

NW WEEKLY

The Weekly Pewsheet of the North Westmorland Parishes

Welcome

...to our youngest congregation member, Emma Keogh, attending Morland this morning with her family and friends for baptism.

St Lawrence Morland Major Renovation

As you may know, a committed group has been working for some time on a major renovation for St Lawrence, Morland. We are now in a position to show you what is being planned and to invite your participation.

The **community consultation** will take place in the Supper Room at Morland Village Hall on Saturday 28th April from 2.00 - 7.30pm. All welcome.

Rogation Walk

This is a traditional walk, asking God's blessing on our crops. There will be a walk for all the parishes on May 6th, meeting at King's Meaburn Village Hall at 2.00 pm. There will be scope for a longer or a shorter walk, and we will end with a cup of tea at the Village Hall. Please let David Jones know if you plan to join us: david@newbyendfarm.co.uk.

Ninekirks Evensong

Spring Evensong at Ninekirks at 3.00pm on Sunday 22nd April. Please ring Sarah Harden 01768 891913 if you can't manage the 20 min walk across the fields.



About Today..

The Great Fifty Days of Eastertide form a single festival period in which the tone of joy created at the Easter Vigil is sustained through the following seven weeks, as the Church celebrates the gloriously risen Christ.

Early Christians gave the name Pentecost to this whole fifty-day span of rejoicing, ('this most joyful period'). In those places where the custom of lighting the Easter Candle at the beginning of Easter is followed, the lit Candle stands prominently in church for all the Eastertide services. The Alleluia appears frequently in liturgical speech and song, and white or gold vestments and decorations emphasise the joy and brightness of the season.

On the fortieth day there has from the late fourth century been a particular celebration of Christ's ascension. He commissions his disciples to continue his work, he promises the gift of the Holy Spirit, and then he is no longer among them in the flesh. The ascension is therefore closely connected with the theme of mission. The arrival of the promised gift of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost completes and crowns the Easter Festival.

Today, however, our focus remains near the start of the story. In our first reading, there is astonishment when Peter and John heal a well-known disabled beggar in the Jerusalem Temple. Peter is required to give an explanation! And our Gospel reading takes us back even earlier, to the disciples' astonishment as Jesus appears before them, just as they receive news of his appearance of the Road to Emmaus.



For your prayers

- Emma Keogh and Willow Pickfold, being baptised in our churches today - for their growth in faith and for her parents & godparents.
- Those who are bereaved at this time.
- Those preparing for marriage, especially Ryan Blenkinship and Katie Hoggarth, being married at Crosby on 28th April.
- Our Annual Parochial Church Meetings taking place this month.
- The people of Syria, suffering from the conflict and the leaders of the world.
- The Christians of the Middle East.

From our calendar of prayer:

- In the Anglican Communion: The Church of Ireland and The Most Revd Richard Lionel Clarke, Archbishop of Armagh and Primate of all Ireland and Metropolitan.
- Our Diocese: This month we pray for Brampton Deanery. Today, we pray for every person gathering in our churches across the Deanery today - for minds and hearts to be open to God's Word as it is read and taught.
- Bishop James, Baptism Service at St Bridget, Brigham.

Today's Readings

Acts 3.12-19 (Peter addresses an astonished crowd in the Temple who have just witnessed Peter & John healing a beggar in the name of Jesus)

31 When Peter saw the crowds, he addressed the people, 'You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? ¹³The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. ¹⁴But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, ¹⁵and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. ¹⁶And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

17 'And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. ¹⁸In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. ¹⁹Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out."

Luke 24.36b-48 (Jesus appears to the disciples, just as they receive news of his appearance on the Road to Emmaus)

While they were talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you.' ³⁷They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. ³⁸He said to them, 'Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.' ⁴⁰And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. ⁴¹While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, 'Have you anything here to eat?' ⁴²They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³and he took it and ate in their presence.

44 Then he said to them, 'These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.' ⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶and he said to them, 'Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things.

Clergy Movement

You may have heard that Revd Sarah Lunn is leaving her post as Rector of Heart of Eden after 11 years. She has been appointed to a post in Newcastle Diocese. There will be a farewell and celebration of her ministry at St Lawrence, Appleby on Sunday 27 May at 4.00pm.

