

# St Mary's Church Wexham

2024

28 January, Presentation of Christ in the Temple



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## SERVICES

### TODAY

8am Holy Communion, ( Rev. Andrew Parry )  
10am – Holy Communion, ( Rev. Andrew Parry )  
10am – Young Church in hall  
11.30am – Service of Wholeness and Healing

### Services this week

Wed. 31st – Morning Praise at The Pines

### Next Sunday

8am – Holy Communion by Extension  
10am – Holy Communion by Extension  
10am – Young Church in hall



## INTERCESSIONS

Our prayers have been asked for Jo R, Charles F, Hazel B, Michael, Malcolm W, Jane A, Ken G, Janine J, Julie M, Samantha, Kath T

**Hymns for today:** 82, 321, 295, 283.

## 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 Ch. 3: v 1 – 5**

**3** “Behold, I send my messenger, and he will prepare the way before me. And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts.

**2** 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.

**3** He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and they will bring offerings in righteousness to the LORD.

**4** Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

**5** “Then I will draw near to you for judgement. I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired worker in his wages, the widow and the fatherless, against those who thrust aside the sojourner, and do not fear me, says the LORD of hosts.

<sup>22</sup> And 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 <sup>23</sup> (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, “Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord”) <sup>24</sup> and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, “a pair of turtle-doves, or two young pigeons”.

<sup>25</sup> Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. <sup>26</sup> And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ.

<sup>27</sup> And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, <sup>28</sup> he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said,

<sup>29</sup> “Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to your word;

<sup>30</sup> for my eyes have seen your salvation

<sup>31</sup> that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

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

<sup>33</sup> And his father and his mother marvelled at what was said about him. <sup>34</sup> And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, “Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed <sup>35</sup> (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed.”

<sup>36</sup> And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin, <sup>37</sup> and then as a widow until she was eighty-four.

She did not depart from the temple, worshipping with fasting and prayer night and day. <sup>38</sup> And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and to speak of him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.

<sup>39</sup> And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. <sup>40</sup> And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favour of God was upon him.

## 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.

**YOUNG CHURCH** - Today we will hear about Mary and Joseph taking Jesus to the Temple. We will play Pass the parcel and do a candle craft.

## **MEETINGS**

**Tuesday** – Rector/Wardens meeting.

**Bible Study Home Group** will be meeting at Jeanette's on Tuesday when we will start some sessions on "Gravetalk" and will be focusing on 'life'.

## **NOTICES**

**Rev Andrew will be away from 1<sup>st</sup> February until 6<sup>th</sup> February**  
**In case of emergency please contact Rev. TJ on 07939 536879.**

**TODAY – 11.30am** Service of Wholeness and Healing in church

**BINGO in church hall, Mondays** 7.30pm for 7.45pm start – all welcome.



## **CALLING ALL GARDENERS**

**WE NEED BEES – BEES NEED US** so please consider planting **flowers they really like**:- alyssum, spider flower, (cleome), zinnias, verbena, sunflowers, salvia and calendula.

**Herbs are good, too** - sage, thyme, rosemary, lavender, oregano, borage, chives, dill, basil and mint.

