



# Welcome to the Parish Church of St Stephen

Sunday 28th January 2018

## The Fourth Sunday of Epiphany The Presentation of Christ in the Temple

### Services Today

<b>9.30am</b>	Family Service
<b>Hymns:</b>	<b>JP 3: JP 258</b>
<b>11.00am</b>	Sung Mass with Sermon with Procession
<b>Hymns:</b>	<b>188: 338: 44: 234</b>
<b>12.30pm</b>	Baptism of Rafferty Bett

*The bell rings, all stand and the sanctuary party processes in to organ music*

### **Blessing of the Candles**

May the light and peace of Jesus Christ our Lord be with you all.

### **And with your spirit.**

*Let us pray.* Lord God, the springing source of everlasting light, pour into the hearts of your faithful people the brilliance of your eternal splendour, that we, who by these kindling flames light up this temple to your glory, may have the darkness of our souls dispelled, and so be counted worthy to stand before you in that eternal temple where you live and reign, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

### **Distribution and lighting of Candles**

Let us proceed in peace. **In the Name of Christ. Amen.**

*At the end of the procession*

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **He is worthy of all thanksgiving and praise.**

*Let us pray.* Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the universe! You make our darkness to be light. For with you is the well of life and in your light shall we see light. Blessed be God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

### **The Presentation of Christ in the Temple**

**Introit** We have waited, O God, for thy loving-kindness in the midst of thy temple; according to thy Name, O God, so is thy praise unto the world's end: Thy right hand is full of righteousness.

**Psalms** Great is the Lord, and highly to be praised; in the city of our God, even upon his holy hill. Glory be to the Father...

**Gradual** We have waited, O God, for thy loving-kindness in the midst of thy temple: according to thy Name, O God, so is thy praise unto the world's end.

*℟.* Like as we have heard, so have we seen in the city of our God: even upon his holy hill.

**Alleluia** Alleluia. Alleluia. *℟.* The old man carried the Child: but the Child governed the old man. Alleluia.

**Offertory** Full of grace are thy lips: because God hath blessed thee for ever.

**Communion** It was revealed unto Simeon by the Holy Spirit, that he should not see death, before he had seen the Lord's anointed.

## 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.

## Old Testament Reading - Malachi Ch3 v1-5

<sup>1</sup>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.

<sup>2</sup>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; <sup>3</sup>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. <sup>4</sup>Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

<sup>5</sup>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.

## New Testament Reading - Hebrews Ch2 v14-18

<sup>14</sup>Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he 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, <sup>15</sup>and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. <sup>16</sup>For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. <sup>17</sup>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. <sup>18</sup>Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

## Gospel - Luke Ch2 v22-40

<sup>22</sup>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 <sup>23</sup>(as it is written in the law of the Lord, 'Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord'), <sup>24</sup>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.'

<sup>25</sup> 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. <sup>26</sup> It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. <sup>27</sup> 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, <sup>28</sup> Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

<sup>29</sup> Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace,  
according to your word;  
<sup>30</sup> for my eyes have seen your salvation,  
<sup>31</sup> which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,  
<sup>32</sup> a light for revelation to the Gentiles  
and for glory to your people Israel.'

<sup>33</sup> And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. <sup>34</sup> 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 <sup>35</sup> so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.'

<sup>36</sup> 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, <sup>37</sup> 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. <sup>38</sup> 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.

<sup>39</sup> When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. <sup>40</sup> 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.

### **Please remember in your prayers**

Elizabeth Opie, Joyce Craske, Judy Bobbitt, Maureen Pitman,  
Alisha De Guerin, Christine Shaw, Tony Renouf, Brenda Penfold  
and Barbara Streek.

Please pray also for Pam; for Michele, Jaike and Glyn,  
all suffering from cancer; for Melvyn Boxall, Bill Brend, Chris Bellinger:  
and for Samuel, a 12 year-old boy diagnosed with leukaemia.

## Services for this week

**Tuesday 30th January 11.00am** Said Mass - Charles - King & Martyr, 1649

**Wednesday 31st January 7.00pm** Said Mass- John Bosco - Priest, 1888

**Friday 2nd February 7.00pm** Said Mass

### **Sunday 4th February**

#### **The Second Sunday before Lent**

**9.30am** Said Mass & Family Ministry

**11.00am** Sung Mass with Sermon

**12.30pm** Baptism of Harry Kevin Le Page

## **WILLIAM MORRIS WINDOWS CONSERVATION PROJECT 2018**

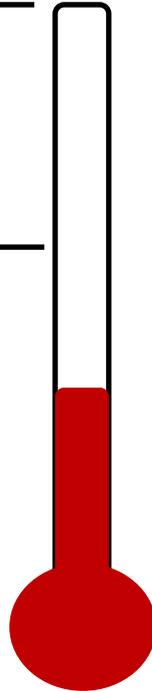
£85,000

£42,500

Total raised as of  
January 2018

£20,340

Work will commence as  
soon as the necessary  
funds have been raised.



Stay in touch with St Stephen's: visit our website at  
<http://st-stephens-guernsey.org>

Please join us for refreshments:

- *in the Vicarage after the 9.30am Mass*
- *in the Vestry after the 11.00am Mass*

*After Mass please put the kneelers back on the shelf. Thank you!*

Deadline for notices for next bulletin – **6.00pm Thursday**

To Tony or email [akaines@cwgsy.net](mailto:akaines@cwgsy.net)