

# St Saviour's Church

2 February 2020 - The Presentation of the Lord (Candlemas)



This day marks the completion of forty days since the birth of Jesus, when Mary and Joseph took the child to the Temple in Jerusalem. The requirement in Levitical law was for Mary to be 'cleansed', the completion of her purification following the birth of a male child. Until that day, she could touch no holy thing nor enter the sanctuary. Yet on seeing the holy family, Simeon praised God and acclaimed the infant as 'the light to enlighten the nations' and the prophet Anna gave thanks and proclaimed him her Redeemer. The image of Christ as the Light has led to the celebration of light countering darkness, with candles often taking a central place in the observance.

## Parish Notes:

**I Ffordd Tangnefedd** - this evening 2 Feb in St German's at 6:00pm when we will have a Labyrinth Service. IFT is a contemplative service that is open to those who struggle with traditional services. We begin with coffee at 6pm followed by a time of reflective prayer and then, hopefully, involve a visit to a local pub for fellowship.

**Faith QI** - Our faith nurturing discussion group next meets this week on Wed 5 February in St Saviour's at 7pm. Next topic will look at 'The Sacraments'. This is open to all who seek to learn more about our faith. Please see Fr Phelim for details.

**Book Group** - Starts up in St Saviour's after mass on Tuesday 4 February at 11am. The next book will be Henri Nouwen's 'The Return of the Prodigal Son'. If you'd like to borrow a copy please let Fr Phelim or Geraint know.

**PCC** - The next Parochial Church Council meeting is on Tuesday 25 Feb at 7pm

**Messy Church** - The next Messy Church will be in St Saviour's on 1 March at 4pm. Theme: St David of Wales. All are welcome.

**Reading Rota** - We hope to have a rota for those interested in reading during the Sunday mass available next week. If you would like us to email this to you just see Fr Phelim.

**Nightshelter** - If you would like to help in any way please contact Fr Phelim. Please pray for our guests and helpers. Rota for February now available. Nightshelter finishes at the end of March.

**Recently Departed:** Kenneth Lewis *RIP*.

## This week:

### Sun 2: Candlemas

#### St Saviour's:

9:30 Sung Mass;

#### St German's:

8am Nightshelter Mass

11:00 am Sung Mass

6:30pm I Ffordd

Tangnefedd

### Mon 3:

6pm Mass

(St G)

St Blaise

### Tues 4:

10am Mass

(St S)

### Wed 5:

10am Mass

(St G)

St Agatha

### Thur 6:

5:45pm Mass

(St S)

Sts Paul Miki &

Companions, Martyrs

### Fri 7:

No Mass

### Sat 8:

11am Mass

(St S)

### Sun 9:

#### Septuagesima

(OT5)

#### St Saviour's:

9:30 Sung Mass;

#### St German's:

8am Nightshelter Mass

11:00 am Sung Mass

6:30pm I Ffordd

Tangnefedd

## Parish Priest:

Fr Phelim O'Hare,

02922 411229

(day off is Friday)

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## Churchwardens:

Bill Eastwood

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## READINGS THIS WEEK

Malachi 3:1-4

Ps 24:7-10

Heb 2:14-18

Luke 2:22-40

## READINGS NEXT WEEK

Isa 58:7-10

Ps 112:4-5, 6-7, 8-9

1 Cor 2:1-5

Matt 5:13-16

## PSALM RESPONSE

Who is the king of  
glory? It is the Lord.  
(vv.3)

**COLLECT**

Almighty and everliving 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.**

**PROCESSIONAL HYMN:**

The Lord is my light,  
my life and salvation:  
in God I trust,  
in God I trust.

**GATHERING:**

Faithful vigil ended,  
watching, waiting cease;  
Master, grant your servant  
his discharge in peace.

All the Spirit promised,  
all the Father willed,  
now these eyes behold it  
perfectly fulfilled.

This your great deliverance  
sets your people free;  
Christ their light uplifted  
all the nations see.

Christ, your people's glory!  
watching, doubting cease:  
grant to us your servants  
our discharge in peace

**OFFERTORY:**

Longing for light,  
we wait in darkness.  
Longing for truth,  
we turn to you.  
Make us your own,  
your holy people,  
light for the world to see.

*Christ, be our light!  
Shine in our hearts.  
Shine through the darkness.  
Christ, be our light!  
Shine in your church  
gathered today.*

Longing for peace,  
our world is troubled.  
Longing for hope, many despair.  
Your word alone  
has power to save us.  
Make us your living voice.

Longing for food,  
many are hungry.  
Longing for water,  
many still thirst.  
Make us your bread,  
broken for others,  
shared until all are fed.

Longing for shelter,  
many are homeless.  
Longing for warmth,  
many are cold.  
Make us your building,  
sheltering others,  
walls made of living stone.

Many the gifts,  
many the people,  
many the hearts  
that yearn to belong.  
Let us be servants to one another,  
making your kingdom come.

**COMMUNION:**

**Kindle a flame  
to lighten the dark  
and take all fear away.**

**FINAL HYMN:**

**Lord, the light  
of your love is shining  
In the midst  
of the darkness, shining  
Jesus, Light of the world,  
shine upon us  
Set us free by the truth  
you now bring us  
Shine on me, shine on me**

**Shine, Jesus, shine  
Fill this land  
with the Father's glory  
Blaze, Spirit, blaze  
Set our hearts on fire  
Flow, river, flow  
Flood the nations  
with grace and mercy  
Send forth your word  
Lord, and let there be light**

**Lord, I come to  
your awesome presence  
From the shadows  
into your radiance  
By the blood I may  
enter your brightness  
Search me, try me,  
consume all my darkness  
Shine on me, shine on me**

**As we gaze on your  
kingly brightness  
So our faces display your  
likeness  
Ever changing  
from glory to glory  
Mirrored here may our lives  
tell your story  
Shine on me, shine on me**

## FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Malachi.

The Lord God says this: Look, I am going to send my messenger to prepare a way before me. And the Lord you are seeking will suddenly enter his Temple; and the angel of the covenant whom you are longing for, yes, he is coming, says the Lord of Hosts. Who will be able to resist the day of his coming? Who will remain standing when he appears? For he is like the refiner's fire and the fullers' alkali. He will take his seat as refiner and purifier; he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and then they will make the offering to the Lord as it should be made. The offering of Judah and Jerusalem will then be welcomed by the Lord as in former days, as in the years of old.

This is the word of the Lord.

*Malachi 3*

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

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

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/*

*Psalms 24*

## SECOND READING

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

Since all the children share the same blood and flesh, Christ too shared equally in it, so that by his death he could take away all the power of the devil, who had power over death, and set free all those who had been held in slavery all their lives by the fear of

death. For it was not the angels that he took to himself; he took to himself descent from Abraham. It was essential that he should in this way become completely like his brothers so that he could be a compassionate and trustworthy high priest of God's religion, able to atone for human sins. That is, because he has himself been through temptation he is able to help others who are tempted.

This is the word of the Lord.

*Hebrews 2*

## GOSPEL

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St Luke.

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.

This is the gospel of the Lord.

*Luke 2*