



Welcome to the Parish Church of St Stephen

Sunday 3rd February 2019

The Presentation of Christ in the Temple Candlemas

9.30am Said Mass with Family Ministry
Hymns 408: S.5

11.00am Sung Mass with Sermon & Procession
Hymns 188: 338: 44: 408

Candlemas - Blessing of the Candles

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

And with your spirit.

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.**

End of Procession

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

He is worthy of all thanksgiving and praise.

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 Fifth Sunday before Lent and 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.

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

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.

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

Alleluia Alleluia. Alleluia. **V.** 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

¹See, 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.

²But 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; ³he 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. ⁴Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

⁵Then 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

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

Gospel - Luke Ch2 v22-40

²²When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the law of the Lord, 'Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord'), ²⁴and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, 'a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons.'

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

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

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

³⁶There 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, ³⁷then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped there with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸At 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.

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

Judy Bobbitt, Tony Renouf, David Le Lievre,
Hazel Greany, a young man recovering from a problem with drugs,
Brenda Penfold, Val Moullin, Rose, Daphne Swann,
and Lyn Trieschmann.
Pray also for Michele, Jaiké and Glyn; for Melvyn Boxall;
and for Chris Bellinger.

Services This Week

Monday 4th February 10.00am 'Little Treasures' Toddlers' Group

Tuesday 5th February 11.00am Mass - BCP

Wednesday 6th February 7.00pm Mass - Martyrs of Japan, 1597

Friday 8th February 7.00pm Mass

Sunday 10th February

The Fourth Sunday before Lent

9:30am Said Mass with Family Ministry

11.00am Sung Mass with Sermon



Friendship Lunch

The next Friendship Lunch will be held on

Tuesday 12th February at 12.00pm.

Please contact Jean Le Huray **Today** (Tel 255207)
to reserve your place.

Farmers' Market

We have once again been asked to do the teas at the Farmers' Market on
Saturday 9th February.

This has proved to be a good fundraising effort for the windows.
If you would like to make a donation towards the cost of the ingredients
for the cakes, please see Barbara or David Amory. Many thanks.

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