesses and driving out demons. As we will see throughout Mark's Gospel, Jesus did not permit the demons to speak because they knew his identity and would have revealed it to those who were present.

On the morning after this busy day, Jesus retreated in prayer, but was pursued by Simon and others who brought news that many people were looking for him. At this point in Mark's Gospel, we begin to see a distinct role for the inner circle of Jesus' disciples - they act as intermediaries between Jesus and the people. Jesus reports to his disciples that they need to leave Capernaum to preach in other places.

Today's Gospel completes a picture of Jesus' ministry: preaching, curing the sick, driving out demons, and then moving on to continue this work in another place. Mark's Gospel tells us that Jesus did this throughout Galilee.

Jesus' compassion and healing of the sick is a sign of the Kingdom of God. The Church continues to extend Christ's healing presence to others in its ministry to the sick. In the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, the Church prays for spiritual and physical healing, forgiveness of sins, and comfort for those who are suffering from illness.

In today's Gospel we also notice the importance of **prayer** in Jesus' daily life. Jesus rose early in the morning, removed himself from the crowds, and went to a deserted place to pray. When the disciples found him, he told them that it was time to move on. We believe that in his prayers Jesus found guidance and direction from God. We also bring our decision-making to God in prayer, asking for his guidance and direction in our lives.

## MASS INTENTIONS:

Saturday 3/02	St Mary's St Patrick's	10.00am 6.00pm	Boyle and Jack White and family Philip Milner RIP
Sunday 4/02	St Mary's St Mary's	8.30am 10.30am	Special Intention Anne Quain RIP
Tuesday 6/02	St. Patrick's	10.00am	Juan Santiago RIP
Wednesday 7/02	St. Mary's St Mary's	10.00am 7.00pm	Sister K Hopkins Mary Fitzgerald Get Well
Thursday 8/02	St Mary's	12.10pm	Mary and Danny McKeague and family
Friday 9/02	St Patrick's	10.00am	For a full recovery
Saturday 10/02	St Mary's St Patrick's	10.00am 6.00pm	Seamus Boyle and family People of the Parish
Sunday 11/02	St Mary's St Mary's	8.30am 10.30am	Paul Hope RIP Christopher and Daniel Lambert RIP

## FEAST DAYS:

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February** is the memorial of **St. Agatha**

**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February** is the memorial of **Ss. Paul Miki and Companions**

**Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February** is the **Prayer Day for 'Victims of Human Trafficking and those who work to combat it'**

**Saturday 10 February** is the memorial of **St. Scholastica**

Next Sunday is the **World Day for the Sick** and the **Day for the Unemployed.**

**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:

Maureen Togneri, Father Joe Smith.

## FUNERALS:

Maureen Togneri, Requiem Mass Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2024 at St Mary's Church, at 11.30 a.m. followed by cremation at Lancaster and Morecambe Crematorium at 12:30 p.m.

**1<sup>ST</sup> ANNIVERSARIES:** Please pray for those whose first anniversaries occur between 4<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> February and all those names on the anniversaries' lists for January and 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:** £1,214.17

**ATTENDANCE:** 261

# PARISH OF ST. JOHN HENRY NEWMAN MORECAMBE

## 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.

**FR JOE SMITH:** We were sad to hear of the death of the Reverend Canon Joseph Smith who died on Friday 26th January, in hospital. As you all know Father Joe was living in our parish following his retirement from the Leeds Diocese in 2013. He was a talented priest who had a long ministry of retreat and spiritual direction and was a former director of the Upholland Northern Institute. His funeral will be held in Leeds. May he rest in peace.

**RITE OF ELECTION:** This year the Rite of Election will be held on Saturday 17th February at 2pm in St Peter's Cathedral, Lancaster. All adults being received into the church or to be baptised, are warmly invited to attend along with their sponsor, family members, Parish Priest and parishioners. As a parish we have six people currently on the RCIA programme hoping to become Catholics at Easter, please do attend the Rite of Election in support of those preparing.

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE YEAR AHEAD:** If you would like a Mass said for a relative or friend for a particular date in the coming year now is the time to make your request. We have the diary ready in the parish office to save the date. Please write the Mass intentions on the front of the envelopes provided and state a preference of when and where you would like the Mass to be said, if necessary. Please also provide contact details should we need to contact you. Envelopes are available at the back of the church.

**BOOKING THE PARISH HALL:** Do you need to hire a hall for a special event? St Mary's Church Hall is available for hire for children's parties, family parties, funeral wakes and other functions. The hall can be booked on a regular basis or for a single event. If you wish to book the hall please contact Denise Woodhouse on 01524 422453. Very competitive prices!

**PLAYGROUP:** Every Monday 10am -11.30am in St Mary's Church Hall. There are lots of activities for the children and singing at the end of the session. The cost is £2 which includes a snack. Tea and coffee are available for adults. Everyone is very welcome. We look forward to seeing you there!

**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!

**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.

## **SENDING YOUR CHILDREN TO OTHER FAITH SCHOOLS NON-CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOLS:**

Please, if you are intending to send your child to a non-catholic faith school make this known to me as soon as possible by using the form available in the sacristy. If you have not made me aware of this well in advance of the need for your form to be signed I will not be prepared to sign any forms in the future.

**ONLINE IN REMEMBRANCE PAGE ON OUR WEBSITE:** There is an online Remembrance Page on our website for anyone who would like their loved ones remembered on the anniversary of their death. As the anniversary occurs the information of your loved ones will be moved to the top of the page. If you would like your loved ones remembered in this way, please provide a photo (if desired), name of the deceased and date of death to the Parish office email [sjhnparish@gmail.com](mailto:sjhnparish@gmail.com). Any donations are welcome to help with the administration of the website.

**THANK YOU:** Thank you to the administration team volunteers who work so hard behind the scenes in supporting the running of our parish.

## **EVENTS:**

**DATE FOR YOUR DIARY:** Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2024. The Social Committee will be serving pancakes. This will take place after Mass which will be at **11.00 a.m. at St Mary's** church (please note change of time and church). Please come and join us. We would love to see you there. £1 per person for tea/coffee and pancakes.

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 Wednesday	12noon-2pm	<b>Warm Welcome</b>	St Mary's Parish Hall
Every Friday	2.00pm-3.00pm	<b>Lectio Divina</b>	St Mary's Presbytery
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> February	10:30am-12noon	<b>Cuppa and Chat</b>	St Patrick's
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> February	1.00-3.00 pm	<b>Bereavement Group</b>	St Mary's Parish Hall
Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> February	1:30pm	<b>Bingo</b>	St Patrick's

Please note that there will be no Legion of Mary on 6<sup>th</sup> February

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## OTHER EVENTS:

**STELLA MARIS – LANCASTER MASS:** Catholic maritime charity Stella Maris (formerly known as Apostleship of the Sea) will be holding a special Mass for seafarers and fishers, to be celebrated by Bishop Paul Swarbrick, on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> February at 12.15pm at The Cathedral Church of St Peter, Balmoral Road, Lancaster LA1 3B. It will be followed by a reception. We are delighted to invite you and your parishioners to this special occasion. We have not held a Mass of this kind in Lancaster Diocese before – so we are keen to extend our invitation to local parish communities such as yours. If you and/or some of your parishioners can join us, please confirm attendance by phone: 0207 901 1931, or email to [Roland.Hayes@stellamarismail.org](mailto:Roland.Hayes@stellamarismail.org)

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

**GOOD COUNSEL NETWORK:** On Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> February is the Vigil of the Feast Our Lady of Lourdes, please pray and fast for the end of abortion in this Country. Through God's grace we have seen thousands of Mothers in our counselling centre continue their pregnancies in very difficult circumstances. Please help us to help save lives with your prayers, fasting and support. [www.GoodCounselNetwork.com](http://www.GoodCounselNetwork.com)"



ST. AGATHA

February 5th



ST. PAUL MIKI  
AND COMPANIONS

MARTYRS

February 6th

## **Prayer Day for 'Victims of Human Trafficking and those who work to combat it'.**



The 8<sup>th</sup> February marks the International Day of Prayer for Victims of Human Trafficking.

Designated by the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace and the International Union of Superiors General, the day invites us to advocacy and remembrance for victims and survivors of forced labour and commercial sex trafficking. The day of prayer and awareness coincides with the feast of St. Josephine Bakhita who herself was kidnapped as a child and sold into slavery. At age 27, having been sold multiple times, St. Josephine was awarded her freedom in an Italian court and became a Canossian Daughter of Charity. In the company of saints, with the church and all people of goodwill, let us pray for survivors, victims and all people enmeshed in the systems of human trafficking across the world.

- For survivors of slavery, that God guide them to a path down which they might find wholeness and peace. Through the intercession of Saint Josephine Bakhita, patron saint of human trafficking survivors, we pray to the Lord. Lord, hear our prayer.
- For all of those children, women and men currently trapped in situations of slavery that God will help to liberate them from their chains. Through the intercession of Saint Peter Claver, patron saint of slaves, we pray to the Lord. Lord, hear our prayer.
- For all those vulnerable to being trafficked, especially immigrants and refugees, orphans and runaways that God give them safe passage and safe homes. Through the intercession of Saints Frances Xavier Cabrini, Gerolamo Emiliani and Dymphana, we pray to the Lord. Lord, hear our prayer. For all people, that we may come to believe in and act upon our unity as one family and devote ourselves to honoring the inherent dignity of each person. Through the intercession of Mary, we pray to the Lord. Lord, hear our prayer.

**POPE FRANCIS**  
**Human trafficking 'disfigures dignity'.**

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## World Day of the Sick

### Commemorate World Day of the Sick

People around the world take the time to pray for the sick and for those who work very hard to alleviate the sufferings of the sick on this day. Faith organizations mark this day especially to provide the sick with medicines, food, and spiritual guidance.

### Public Life

World Day of the Sick is not an official holiday so businesses, schools and government offices are open.

### About World Day of the Sick

Pope John Paul II initiated the day in 1992 to encourage people to pray for those who suffer from illness and for their caregivers. The Pope himself had been diagnosed with Parkinson's a year before, in 1991, and it is considered that his own illness was impetus for his designation of the day. World Day of the Sick was first observed on February 11, 1993. February 11 is also the Catholic Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, which a name is given to the Virgin Mary in honour of the apparitions that were said to have been seen in and around Lourdes, France, by a young girl called Bernadette Soubirous. The Church canonized Bernadette as a saint several years later.

### Did You Know?

Pope Benedict XVI declared his decision to resign from his post as the Pope on this day in 2013. He cited his failing health as the reason behind his decision.

## Day of Prayer for the Unemployed

The last Sunday before the start of Lent, is commonly reserved as a day of Prayer for the Unemployed. The Day of Prayer for the Unemployed was organised by Church Action on Poverty. They have recently renamed their day as Poverty Action Sunday. Caritas-Social Action is the agency in the Catholic Church which acts an umbrella for many diocesan and local organisations concerned with poverty and other social issues.

*O God, the source of human dignity,  
in your image every person is fashioned  
and by your Son all people are redeemed.*

*Make us honour the work of your hands,  
that we may reverence you in those  
whom the world considers least  
and serve you in all whom society neglects.*



Prayer of St John Henry Newman

**The Mission of My Life**

God has created me  
To do Him some definite service.  
He has committed some work to me  
which He has not committed to another.  
I have my mission.  
I may never know what it is in this life.  
But I shall be told in the next.  
I am a link in a chain,  
a bond of connection between persons.  
He has not created me for nothing.  
I shall do good, I shall do His work.  
Therefore, I will trust Him.  
Whatever, wherever I am, I cannot be  
thrown away.  
If I am in sickness, my sickness may  
serve Him  
If I am in sorrow, my sorrow may  
serve Him  
He does nothing in vain, He knows  
what He is about.  
He may take away my friends. He  
may throw me among strangers,  
He may make me feel desolate, make  
my spirits sink.  
Hide my future from me—  
still He knows what He is about.

**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:***

*Praise the Lord who heals the broken hearted.*