

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> February

# Presentation of Christ in the Temple

# Holy Trinity Cuckfield

You are very welcome to our worship!



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## Reflection

Candlemas describes a vital episode in the life of Jesus the Jew. The Presentation in the Temple simultaneously offers past and future perspectives, both affirming Jesus' heritage and presaging the suffering of the Messiah and his followers. The central role of Simeon and Anna also give Candlemas its particular charism in affirming the work of those who faithfully give of their time and talents week by week to glorify God and maintain the beauty of holiness in church worship. As we hear the familiar words of the Nunc dimittis in a less familiar context, are we sufficiently attuned to Malachi's prospect of the Lord coming suddenly to his temple?

## 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.**

## 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**

## Worship this Sunday...

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> February - Presentation of Christ in the Temple

8.00 am	<b>Holy Communion (CW)</b>	Readers:	Malachi 3.1-5 Hebrews 2.14-end Luke 2.22-40 James Sanders Charles Solomon
9.45 am	<b>Parish Eucharist*</b>	Readers:	Susan Mayou Brian Cutler
Pr Hymn Gr Hymn Of Hymn Anthem Cm Hymn Fn Hymn	113 When candles are lit 452 Let all mortal flesh 702 Lead us heavenly Father 841 Jesus redeemer 429 Bread is blessed 398 Lord let your servant free 721ii Love divine	Intercessor	Isobel Simmonds
6.00 pm	<b>Evensong</b>		Haggai 2.1-9 John 2.18-22
Hymn Responses Psalm Canticles Anthem Hymn Hymn	787ii Take my life and let it be Ferial 122, 132 Mag: 315; Nunc: 312 A Clare Benediction 14ii Eternal light shine in my heart 291 Christ is made the sure foundation	Readers:	David Spear Carolyn Ponder

\*Also live streamed on zoom - click the blue button on the church home page

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## First Reading

Malachi 3.1-5

*Who can stand at the coming of the Lord's messenger with his refiner's fire*

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.

## Second Reading

Hebrews 2.14-end

*Jesus shared our flesh and blood in order to destroy death, making a sacrifice of atonement*

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.

## Gospel

Luke 2.22-40

*Jesus is presented in the Temple, after which the family return to Nazareth*

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 Week

02/02 Mon	7.30 pm	Home Group (In Person)	
03/02 Tues	11.30am	Funeral T/L Sue Guy-Jones	Church
04/02 Wed	10.30 am	Holy Communion followed by coffee and cake	2 Samuel 24.2, 9-17 Mark 6.1-6a
05/02 Thurs	9.00 am	Iona/Celtic Communion	1 Kings 2.1-4, 10-12 Mark 6.7-13
	12.00 pm	Funeral T/L Stephen Jennings	Church
	1.30 pm	Arts & Craft Group	
	2.00 pm	Pilgrim Course	
06/02 Fri	9.00 am	Morning Prayer	Ecclesiasticus 47.2-11 Mark 6.14-29
	11.00am	BCP Communion	Church
	1.00 pm	Interment of T/L Sue Guy-Jones	Cuckfield Cemetery
	1.10 pm	Lunchtime Concert	Church
	6.00 pm	Fuse Group	Old School
	6.00 pm	Choir Club	Church
	7.30 pm	Choir Practice	Church
07/02 Sat	11.00 am	Cursillo Ultreya	Church

**Next Sunday...****Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> February - 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday before Lent**

Genesis 1.1-2.3

Romans 8.18-25

Matthew 6.25-end

<b>8.00 am</b>	<b>Holy Communion (BCP)</b>	Reader: Anthony Vander Willigen
<b>9.45 am</b>	<b>Parish Eucharist with Healing*</b>	
Pr Hymn	630 Father Lord of all creation	Readers: Ros Thunder
Gr Hymn	775 Seek ye first	David Thunder
Of Hymn	710 Lights abode	
Anthem	Look at the world	Intercessor Eileen Caple
Cm Hymn	764 Peace perfect peace	
	439 Dearest Jesu	
Fn Hymn	650 Great is thy faithfulness	
<b>12.15 pm</b>	<b>Baptism</b>	

**4.00 pm Abide Contemporary Worship***\* Also live streamed on zoom - click the blue button on the church home page***Notices and Parish News...**

- **Michael Maine Lunchtime Concert Friday 6th February 1.00pm** Don't miss what promises to be a fabulous lunchtime concert given by Michael Maine. Michael is giving this concert in aid of our partner charity, Tariro which gives hope and opportunities to disadvantaged young people in Zimbabwe. Tariro is wanting to expand its pig farm in order to provide training and jobs for more young people. Do come along to the concert and be thoroughly entertained, knowing that at the same time you'll be helping to change lives for the better!
- **New Worship Opportunities**
  - **Abide Monthly Contemporary Worship Gathering:** You are warmly invited to the first monthly gathering of Abide, a new contemplative, contemporary worship space at 4.00 pm and the 2nd Sunday of each month. The first Gathering is on **Sunday 8 February 2025**. The theme will be Before Anything Else - The God Who Speaks Light. Set in candlelight and stillness, Abide offers a different way of worshipping - shaped by music, silence, scripture, and shared prayer rather than a formal service or long sermon. We will be led by our House Band, Guest, using a rich mix of contemporary and reflective music - from God of Wonders to modern classics such as Yellow, Fields of Gold, Saturn, and Bridge Over Troubled Water. Together we will listen for the God who speaks light before anything else - the Word present at creation and still speaking hope and wisdom today. This is a gentle, participatory space to pause, reflect, and be renewed, with prayer stations and the chance to stay afterwards for a simple shared supper. Whether you come regularly or are simply curious, you are warmly invited to experience this first gathering of Abide. If you are planning on attending, please drop Gina a line on [office@holytrinitycuckfield.org](mailto:office@holytrinitycuckfield.org) for catering purposes.
  - **Friday Morning Prayer:** From Friday 6th February 2026, the staff team and clergy are all invited to say morning prayer together in the Lady Chapel at 9.00 am. We would like to make this an open invitation for anyone to attend to pray the daily office with us once a week and to pray for the needs and concerns of the parish. No need to tell us you are coming, just come along.
- **Cursillo Ultreya Gathering - Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> February** - All are warmly invited to an Ultreya Gathering at Holy Trinity Church, Cuckfield. Join us for a day of worship, fellowship and sharing, with coffee/tea from 11am, Eucharist at 12 noon, and time together over BYO lunch. You are very welcome to **drop in for any of the sessions** as suits you. Tea and cake before we leave at around 4pm.
- **Deanery Day 2026 - Art & Prayer - Saturday 7 February 2026.** The Ascension Church, Vale Road, Haywards Heath 10am-1pm. **Speaker:** Rev Charles Pickstone, former vicar of St. Laurence, Catford, London and a trustee of Art & Christianity Enquiry. He is on the editorial board of Art & Christianity, and until recently a visiting scholar at Sarum College. Charles regularly contributes articles to books and magazines on art and spirituality, as well as lecturing in the UK and abroad. He is on the board of the UK branch of AICA (the International Association of Art Critics) and is chair of the Fabric Advisory Committee of Southwark Cathedral
- **Haywards Heath Eco Fair - Saturday 28 February, 9.30am-12.30pm** at Haywards Heath Baptist Church; free entry, refreshments provided, just turn up.
- A **Prayer Partners box** will be available at the church entrance - please add your name and take a name to pray for throughout the year. Please see posters or speak to Jane Coan for more information.
- **Cuckfield Local Market** - Holy Trinity Cuckfield local market will take place on **February 14<sup>th</sup> from 9.30-12.30** providing locally sourced, sustainable goods. Support local artisans and embrace environmental stewardship with us. The church will be serving tea, coffee and soft drinks, please let Jane know if you can assist.
- **Pilgrim Course - The Lord's Prayer** - Details of our next Pilgrim Course, based on the theme of *The Lord's Prayer*, are now available. The Monday evening home group is currently full, so we are hoping to start a new **Thursday evening group**. All other groups still have spaces, and we would love more people to join us. If you are interested, please speak to us or complete a course form, available in church.

- **Bereavement Café** - A gentle, welcoming space to talk, listen, or simply be. If you have experienced loss, you are warmly invited to join others for understanding, quiet companionship, and care over tea and coffee. The next café is on **Tuesday 10th February 2-4pm**, at **The Old School, Committee Room**, and meets on the **second Tuesday of each month**. For more information, contact **Revd Stephen Caple** ([pastoral-care@holytrinitycuckfield.org](mailto:pastoral-care@holytrinitycuckfield.org)) or the **Parish Office** on **01444 456461**
- **Old School has a new website** - for bookings & information please visit: [www.oldschoolcuckfield.com](http://www.oldschoolcuckfield.com)

## Prayers...

**Those in immediate need:** Becky Parker, Ralph Colbran, Eileen Knight, Philip Chapman, Rev'd Stephen Caple, Jill Brotherton, David Meares, Pam Sutherland, Clara Spear, Mary Watts, Daphne Stuart, Libby Heald

**Those in long term need:** Georgia, Ann Went, Julie Sadler, Wendy Hibling, Liz Graydon, Peter Graydon, Eileen MacDougall, George Snashall, Karen Leese, and Yvonne Godsmark

**Those in care homes:** Mary Watts, Rosemary Pardey, Janet Card, Sally Williams

**The recently departed and those who mourn:** Stephen Jennings, Sue Guy-Jones, Tesser Boyer, Kenneth Tingley, John Osbourne, Valerie Poxon,

**Those whose year's mind falls at this time.** 1<sup>st</sup> Albert Buckman 2001, Arthur Henry Lee 2011, Miles Hadrian Dixon 2014, 2<sup>nd</sup> Doreen Burridge 2003, Janet Susan Garner 2006, Arthur Richard Inch 2007, Judith Ann Garrett 2013, Dorothy June Raeburn 2019, 3<sup>rd</sup> Millicent Bonney, Monica Boocock 2000, Niamh Goodchild 2003, Margery Watts 2009, Joan Beddington 2016, 5<sup>th</sup> Grace Hendley 1993, Noel Vernon Redman 2004, Doreen Mary Pye 2006, Jeanne Dean 2012, Margaret (Peg) Swain 2018 6<sup>th</sup> John Wilde 2014, Margaret Pressman 2017, 7<sup>th</sup> John Powell 2001, Eileen White 2001, Masie Doris Moore 2008, Jennifer Jane (Jenn) Chandler 2012.

## Praying through the week...

**Mon 2 Feb** - We pray for all who have suffered, and are suffering, from domestic abuse: for strength, support, safety and renewed self-esteem. We also pray for perpetrators, that they find the courage to take responsibility and seek help, and for all who dismiss or undermine the reality of abuse. Locally we pray for the people of Chatfield Road, that they may know wonder and hope in this new year.

**Tue 3 Feb** - We give thanks for storytellers and entertainers, and for stories that thrill, teach, challenge and inspire, helping us empathise beyond our own experience. Locally we pray for the people of Cherry Lane, that they may know the wonder and diversity of God's creation.

**Wed 4 Feb** - As we reflect on the Presentation of Christ in the Temple, we remember Simeon and Anna and their faithful hope. We pray for all who persevere in steadfastness amid cynicism and despair, and for those who bring light, welcome and hope. Locally we pray for the people of Chownes Mead Lane, that they may feel cherished and able to show love to others.

**Thu 5 Feb** - We pray for children who have lost a parent or carer, and for a society where every child is loved and protected. We pray for foster carers, adoption agencies, adopters and birth families, and for all who feel lost or abandoned. Locally we pray for the people of Church Platt, that they may belong to a warm, safe community and know God's presence in all they face.

**Fri 6 Feb** - International Day of Zero Tolerance for FGM. We pray for those pressured to conform to harmful practices, and for all girls and young women affected, that they may receive healing, care and protection. Locally we give thanks for the Citizens Advice Bureau and all who support the safety and wellbeing of individuals and communities.

**Sat 7 Feb** - We pray for all harmed through bullying, abuse or insensitivity online, and for greater responsibility and accountability across internet use and technology companies. We pray for leaders with moral courage to protect the vulnerable. Locally we pray for the people of Church Street, for a neighbourhood of hospitality, understanding and care.

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