

ST. MARY'S CHURCH WREAY

May 2026 Sponsored by Sherry & Stuart Cuthell

May Services

3rd May	11.00am	Holy Communion
10th May	11.00am	Morning Worship
17th May	11.00am	Holy Communion
24th May	11.00am	Morning Worship
31st May	11.00am	Informal Worship

Dear Friends,

The critic reviewing the first episode of the sixth series of BBC's Race across the World was extravagant in praise for a show which features carefully selected couples embarking on a journey of exploration. I was an occasional, sceptical viewer of the first series. I am now a reluctant convert. I enjoy the challenges and the reactions to adversity as well as the celebrations of achievements against the odds. And the scenery is often stunning. One of the contestants in the current series observed, after avoiding elimination, "by the end of the race we'll be different people".

The BBC's Pilgrimage is now in its eighth series. It is gentler, there is no competition, no jeopardy and the stunning scenery is often British (and sometimes damp). This is a multi-faith, little faith, no faith exploration full of fascinating conversations in places where many have pilgrimaged before.

At the heart of both TV shows is the interplay between the physical journey and the inner journey. These journeys seem to be interdependent, and the shows imply the potential for the subsequent journey of life to be affected by the experiences and insights gained on these journeys.

The journey is widely used as a metaphor for change in secular and faith communities. One of the Christian uses of the metaphor is the movement of a person, or perhaps more often a group of people, from oppression to freedom.

Luke's gospel contains a freedom song which concludes with these words:

'In the tender compassion of our God the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace.'

At a time of awful conflict at home and abroad, leaders of the worldwide church are commending this way of peace. We should pray with them that light will break into the darkness and that all feet will embark on the journey of peace..

Derek

6th May: St Mary's APCM

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting for St Mary's will be held at 7pm on Wednesday 6th May in the Sarah Losh Heritage Centre. All are welcome to attend.

12th May:

Stoneraise, Wreay & District WI

The May WI meeting will take place at 2pm on Tuesday 12th May in Wreay Village Hall when there will be a talk about the North Air Ambulance. The competition will be a postcard.

28th May: Book Launch

'A journey through my past' by David Weston.
Thursday 28th May 7.30pm at Cakes & Ale in Carlisle. David Weston's powerful new memoir looks back on his 24 years as a Benedictine monk and abbot and explores what led him there and how it impacted on his second life as a husband and father. Published by Bookcase 1st May, £18. David will be in conversation with his wife, Helen, in a session chaired by Steve Matthews. Entrance is free and a complimentary glass of prosecco or juice will be served.

27th June: Let there be light!

The Friends of St Mary's Church 2026 Event will be a celebration of the restoration of the west gable windows at St Mary's Church Wreay. All are welcome to take part whether a signed up Friend or not.

Saturday 27th June

9.30am-	Wreay Village Hall
5.00pm	Make your own stained glass panel £60 including all materials
7.00pm	St Mary's Church Talk: the history of the windows
7.45pm	Wreay Village Hall Refreshments Film & Talk: the window restoration Free admission

For further details contact Raymond Whittaker on 07850004473 or raymondwhittaker53@gmail.com.

Interregnum

If you require the services of the clergy for baptisms, weddings or funerals or for pastoral visits during the interregnum please call the parish office on 07720566610 and leave a message or email parishofficedalston@gmail.com or contact a churchwarden - Richard Dixon or Libby Kelly.

Champion Brodie Stephenson

Congratulations to Brodie Stephenson of Wreay for becoming the 65kg Ladies English Senior Elite Champion. A convincing winner in the judges' decision at the finals in Derby on 18th March.



Chapel Hill Solar Farm

Residents may be aware that a solar development is being explored on approximately 180 acres of land near Chapel Hill, Wreay. Early indications suggest a large, multi field scheme incorporating solar panels, access tracks, underground cabling, and associated landscaping such as hedgerow and tree planting. At this stage, no formal planning application has been submitted, although further proposals are anticipated.

Developments of this scale can carry long term implications for the landscape, agricultural use, and

the wider local environment. Any future application will need to be supported by clear and comprehensive evidence before decisions are made.

Those who wish to stay informed or take part in local discussion can join the Facebook group "Wreay Solar Proposal - Community Group" or visit: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1465113431768272>

Chris Bull

Wreay Eco Group

Home Composting

The Eco group reiterates its offer of a free compost bin to the first six people to apply for one. If you would like a visit for advice on composting under the Cumbria Master Composter Scheme, please contact Frankie at fkennett@gardenorganic.org. or Kath on 07551657618. Also, a webinar - An Introduction to Home Composting - is available to watch on 6th May, 7-8 p.m. See <https://www.ticketsource.com/norfolk-master-composters/t-ejjrmkr>

Refill

Richard will be making a trip to the Rebuild site, north Carlisle, where there is a refill shop for liquid household cleaning agents. If anyone would like to have their containers refilled, please contact him on 016974 73544.



Recycling in Cumberland

Advice from Wreay Eco Group following a visit to the Biffa site.

- In Cumbria, no waste goes to landfill from Council refuse collections, or recycling bins.
- If you are in any doubt about where to put items, put them in the waste bin.
- Cumbria is exempt from separate food collection which is now law in other areas.
- Batteries and disposable vapes should not be put in bins due to the **serious fire risk**. Battery recycling points are available in most big supermarkets and disposable vapes should be returned to the shop where they were purchased from for safe recycling.
- Nappies cannot be collected, please put them in the waste bin.

Card and Paper

NO

wrapping paper
(unless marked recyclable)
wallpaper
polystyrene
face masks
glittery cards

Plastic

NO

plant pots
bubble wrap
plastic bags
plastic film
disposable gloves
toys

Glass and Cans

NO

ceramics
pyrex
broken glass

Wet Cardboard: It is difficult to process wet cardboard. If it gets wet, please dry it out for the next collection or put it in the waste bin for alternative processing.

Glass bottles: Please wash items and remove tops from glass bottles - this is not necessary for lids on jars.

Tetra packs: Tetra packs (juice cartons) can be put in with plastics.

Blister packs: Blister packs can be put in with cans.

The information above can be found on the Cumberland website:

<https://www.cumberland.gov.uk/bins-recycling-and-street-cleaning/waste-collections>

Useful symbols found on items:

Please recycle this newsletter when you have finished with it.

