

The Feast of the Presentation (Candlemas) 2nd February 2025



Collect

Almighty and ever-living God,
clothed in majesty,
whose beloved Son was this day presented in the
Temple, in substance of our flesh:
grant that we may be presented to you
with pure and clean hearts,
by your Son Jesus Christ our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

First Reading (Malachi 3.1-5)

A reading from the book of the prophet Malachi.
Thus says the LORD God:
See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the
way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will
suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of
the covenant in whom you delight - indeed, he is
coming, says the LORD of hosts. But who can
endure the day of his coming, and who can stand
when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and
like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier
of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi
and refine them like gold and silver, until they
present offerings to the LORD in righteousness.
Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be
pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in
former years. Then I will draw near to you for
judgement; I will be swift to bear witness against
the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those
who swear falsely, against those who oppress the
hired workers in their wages, the widow, and the

orphan, against those who thrust aside the alien,
and do not fear me, says the LORD of hosts.

Psalm (Psalm 24)



The Lord is the king - of glo - ry.

Response: The Lord is the king of glory. R

O gates, lift high your heads; grow higher, ancient
doors. Let him enter, the king of glory! **R**

Who is the king of glory?
The Lord, the mighty, the valiant,
the Lord, the valiant in war. **R**

O gates, lift high your heads;
grow higher, ancient doors.
Let him enter, the king of glory! **R**

Who is he, the king of glory? He, the Lord of
armies, he is the king of glory. **R**

Second Reading (Hebrews 2.14-18)

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.
Since the children share flesh and blood, Jesus
himself likewise shared the same things, so that
through death he might destroy the one who has
the power of death, that is, the devil, and free
those who all their lives were held in slavery by the
fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to
help angels, but the descendants of Abraham.
Therefore he had to become like his brothers and
sisters in every respect, so that he might be a
merciful and faithful high priest in the service of
God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins
of the people. Because he himself was tested by
what he suffered, he is able to help those who are
being tested.

Gospel Reading (Luke 2.22-40)

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according
to Luke.

When the time came for their purification
according to the law of Moses, Mary and Joseph
brought Jesus 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 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.

Post Communion

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.**

For your prayers

In our Prayers:

Hugh, Josh, Diane Rankin, Lloyd Whitney, Diane, Trevor, Vera, Chris Hall, Tommy Lacken, Sue, Kathy, Maria Amparo Garcia, Maria, Lenny Shaw, Pat, Vanessa, Eamon Irvine, HM King Charles, Steve, Tracey Sanderson, Fr Michael Shier, Michelle Ferguson, Maria Vaccaro, Robert Russell, Carol Martin, Nancy Campling, Philomena Sorrenti, Martin Fletcher, Jan Bone, Francis Burrows. Fr

Peter Rabin, Lynn Williamson, Ms Rebecca Quansah, Dr Alfred Kwasi Kwarteng, Fr Peter Bernhard, Susan Bloom, Doug Williams.

Among the departed:

Calum Naylor, David Brookes.

Anniversaries of Death:

Ethel Lilian, Oliver James Henry Lamb, Arthur Tildesley (Pr), John Kojo Menlah, Sally Burnett

In our Parish:

We pray for Hall Street and Peregrine House

In the wider world:

We Pray for all those with influence and authority in Syria to bring an end to the civil war, a just peace, reconciliation and rebuilding.

Notices

In Church this week

Wednesday Open Church 10am-1pm
12.30pm Mass

Next Sunday 4th Sunday before Lent
10.30am Sung Mass

Helpers needed after Mass!

Can you help out after Sunday Mass? There's plenty to do clearing up and putting things away once refreshments are finished. If you can please speak to Elaine or Father David.

King Square Coffee

Community Room, Blackwell House
(between President House and Rahere House)

Tuesday afternoons 1.30-3.30pm

Friday afternoons 12.30-2pm

A chance to chat with your neighbour and catch up over coffee, tea, soup and sweet treats. Everyone welcome!

St. Clement's Church is very grateful for all donations to our work. To donate now please scan the QR code below. You can use debit or credit card, Apple Pay or Google Pay. Many thanks!

