Ulverston, Church Walk, St Mary with Holy Trinity

A church has served this ancient market town since at least 1111. Ulverston has historic importance being at one end of the treacherous seats crossing from Lancaster, which was the main route into Furness until the turnpike roads were built in the late 1700s. Along this coast to Greenodd the port was key for local trade and industry. It is a small church dedicated to St Mary and Holy Trinity.

**Features:**
- **Grade II listed.**
- The churchyard contains a lime tree planted in 1799 in memory of Alice Bullock, one of the last inhabitants of Ulverston. It is one of the few remaining lime trees in Furness.
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Lindal in Furness, St Peter

Lindal in Furness was once the hub of a series of small ancient churches. As a result of the population explosion that came with the rapid industrial development of the area, the parish of Lindal-in-Furness was created in 1835. The present St Peter’s, which was consecrated in 1886, was built to replace a temporary iron church built in 1875.

**Features:**
- **Grade II listed.**
- The church has a rare carved photographic arched porch head resting on stone corbels.

Great Urswick, St Mary the Virgin and St Michael

This is reputedly one of the most ancient churches in Furness. In the mid 12th century the monks of Furness Abbey took charge of the church of St Mary of Urswick. It was not until 1829 that the church was made into a separate parish.

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Rampside, St Michael

Wind swept in its elevated and isolated position, Rampside is a wonderful example of a small chapel of ease to serve the local community that has stood the test of time.

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Aldingham, St Cutbert

Aldingham church stands on the wild beauty of Morecambe Bay, where the sea has claimed much of the former settlement. The church tower holds two ancient bells bought at the dissolution of the monasteries. In 1360 the church was fortified with a wall and barbican.

**Features:**
- **Grade II listed.**
- Largely Norman in origin (1147-1180), the church is a fine example of a small, compact church typical of the region.

Barrow-in-Furness, Duke Street, St Mary of Furness RC

St Mary of Furness bears the name of the Furness Abbey church where the roots of Roman Catholicism were firmly established in the area before the dissolution of the monasteries. By 1835 it is said that Barrow had just one Roman Catholic priest. However, numerous buildings transformed from a tiny hamlet to a thriving iron and shipbuilding port in the mid 19th century, providing a foundation for the development of Roman Catholicism in the area.

**Features:**
- **Grade II listed.**
- The church contains two solid oak chests constructed from trees allegedly grown from the time of Christ. Roger De Kirkby, whose descendants were Lords of the Manor, reputedly built the church. Early 13th century stained glass windows remain in situ.

Dalton-in-Furness, St Mary

Dalton is the ancient market capital of Furness. Its earliest church was built before the establishment of Furness Abbey in 1127 and was the mother church to many of the local churches and chapels of ease. St Mary’s church stands next to Dalton Castle and above the old town pound where stray animals were retained. Although little remains of the earlier buildings, this 1882 church is one of the finest of Paley and Austin’s designs, and was funded by James Ramsden, Henry Schneider and other industrialists making their wealth in nearby Barrow-in-Furness.

**Features:**
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- The churchyard contains a lime tree planted in 1799 in memory of Alice Bullock, one of the last inhabitants of Ulverston. It is one of the few remaining lime trees in Furness.

Kirkby-in-Furness (Becks) St Cuthbert

It is a church that was built on this site as early as 875 AD by the Lindaline monks fleeing from the Danes with Cuthbert’s body. Much of the church is Norman. The entrance doorway is particularly impressive.

**Features:**
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**Spa Thal Russia**

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- The Book of Common Prayer is rewritten. Providing the pattern for future services, it remains unchanged until 1928.
- Archbishop Thomas Cranmer is beheaded in London. The Protestant Reformation begins in Europe, coming later to Ireland and Scotland.
- The beginning of the Methodist Movement under Charles and John Wesley.
- The Catholic Relief Act removes restrictions on Roman Catholics in England.
- The Roman Catholic population grows rapidly in the UK.

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**1928**

- The beginning of the Methodist Movement under Charles and John Wesley.
- The Protestant Reformation begins in Europe, coming later to Ireland and Scotland.
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- The Roman Catholic population grows rapidly in the UK.

**1959**

- The beginning of the Methodist Movement under Charles and John Wesley.
- The Protestant Reformation begins in Europe, coming later to Ireland and Scotland.
- The Catholic Relief Act removes restrictions on Roman Catholics in England.
- The Roman Catholic population grows rapidly in the UK.

**2000**

- The beginning of the Methodist Movement under Charles and John Wesley.
- The Protestant Reformation begins in Europe, coming later to Ireland and Scotland.
- The Catholic Relief Act removes restrictions on Roman Catholics in England.
- The Roman Catholic population grows rapidly in the UK.

**Spiritual Development Through the Ages**

1. Christianity spreads throughout the Roman Empire and by 400 AD Romans occupying the south of Britain are known as Christian. Early Christian evangelist saints like Patrick, Ninian, Kentigern and Cuthbert preach across the northern counties.
2. A large hoard of Viking coins is buried at Stainton quarry near Dalton circa 955AD.
3. The beginning of the 12th century the Normans quassle for roofing, and mining increases.
4. The monks develop large scale sheep farming and the wool trade flourishes. They use Fiel Island, known as Foursay, as a safe harbour where they build a fortified warehouse. The charcoal and iron industries grow. Charcoal is used in bleominers in High Furness to extract iron from iron ore. In 1569, the island is owned by the British Mines Royal which brings foreign miners into the area. Homes dating from the Bronze Age onwards can be found in the nearby hills.
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Abbey became the main landowner in Low Furness. In 1322 the area industry, founding a large fortified warehouse for wool on nearby Piel Island. They also had mineral rights over a large area of land with crops, wool, iron ore and slate, and how they used the ancient trading routes across land and sea – until the ship building of the 20th century.

The gently undulating landscape of Low Furness was a cradle of Celtic Christianity. The historic monastery and other places of worship were founded to serve the spiritual needs of its settlers wherever they came from. The monks traded their products (mainly wool, iron, salt, corn and malt) with Ireland and the Isle of Man and survived until Henry VIII’s dissolution in 1537. At this time Furness was the second richest Cistercian abbey in England. Repair works in 2012 uncovered the grave of a prosperous medieval abbey, buried with a silver-gilt crozier (staff) and an impressive garnet ring. These rare finds underline the abbey’s status as one of the great power bases of the middle ages.