



The Presentation of Christ in the Temple/Candlemas

Sunday 1st February 2026

Hymns

4 Christ Whose glory fills the skies
453 Faithful vigil ended
156 Come down O love divine
131 Love divine all love's excelling

Notices

The Blessed Sacrament Lamp burns this week in loving memory of Olwen Cawley, dearest and proudly loved Mum of Christine Spence. **R.I.P.**

Do you have a relative or dear friend who you would like to remember by dedicating the Blessed Sacrament lamp in their memory? The date can be any that is meaningful to you - a birthday, or the anniversary of their passing, or just a private special memory. And it does not have to be a memorial to someone connected with St Faith's - you may have a friend for whom this would be very meaningful. We ask only a small donation of £5. Please speak to Judy Riley.

Book of Remembrance: If you wish to have a loved one commemorated in the Book of Remembrance, please ask for a form. The book, in the Chapel of the Cross, is turned every week of the year. You are invited to make a donation in loving memory.

Good news! The 100 Club draw for February will be made after the service this morning and the first prize will now be **£90**. More members = bigger prizes! Please speak to David Jones for membership details or email him at david.jones@stfaithsgc.org.uk.

A BIG thankyou to those who came to do the **RSPB Big Bird Count** at St Faith's last Saturday. Between us we counted around 32 different birds in the church grounds, but not much variety and small numbers for each - from 15 pigeons and 8 sparrows to a couple of great tits and 1 magpie. We will send this off to the RSPB national count. It shows the need for more diversity in our planting and habitats if we want to attract more wildlife at St Faith's, and it's all part of our 'Eco Church' award.

Thank you to all those who supported the **Children's Society** leading up to Christmas. A total of **£483.51** was raised and they have written to thank us for "your incredible support" and "the money raised by everyone at St Faith's makes a significant difference in the lives of countless children facing abuse, exploitation or neglect".

Donations and Giving: We rely on generous individual giving for much of our income at St Faith's. If you are a UK taxpayer, donations can be Gift Aided to provide additional benefit to the church. If you worship here regularly then please consider joining the Parish Giving Scheme by using this link - <https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish/great-crosby-st-faith-liverpool/>. There is a contactless donation point at the back of church for phone or card use.

Events

Our Lady of Walsingham Group: We will be meeting in the Mackert Room in St Faith's hall on **Saturday 7th February between 2:00pm and 4.30pm**. We are prayerful, practical, pilgrims praying and working together to help our joint benefice, our local community and the world. **EVERYONE** is welcome to share fellowship and ideas...and a nice cup of tea!

Litter Pick: Taking part in the Big Garden Birdwatch last weekend brought to our attention how much litter has blown off from the streets into the church grounds since last November. Please bring your coats and gardening gloves for a litter pick after the church service on **Sunday 15th February, at 12.30pm**. Litter grabbing devices and hoops will be provided. Just bring bags of energy!

Pancakes and Quiz at St. Mary's on **Tuesday 17th February at 6pm**. Donations welcome.

Grand Bring & Buy Sale will take place after the morning service on **Sunday 22nd February**. Please bring your unwanted gifts and nearly new items to donate and bring a few extra pounds to spend to support our church!

This Week's Services

This Sunday 11:00am, Eucharist The Presentation of Christ in the Temple/Candlemas	Fr. Peter Cowley
Monday 2nd February, 9:00am Morning Prayer	Fr. Louis Johnson
Wednesday 4th February, 10:30am Eucharist at St Mary's	Rev. Janet Bissex
Thursday 5th February, 12 noon Eucharist	Fr. Louis Johnson

**Next Sunday, 11:00am, Eucharist with Baptism
The Second Sunday before Lent**

Fr. Louis Johnson
Readings: Genesis 1.1 -
2.3, Psalm 136
Romans 8.18-25
Matthew 6.25-34

Contacts

Vicar: Fr. Louis Johnson 07947 752 399 / louis.johnson@stfaithsgc.org.uk

Assistant Clergy: Fr. Dennis Smith 0151 928 5065; Fr. Bill Matthews 0151 281 4879;
Fr. Peter Cowley CA Tel. 0151 426 5441, Fr. Steve Hall steve.hall@stfaithsgc.org.uk

Parish Reader: Mrs Paula Lampard

Church Wardens: Mr Rick Walker 0151 924 6267 / 07710 226 300; Mrs Maureen
Madden 0151 924 2154 / 07704 004 670

Administrator: Mrs Carolanne Leary 07913 873 697 / carolanne.leary@stfaithsgc.org.uk

Parish Safeguarding Officer: Mari Griffiths 07811591922 / mari.griffiths@stfaithsgc.org.uk

Please keep in your prayers

The Diocese: St Mary, St Paul Prescot, St Mary and St Paul, St Michael Huyton, Huyton with Roby School, St Nicholas Whiston, 4 Saints Team (St Jude Stockbridge Village, St George Huyton, St Luke West Derby, St Mary Knowsley, Hope RC/CE School, Kirkby Team (St Chad Kirkby, St Martin Southdene, St Andrew Tower Hill).

Parish: Local schools: Merchant Taylors', St John's, Sacred Heart, Forefield Lane, St Michael's, Chesterfield High, St Mary's College, St Luke's, St Nicholas, St Edmund and St Thomas, Waterloo Primary, Crosby High.

The World: For peace in all areas of conflict in the world. For those affected by fires, floods, famines and earthquakes. For emergency workers working in disaster areas. For refugees, asylum seekers and agencies that help them. For good stewardship of the earth and its resources. For all victims of cruelty, injustice and exploitation.

The Church: The unity of all Christians everywhere. Archbishop Stephen, Bishop Ruth, Ven Pete Spiers, our Archdeacon, Churches in the South Sefton Deanery, and local ecumenical partners.

Those who are sick: Joan McKortel, Alistair Byron, Angie Price, Susie Greenwood, Jill Deeprose, Holly Keira Barnes, Ken Welsby, Martin Goodwin, Evie Dunne.

The recently departed: Fr. Michael Brinkworth

Those who are to be remembered at this time: Jim Turvey, Margery Turner, Sylvia Jones, John Vincent, Gerald Heygate, Doris Smith, Ken Hollis, John Michael Brierley, Helen Neill, Margaret Shaw, May Studley, Edgar Rodgers (Priest), Jim Smith,

Edna Lillian Harris, Minnie Powell, Horace Book, Vera Hassall, Betty Dutton, King George VI, Harry Evans, Jane Edwards, Edith Mary Houldin, Frank Swift and all the victims of the 1958 Munich Air Crash, Bishop Michael Henshall, Joseph Cecil Smallwood, Raymond Lee (Priest).

The 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.

First Reading, Malachi 3.1-5

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.

Psalm 67

Response (congregation):-

The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory.

The earth is the Lord's and all that fills it,
the compass of the world and all who dwell therein.
For he has founded it upon the seas
and set it firm upon the rivers of the deep.

The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory.

Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord,
or who can rise up in his holy place?
Those who have clean hands and a pure heart,
who have not lifted up their soul to an idol, nor sworn an oath to a lie;

The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory.

'They shall receive a blessing from the Lord,
a just reward from the God of their salvation.'
Such is the company of those who seek him,
of those who seek your face, O God of Jacob.

The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory.

Lift up your heads, O gates;
be lifted up, you everlasting doors;
and the King of glory shall come in.

The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory.

'Who is the King of glory?'
'The Lord, strong and mighty,
the Lord who is mighty in battle.'

The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory.

Lift up your heads, O gates;
be lifted up, you everlasting doors;
and the King of glory shall come in.

The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory.

'Who is this King of glory?'
'The Lord of hosts,
he is the King of glory.'

The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory.

Second Reading, Hebrews 2.14-end

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.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord.

No one comes to the Father except through me.

Alleluia.

Gospel, Luke 2.22-40

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.

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.