



**Presentation of Christ in the Temple  
Candlemass**

**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> February**

**9.30 am**

**All-Age Sung Eucharist**



The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him.

Please don't take photos or videos during the service unless you have consent.  
Please be aware that this service may be live-streamed

**Collect for Today**

**Lord Jesus Christ,  
light of the nations and glory of  
Israel:  
make your home among us,  
and present us pure and holy  
to your heavenly Father,  
your God, and our God.  
Amen**

**Post Communion Collect**

**Lord, you fulfilled the hope of  
Simeon and Anna,  
who lived to welcome the  
Messiah:  
may we, who have received  
these gifts beyond words,  
prepare to meet Christ Jesus  
when he comes  
to bring us to eternal life;  
for he is alive and reigns, now  
and for ever.**

**Amen**

### **Malachi 3: 1 - 5**

The Lord of heaven's armies says, "I will send my messenger. He will prepare the way for me to come. Suddenly, the Lord you are looking for will come to his Temple. The messenger of the agreement, whom you want, will come." No one can live through that time. No one can survive when he comes. He will be like a purifying fire. He will be like laundry soap. He will be like someone who heats and purifies silver. He will purify the Levites. He will make them pure like gold and silver. Then they will bring offerings to the Lord in the right way. And he will accept the offerings from Judah and Jerusalem. It will be as it was in the past. The Lord of heaven's armies says, "Then I will come to you and judge you. I will testify against those who take part in evil magic, adultery and lying. I will testify against those who cheat workers of their pay and who cheat widows and orphans. And I will testify against those who are unfair to foreigners. These people do not respect me."

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### **Luke 2: 4: 22 - 40**

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, 'Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord'), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, 'a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons.'

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

‘Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace,  
according to your word;  
for my eyes have seen your salvation,  
which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,  
a light for revelation to the Gentiles  
and for glory to your people Israel.’

And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, 'This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.'

There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband for seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four.

**She never left the temple but worshipped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.**

**When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him.**

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## What's Going On?

**Welcome back!** It is good to be back in our beautiful building. The Ministry Team would like to say a huge thanks to our Churchwarden Paul Anstis for all his hard work in managing this redecoration project, and to Gloria and Ben for their support too.

### **PCC meeting outcomes: service time change and children's worker**

At the PCC meeting last week, the PCC agreed to a new pattern of worship. From March the pattern of worship will be:

1st Sunday - 9.30, All Age Eucharist

2nd Sunday - Sung Eucharist - 11.00

**3rd Sunday - Sung Eucharist - 11.00**

4th Sunday - Sung Eucharist - 11.00

5th Sunday - Joint Benefice Service- 11.00

This means that the 3rd Sunday will change to an 11am service, and the only 9.30am will be the All Age Eucharist on the 1st Sunday of the month. We hope that this will be easier to remember, and will aid us in inviting people to church. The PCC also agreed to join with the other churches in the benefice in looking to appoint a benefice children and families worker. Watch this space!

**Tubs** - please continue to leave in porch of the FSR until Feb.

**Ladies who Lunch.** Next lunch is Tuesday 3rd March at 12.30pm at the Braintree Contact Marian Martin or Isobel Reid (330155.)

**Bingo** - every Friday in FSR, 1.30-3.30, all welcome!

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### Leading Your Church into Growth Prayer (LYCIG)

#### God of Mission

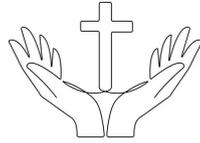
*Who alone brings growth to your Church, Send your Holy Spirit to give  
Vision to our planning,  
Wisdom to our actions,  
Joy to our worship,  
And power to our witness.  
Help our church to grow in numbers, In spiritual commitment to you,  
And in service to our local community,  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*



We pray for all those who are bereaved and for those who are sick in body, mind or spirit and by name

Josie and Pat  
Gina  
Jason and his Family  
Graham  
Ernie Andrews  
Dorothy  
Helen  
All families in crisis  
The Family of Ray Adams

Lord, send us the gift of peace. We pray for the gift of peace, that hatred may turn to understanding, anger to compassion and horror to hope.



Alan  
Joshua Manning  
Penny and Mike  
Derek and Jo  
Sheila Vince  
Arthur and Pauline  
Colin and Judy  
And especially for  
Carole and Geoff

### Holy Communion

Wafers (gluten-free wafers are available on request) will be offered and wine. If you feel uncomfortable about sharing the chalice, receiving the bread alone is not a lesser action. If you would like a Blessing only, please bring your service booklet to the Altar rail. Church protocol is that we should not dip the wafer in the chalice as a matter of hygiene. If this at all worries you, please do not hesitate to discuss it with a member of the Clergy.

### The Coming Week

Morning Prayer There will be Morning Prayer on Zoom at 9.00am   
Wednesday to Friday. Use this link: <https://s05web.zoom.us/j/88481892518?pwd=V8mnpUEQpqGa7nsIRvKtjOWHUzWNDt.1>

Morning Prayer live is held at church every Friday morning at 9 a.m. All are very welcome to join us.

February 8th **11.00am** Sung Eucharist

Readings: Isaiah 58: 1 - 9a; Psalm 112: 1 - 9; Matthew 5: 13 - 20

- Morning and evening prayer are available at:
- <https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-service-daily-prayer>

Revd. Rachel Prior  
revrachelprior@outlook.com  
01376 325277 Day off: Monday

## The Team

Revd. Roman Kukiewicz  
revromankuk@gmail.com  
01376 321479 Day off: Monday

Deborah Ferris, Children and Families  
deborahferrisblacknotley@gmail.com

Revd. Nikki Horsley  
revnikkihorsley@gmail.com  
07810 280002 Day off: Saturday

Isobel Reid Pastoral Care  
Isobel\_reid@talktalk.net 01376 330155

Lisa Gregson Benefice Administrator  
(01376 330988)admin@thethreechurches.co.uk  
Tuesday, Thursday and Friday morning

Please see the Website and Newsletter for more information

Are you on the Mailing list? If not and you want to be, please contact Mike H or Isobel