

# St Mary's Church Wexham

**2 February 2025,**

**Presentation of Christ in the temple. Candlemas**



## **Services today**

8am – Holy Communion, ( Revd Andrew Parry )  
10am – Holy Communion, ( Revd Andrew Parry )  
10am Young Church

**Hymns for 10am today:-** 451, 293, 321, **S 10**

## **This week**

**Tuesday** – funeral in church, 11am.

## **Services next week, 9 Feb.**

8am – Holy Communion  
10am – Church for All in the hall

**INTERCESSIONS** - Our prayers have been asked for Baby Charlie J, Lorna and Charles F, Hazel B, Malcolm W, Jane A, Janine J, Julie M.

**R.I.P.** We give thanks for the life of Maddelena Albanese whose funeral will take place in church on Tuesday. May she rest in peace and rise in glory.

## **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.

## **READINGS**

### **Malachi 3: v 1 – 5**

<sup>3</sup> “I will send my messenger, who will prepare the way before me. Then suddenly the Lord you are seeking will come to his temple; the messenger of the covenant, whom you desire, will come,” says the Lord Almighty.

<sup>2</sup> But who can endure the day of his coming? Who can stand when he appears?

For he will be like a refiner’s fire or a launderer’s soap. <sup>3</sup> He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver; he will purify the Levites and refine them like gold and silver. Then the Lord will have men who will bring offerings in righteousness, <sup>4</sup> and the offerings of Judah and Jerusalem will be acceptable to the Lord, as in days gone by, as in former years.

<sup>5</sup> “So I will come to put you on trial. I will be quick to testify against sorcerers, adulterers and perjurers, against those who defraud labourers of their wages, who oppress the widows and the fatherless, and deprive the foreigners among you of justice, but do not fear me,” says the Lord Almighty.

### **Luke 2: v 22 – 40**

### **Jesus Presented in the Temple**

<sup>22</sup> When the time came for the purification rites required by the Law of Moses, Joseph and Mary took him to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord <sup>23</sup> (as it is written in the Law of the Lord,

## POST COMMUNION PRAYER

“Every firstborn male is to be consecrated to the Lord”),<sup>24</sup> and to offer a sacrifice in keeping with what is said in the Law of the Lord: “a pair of doves or two young pigeons.”

<sup>25</sup> Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was on him. <sup>26</sup> It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah. <sup>27</sup> Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required, <sup>28</sup> Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying:

<sup>29</sup> “Sovereign Lord, as you have promised,  
you may now dismiss your servant in peace.

<sup>30</sup> For my eyes have seen your salvation,

<sup>31</sup> which you have prepared in the sight of all nations:

<sup>32</sup> a light for revelation to the Gentiles,  
and the glory of your people Israel.”

<sup>33</sup> The child’s father and mother marvelled at what was said about him. <sup>34</sup> Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother: “This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, <sup>35</sup> so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too.”

<sup>36</sup> There was also a prophet, Anna, the daughter of Penuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was very old; she had lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, <sup>37</sup> and then was a widow until she was eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped night and day, fasting and praying.

<sup>38</sup> Coming up to them at that very moment, she gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were looking forward to the redemption of Jerusalem.

<sup>39</sup> When Joseph and Mary had done everything required by the Law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee to their own town of Nazareth. <sup>40</sup> And the child grew and became strong; he was filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was on him.

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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.

**YOUNG CHURCH** - This Sunday is Candlemas when Mary and Joseph took Jesus as a baby to the Temple and met an old man and lady. We will talk about new starts and promises we make. You will be able to make your own Candle Calendar to take home. As it is also Chinese New year, the year of the snake, you can make a Chinese New year bookmark too.

## NOTICES

### **What, you've never heard of a Panto in March?**

Preparations for the Panto are getting started again and Jill is collecting the ticket money once again . There are a few tickets left so if you want to join in the fun don't delay. It's child friendly and tickets are £10 for adults and £5 for children. A few tickets are still available. **To book contact Jill on 07812741279**

## MEETINGS:-

**Tuesday 4 February 0830 Home Communion meeting in the hall**

**Tuesday, Bible Study Home Group**

If you'd like to join us **contact Jill on 07812741279.**