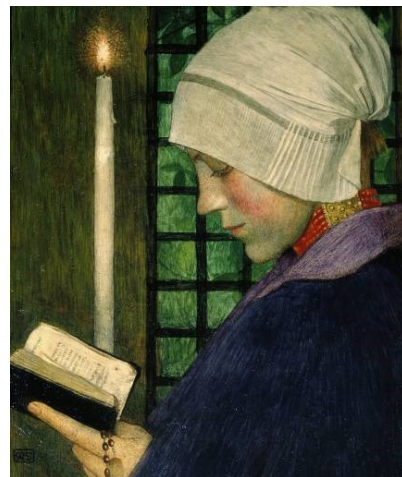


# HOLY TRINITY CUCKFIELD

*Joyfully serving Jesus*



*Weekly devotions, prayers and news*

## Candlemas

### The Presentation of Christ in the Temple

*28 January 2024*

Following the dictates of the Law, Mary and Joseph presented their new-born son in Jerusalem, fulfilling the necessary ritual sacrifices. During this time, they encountered Simeon, an elderly man, and Anna, a very aged woman. Both were well-versed in the scriptures and attuned to the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Both Simeon and Anna were filled with excitement, recognising in this moment the realisation of long-standing prophecies, as the Lord in human form visited his sacred temple for the first time.

### **Candlemas (28 January 2024)**

#### **8.00 Holy Communion** *(in church)*

*Reader: Roger Edmonston and Eileen Caple*

#### **9.45 Parish Eucharist** *(in church & online)*

*Hymns: 634, 742, 510, 628, 588, 104*

*Reader: Paul Goldfinch and Ian Walden Intercessor:*

#### **12.00 Holy Baptism** *(in church)*

#### **Services during the week:**

#### **Wednesday: 10.30 Holy Communion (Common Worship)** *(in church & online)*

*Readings: 2 Samuel 24: 2, 9-17; Mark 6: 1-6a*

**14:00 Online prayer group** *(online)*

#### **Thursday: 9.00am Holy Communion (Iona/Celtic)** *(in church)*

*Readings: 1 Kings 2: 1-4, 10-12; Mark 6: 7-13*

#### **Friday: 11.00am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)** *Readings: Candlemas*

### **Next Sunday: Second Sunday before Lent (4 February 2024)**

#### **8.00 Holy Communion** *(in church)*

#### **9.45 Family Eucharist** *(in church and online)*

#### **11.15 Family Praise** *(in church)*

#### **18:00 Evensong**

**For services live on Zoom: Click the blue link on the front page of the church website**

#### **The Collect for Candlemas**

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.  
who reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. Amen

#### **The Post Communion Prayer:**

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

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.

### Hebrews 2: 14-end

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, 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.

### Luke 2: 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.

### Parish News

#### Eucharistic Assistants

Eucharistic Assistants or Lay Ministers of Holy Communion are people authorised by the Bishop both to help distribute Holy Communion in the Church and to take Holy Communion (which has been consecrated at a Eucharist in Church) to members of the parish who are sick and unable to come to Church.

The Bishops in our diocese require all lay people who are to be authorised to exercise this ministry to participate in training. Training takes place either in a short diocesan course organized by the deanery or by the parish priest. Those who wish to be considered for ministry as a LMHC should speak to their parish priest who will arrange for them to be nominated by the PCC for this ministry.

#### Deanery Day

This year's Deanery Morning is from 10-11 on 10th February, and will take place at the Martindale Centre, Horsted Keynes. Revd Dr Earl Collins will be speaking on the New Testament. For more details please see the poster. Parking is available at the location and nearby, but car sharing is advised where convenient.

#### Lent courses

Father Daniel will be holding a Lent course from 22nd February. He will be following Hilary Brand's course "Finding a Voice", using the film The King's Speech. The sessions will run from 19:30-21:30, with the option of joining for a simple Lent Supper at 18:00. To book a place, please go to <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/holy-trinity-church-cuckfield/t-qjgagxg>.

The church will also run the Diocesan Lent course online, focusing on the full revelation of God's Word in Jesus Christ (the Word-made flesh). This will run online at 19:00 on Thursdays starting on 22nd February (not 15th as previously advertised); to join please use the usual Zoom button on the website. See the noticeboard in the church for further details.

#### Please remember those for whom we pray:

**Immediate need:** Martin Packham, Becky Parker, Jim Knight, Tina Owens, James Watson, Bill Delany, John Billingham

**Long Term Need:** Young Georgia, Joshua and Reggie, Wendy, Ann Went, Julie Sadler, Wendy Hibling, Carla Spear, Pam Sagar, Eileen Knight, Liz Graydon, Peter Graydon, Eileen Macdougall, George Snashall, Karen Leese, Jill Knight, Yvonne Godsmark

**Those in Care Homes:** Mary Watts, Ruth Baker, Rosemary Pardey, Janet Card,, Keith Card

#### Please remember the recently departed and their families:

**In our Book of Remembrance** this week we remember: 28<sup>th</sup> Sybill Cheesman, Deborah Robbys, Hilda Saunders, Clarence Mathers; 29<sup>th</sup> Edith Stopes; 30<sup>th</sup> Margaret Wratten; 1<sup>st</sup> Albert Buckman, Arthur Lee, Miles Dixon; 2<sup>nd</sup> Doreen Burrige, Janet Garner, Arthur Inch, Judith Garrett, Dorothy Raeburn; 3<sup>rd</sup> Millicent Bonney, Monica Boocock, Niamh Goodchild, Margery Watts, Joan Beddington