

**Blessed and praised be Jesus Christ  
in the most Holy Sacrament.  
Hosanna, hosanna! Hosanna in excelsis.**

*The Priest leads the People in reciting:*

**'THE ANGELUS'  
The Memorial of the Incarnation**

V/. The Angel of the Lord brought tidings to Mary;  
R/. **And she conceived by the Holy Ghost.**

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee;  
blessed art thou among women,  
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.  
**Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners,  
now and at the hour of our death. Amen.**

V/. Behold the handmaid of the Lord;  
R/. **Be it unto me according to thy word.**

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee;  
blessed art thou among women,  
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.  
**Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners,  
now and at the hour of our death. Amen.**

V/. And the Word was made flesh;  
R/. **And dwelt among us.**

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee;  
blessed art thou among women,  
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.  
**Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners,  
now and at the hour of our death. Amen.**

V/. Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God.  
R/. **That we may be made worthy  
of the promises of Christ.**

Let us pray.

We beseech thee, O Lord,  
to pour thy grace into our hearts;  
that as we have known  
the Incarnation of thy Son Jesus Christ  
by the message of an angel,  
so by his ☩ Cross and Passion,  
we may be brought unto the glory of his resurrection.  
Through the same Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

**Organ Voluntary after Mass:  
Psalm 150 - Seigfried Karg-Elert**

**Reflection after Mass:**

*Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord?  
Who shall stand in holy place?  
The man with clean hands and pure heart,  
who desires not worthless things.  
He shall receive blessings from the Lord  
and reward from the God who saves him. (Ps 24)*

**THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISHES**

**Today:**  
8:30am Morning Prayer at St Mary & St Giles  
**9:30am PARISH MASS at St Mary & St Giles**  
*Intention: The Parish*

**Tuesday:**  
**10:30am Feria Mass at St Mary & St Giles**  
*Intention: Nations where there is conflict*

**Wednesday:**  
**6:00pm St Blaise, Bishop Mass at St Mary & St Giles**  
*Intention: Those with Respiratory Afflictions*

**Next Sunday:**  
**9:30am PARISH MASS at St Mary & St Giles**  
*Intention: The Parish*



**St Mary & St Giles, Stony Stratford  
with All Saints, Calverton**

**THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD  
(CANDLEMASS)**

31st January AD 2021



*Welcome to the Parish Church where, after the example of the early church, we celebrate the Eucharist: the "apostles teaching and fellowship, the breaking of bread and the prayers" (Acts 2:42)*

At the end of the Gospel reading today, Simeon's prophecy of Mary's sufferings is emphasized. Simeon's words seem like a second Annunciation to Mary, for they tell her of the actual historical situation in which the Son is to accomplish his mission, namely, in misunderstanding and sorrow. The archangel's announcement was a fount of incredible joy because it proclaimed Jesus' messianic royalty and the supernatural character of His virginal conception. The announcement of the elderly Simeon in the temple instead spoke of the Lord's work of redemption that He would complete associating Himself through suffering to His Mother. Therefore, there is a strong Marian dimension to this feast and so in the Liturgical Calendar of the Book of Common Prayer it is called the 'Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary.' This refers to the other aspect of the presentation that consists of the ritual purification of Jewish women after they had given birth. In Mary's case this purification was not necessary, but it indicates the renewal of her total offering of herself to God for the accomplishment of His Divine Plan.

Simeon's prophecy also announces that Christ will be 'a sign of contradiction'. St Cyril of Alexandria, in one of his homilies, interpreted the words 'sign of contradiction' like a noble cross, as St Paul wrote to the Corinthians 'a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles' (1 Corinthians 1:23) It is a sign of contradiction in the sense that those who loose appear as foolish while in those who recognize its power [the cross] reveals salvation and life'

### **Prayer Thought**

Today, we celebrate the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple. It was his first entry into his Father's house. Mary his mother was purified and Jesus submitted himself to the Jewish Law. In the Temple, Jesus was greeted by Simeon and Anna under the guidance of the Holy Spirit and Simeon blessed God with a canticle, the Nunc Dimittis while prophesying to Mary the suffering that would follow. We too have come to meet our Lord in the house of God and we pray that we will one day greet the Light of Nations in all his glory.

### **Organ Voluntary before Mass:**

**'Lift up your Heads, o ye Gates' - Handel**

(STAND)

### **THE INTRODUCTORY RITES**

As the Priest & ministers enter the sanctuary the Introit is sung by the Cantor:

Behold our Lord \* when he shall come in power, shall enlighten the eyes of his servants., alleluia!

In the name of the Father, ✠ and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

*The priest greets the people*

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

**and also with you.**

*Introduction of the celebration:*

Brothers and sisters, forty days have passed since the solemnity of Christmas. Today the Church once again prepares to celebrate the day in which Mary and Joseph presented Jesus in the Temple. With that ceremony our Lord submitted himself to the prescriptions of the old law and came to his people, who waited for him with faith. Guided by the Holy Spirit, the old, holy people Simeon and Anna came to the temple; illumined by the same Spirit, they recognised the Lord and full of joy gave witness to him. We who also are here united by the Holy Spirit go towards an encounter with Christ whom we find and recognise in the breaking of the bread, while we wait for him to come and manifest himself in his glory.

*The People raise their candles and Celebrant blesses them:*

Let us pray.

O God, fountain and principle of every light, who today revealed to the holy and ancient Simeon the Christ true light of all people, bless ✠ these candles and hear the prayer of your people who come to you with these luminous signs and hymns of praise; guide them along the road of good, until they reach the light without end. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*At the same time this Canticle is said:*

**Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, \* according to thy word.**

**For mine eyes have seen \* thy salvation,  
Which thou hast prepared \* before the face of all people;  
To be a light to lighten the Gentiles, \* and to be the glory  
of thy people Israel.**

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, \* and to the Holy Spirit;**

**As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, \*  
world without end. Amen.**

*(Music for the Mass texts is available on a card in each of our Parish Churches for those who wish to use it)*

### **The Kyries:**

**Kyrie, eleison.**

**Kyrie, eleison.**

**Christe, eleison.**

**Christe, eleison.**

*which the people acclaim: Amen.*

*All then pray:*

**Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.**

### **THE RITE OF BENEDICTION**

*As the Blessed Sacrament is placed in the Monstrance and exposed to the people - they KNEEL UNTIL THE ANGELUS IS RECITED*

*The Cantor sings:*

O saving Victim, op'ning wide  
The gate of heav'n to all below!  
Our foes press on from ev'ry side;  
Your aid supply, your strength bestow.

All praise and thanks to thee ascend  
for evermore, blest One in three;  
O grant us life that shall not end  
in our true native land with thee.

*The Priest leads the People in a **Meditation**, and then the Cantor sings:*

Therefore we, before him bending,  
this great sacrament revere;  
types and shadows have their ending,  
for the newer rite is here;  
faith, our outward sense befriending,  
makes the inward vision clear.

Glory let us give, and blessing,  
to the Father and the Son;  
honour, might and praise addressing,  
while eternal ages run;  
ever too his love confessing,  
who from both, with both is one.

*The Priest then stands and says:*

Thou gavest them bread from heaven.  
**Containing in itself all sweetness.**

*The Priest then prays a Collect, after which he kneels to receive the humeral veil on his shoulders. Then he goes up to the Altar, takes the Monstrance into his hands, and turns towards the People. The Priest gives the Benediction, making the sign of the cross over the kneeling congregation as a fanfare is played. Placing the Monstrance back on the Altar the Priest kneels, and giving up the humeral veil, begins:*

### **The Divine Praises**

*The People repeat each line after the Priest who says*

Blessed be God.

Blessed be His Holy Name.

Blessed be Jesus Christ, true God and true man.

Blessed be the name of Jesus.

Blessed be His Most Sacred Heart.

Blessed be His Most Precious Blood.

Blessed be Jesus in the Most Holy Sacrament of the Altar.

Blessed be the Holy Spirit, the paraclete.

Blessed be the great Mother of God, Mary most holy.

Blessed be her holy and Immaculate Conception.

Blessed be her glorious Assumption.

Blessed be the name of Mary, Virgin and Mother.

Blessed be Saint Joseph, her most chaste spouse.

Blessed be God in His angels and in His Saints.

*The Priest removes the Blessed Sacrament from the Monstrance and replaces it in the Tabernacle. The Rite ends with the people reciting THRICE:*

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come;  
thy will be done;  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation;  
but deliver us from evil.**

Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil, graciously grant peace in our days, that, by the help of your mercy we may be always free from sin and safe from all distress, as we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

**For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and for ever.**

Lord Jesus Christ, who said to your Apostles: Peace I leave you, my peace I give you, look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church, and graciously grant her peace and unity in accordance with your will. Who live and reign for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

**The Agnus Dei** (KNEEL)

*A small choir sings the Agnus Dei*

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

*The priest shows the consecrated Host to the people, saying:*

Behold the Lamb of God,  
behold him who takes away the sin of the world.  
Blessed are those who are called  
to the supper of the Lamb.

**✠ Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,  
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

*The Communion Antiphon is sung as the people receive Holy Communion:*

A revelation \* came unto Simeon from the Holy Spirit, that he would not see death before he had seen the Christ of the Lord.

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, \*  
according to thy word.

For mine eyes have seen \* thy salvation,  
Which thou hast prepared \* before the face of all people;

To be a light to lighten the Gentiles, \*  
and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, \*  
and to the Holy Spirit;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, \*  
world without end. Amen.

A revelation \* came unto Simeon from the Holy Spirit, that he would not see death before he had seen the Christ of the Lord.

**Organ Voluntary during the Distribution  
of Holy Communion: 'In the bleak mid-winter' - Relf Clark**

**Prayer after Communion** (STAND)

Let us pray.

*And all pray in silence with the Priest for a while, unless the silence has just been observed. Then the priest, with hands extended, says the Prayer after Communion; at the end of*

**Kyrie, eleison, eleison.  
Kyrie, eleison, eleison.**

**The Gloria in excelsis:** (from the 'Mass of St Hugh' - Healey Willan - sung by a small choir.

Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will towards men. We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory, O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty, O Lord, the only begotten Son, Jesus Christ.

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.

For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord; thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

**The Collect**

Let us pray.

*And all pray in silence with the Priest for a while. Then the priest, with hands extended, says the Collect prayer:*

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.**

**THE LITURGY OF THE WORD** (SIT)

**The First Reading** Malachi 3: 1-4

*(Old Testament Page 802 in the Bibles) An anonymous prophet, writing after the renewal of worship in the new Temple (516 BC), looks forward expectantly to the advent of the angel of the covenant, and his entry into the temple, heralded by a mysterious messenger.*

**The Responsorial Psalm** (from Psalm 24)

**R/. Who is the king of glory? It is the Lord.**

O gates, lift up your heads;  
grow higher ancient doors.  
Let him enter, the king of glory! ®

Who is the king of glory?  
The Lord, the mighty, the valiant,  
the Lord, valiant in war. ®

O gates, lift up your heads;  
grow higher ancient doors.  
Let him enter, the king of glory! ®

Who is he, the king of glory?  
He, the Lord of armies,  
he is the king of glory ®

**The Second Reading** Hebrews 2: 14-18

*(New Testament Page 185 in the Bibles) Christ had to become in every way like those he would save, being tempted as they are, and submitting to the Law, so that he could be fully compassionate.*

**Gospel Acclamation**

**Alleluia, alleluia!** A light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel. **Alleluia!**

**The Gospel** Luke 2: 22-40

*(New Testament Page 50 in the Bibles) This passage shows how the mission of Jesus fulfils Israel's hope for salvation, a hope based on historical and prophetic promise which ex-*

tends to the Gentiles. The coming of Jesus is simultaneously the fulfilment of biblical promise and the promise both of his future saving passion and of the persecutions which will attend those associated with him.

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

*As the Gospel is announced the people respond:*

✠ ✠ ✠ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*At the conclusion of the Gospel Reading:*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

### The Homily

#### The Nicene Creed

(STAND)

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.**

**For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven,**

*(all bow during the next three lines)*

**by the power of the Holy Spirit**

**he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

#### The Prayer of the Faithful

(STAND)

*Priest:* My brothers and sisters, let us pray to the Father through Christ who is our Light and Life.

*Intercessor:* Father, your Christ is acclaimed as the glory of Israel: Look in mercy on your Church, sharing his light.

V/. Lord, have mercy.

R/. **Christ, have mercy.**

Father, your Christ in his temple brings judgement on the world: Look in mercy on the nations, who long for his justice.

Father, your Christ, who was rich, for our sakes became poor: Look in mercy on the needy, suffering with him... Malcolm, Shirley, Cecilia, Christel, Joan Carrigan, Margaret DeSousa, Richard Desousa, Ronnie DeSousa, Rene Hazlewood, Fr Joseph, Lilith, Lorna, Sr Janet, James, Peter, Rosie, Susie, Dee, Stacey, Isa, Wendy, Janet, David, Adam Viard, Eric, Davida Wiseman...

Father, your Christ is the one in whom faithful servants find their peace: Look in mercy on the departed, who see your salvation... Jane Bull, Mary Bull, Fr Francis Rodriguez-Veglio...and for those whose anniversaries of death occur during this week...**31st** Richard Maycock, Alice Eales, William Perry, Rose Weygood; **1st Feb** Peter Willett, Robert

Gillman, Eric Foskett; **2nd** Anthony Card, Hugh Johnson; **3rd** Lauretta Hindley; **4th** William Neal, Walter Poynter, Judith Heath, Arthur Webb; **5th** Walter Taylor; **6th** Richard Perceval...

✠ Rest eternal, grant to them, O Lord.

**And let light perpetual shine upon them.**

Father, your Christ is revealed as the one destined to be rejected: Look in mercy on us who now turn towards his passion

*Priest:* Lord God, you kept faith with Simeon and Anna and showed them the infant King. Give us grace to put all our trust in your promises, and the patience to wait for their fulfilment; we ask this through Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

### **THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST**

*The Gifts of Bread and Wine are placed upon the altar. Then the priest says the Offertory Prayers as the Offertory Antiphon is sung:*

Full of grace are thy lips because thou art blessed by God for eternity, and world without end.

*If the priest is still saying the Offertory Prayers the people respond:*

**Blessed be God for ever.**

(STAND) Pray brethren that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God the almighty Father.

**May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his Church.**

*The priest says the Prayer over the Gifts to which all respond:*  
**Amen.**

#### The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you  
**and also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

*The priest says a Eucharistic Preface appropriate to the celebration, after which all join in the acclamation:* (KNEEL)

*A small choir sings the Sanctus & Benedictus:*

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY, Lord God of, hosts, Heaven and earth are full of thy glory: Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High. Amen.

Blessed is he that cometh in the name of The Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

*The priest continues the Eucharistic Prayer of thanksgiving, recalling the command of Jesus Christ, 'Do this in memory of me.'*

*Priest:* The mystery of faith:

**All: We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.**

*The Eucharistic Prayer continues with the priest interceding for the Church, the world, all those present at this celebration, and the Faithful Departed. At the Doxology at the end of the Eucharistic Prayer all join in the Great Amen.*

*Priest:* .....for ever and ever.

**All: Amen.**

### **THE COMMUNION RITE**

#### The Lord's Prayer

*The priest introduces the Lord's Prayer:* (STAND)