

The Parish Church of St John the Evangelist, Crowborough

www.stjohnscrowborough.co.uk



2ND FEBRUARY - THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD (CANDLEMASS)

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.**

FIRST READING: Malachi 3.1-4

A reading from the book of the prophet Malachi.

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.

This is the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

PSALM 24: 7-10

**The Lord of hosts,
he is the king of glory.**

Lift up your heads, O gates;
lift them high, O everlasting doors;
and the King of glory shall come in.
'Who is this King of glory?'
'The Lord, strong and mighty,
the Lord, mighty in battle.' **R**

Lift up your heads, O gates;
lift them high, O everlasting doors;
and the King of glory shall come in.
'Who is he, this King of glory?'
'The Lord of hosts,
he is the King of glory.' **R**

SECOND READING: Hebrews 2.14-18

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

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.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

The light to enlighten the Gentiles
and give glory to Israel, your people.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

GOSPEL: Luke 2.22-40

When the time came for their purification according to
the law of Moses, Mary and Joseph brought Jesus 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.

This is the Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, O Christ.

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Lord, accept the gifts your Church offers you with joy, since in fulfilment of your will your Son offered himself as a lamb without blemish for the life of the world. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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. **Amen.**

HYMNS

Entrance: 467
Offertory: 209
Communion: 77
Final: 439 (tune: Camberwell)

PRAYERS

Bishops in our diocese: Martin, Will, Ruth.

The Sick: Ann Adkin, Chris Avery, Felicity Caperon, Sarah Cashmore, Jenny Chatterton, David Cooper, Tracey Divall, Eileen Head, Gwilym James, Paul Jones, Rita Miell, Tracey Norris, Ian Platten-Higgins, Edward Sibley, Claire Stogden, Joe Sugden, Catherine Wallis, Andrew.

Recently Departed: Connie Phillips, Sophia Burchnall, Kitty Stevens.

Year's Mind: Jane Boulton, Fay Welfare, Jean Donaghy, Tim White, Peter Brown.

*(Candles of the people are lit during the final hymn)
The Sanctuary Party move to the Font at the rear of the church.*

*All hold up their candles for the **FINAL RESPONSORY***

Father, we have sung your praise
with shepherds and angels:
may Christ be born in our hearts today.
Praise to Christ our light.

We have shared in the joy of Simeon
and Anna; help us, like them,
to trust your word.
Praise to Christ our light.

We have greeted Jesus, the light of the world;
may we be filled with the light
of your love.
Praise to Christ our light.

We stand near the place of new birth.
Let us shine with the light of your love.

We turn from the crib to the cross.
Let us shine with the light of your love.

We go to carry his light.
Let us shine with the light of your love.

Thanks be to God.

FORTHCOMING SERVICES

Sunday 3rd February	8am	Mass (BCP)
Candlemass	9am	Family Service
	10am	Sung Mass
Monday 3rd February	11.30	Funeral - Kitty Stevens
Wednesday 5th February	10am	Mass
Sunday 9th February	8am	Mass (BCP)
4th before Lent	10am	Sung Mass

Please return your palm crosses from last year so that they can be burnt for use on Ash Wednesday.

The flower arrangement is in loving memory of Olivia Reynard on the occasion of what would have been her 21st birthday.

Save the Date - 4th March
Shrove Tuesday Family Bingo Evening
More details to follow.

St John's Church is currently in interregnum. For all enquiries please contact one of the churchwardens.

Churchwardens: Carol Brown (01892 652310) carol.brown@btinternet.com

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