



The Parish of Darfield

All Saints Darfield and St Michael Great Houghton

Sunday 1st February 2026

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany - Candlemas

9:00 a.m. Holy Communion Great Houghton

10:45 a.m. Morning Worship Darfield

Sunday 8th February 2026

Second Sunday before Lent - Sexagesima

10:45 a.m. Holy Communion Darfield

The Presentation of Jesus in the Temple

The Mosaic Law set out steps which had to be taken following the birth of a male child. The child had to be circumcised on the eighth day. Circumcision had been established as a sign of the Covenant between the LORD and Abraham [Genesis 13: 10]. In addition, a first-born son had to be consecrated to the LORD [Exodus 13: 2]

Following the birth of any child, a woman was classed as ritually unclean until a period of time had elapsed. For a male child this period was forty days and for a girl, eighty days. [Leviticus 12: 1 -5]. As a part of the ritual the woman had to provide a year-old lamb and a young pigeon or dove. A second pigeon or dove could replace the lamb if the family could not afford the lamb.

Thus it was that Mary and Joseph came to the Temple in Jerusalem with Jesus to present Jesus to the Lord and to cleanse Mary following the birth. A service of thanksgiving after childbirth originally called the Churching of Women, based on that in the Book of Common Prayer, is still available in Common Worship for those who wish to give thanks after childbirth.

Whilst in the temple they encountered two significant individuals. Simeon was a devout and righteous man who had received a promise from the LORD by the Holy Spirit, that he would live to see the LORD's Messiah. He was moved to go to the Temple where he discovered Jesus and recognised Him. [Luke 2: 25-35]. Simeon's words of praise are an element of the service of Evening Prayer in the form of the Nunc Dimittis: *"Lord now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace for mine eyes have seen Thy Salvation..."* [Luke 2: 29-30 BCP]. Anna is described as a prophet. She was eighty-four years old having been widowed after just seven years of marriage. She worshipped night and day in the Temple. Anna was also led to recognise Jesus as the long-promised Messiah. She gave thanks to God and spent the rest of her days speaking about Jesus to the people she met.

The Presentation in the Temple was the first time that Jesus was in the Temple in Jerusalem which was to feature in his ministry.



Ash Wednesday

18th February

10:30 a.m.

Holy Communion

All Saints' Darfield

{Book of Common Prayer}

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

God of heaven, You send the Gospel to the ends of the earth and your messengers to every nation: send Your Holy Spirit to transform us by the good news of everlasting life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Readings

1 Kings 17: 8-16

Psalm 36: 5-10

1 Corinthians 1: 18-31

John 2: 1-11

Readings for this week

February

1st 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10

2nd 1 Thessalonians 2: 1-12

3rd 1 Thessalonians 2: 13-20

4th Joshua 2: 1-11

5th Joshua 2: 12-24

6th Joshua 3: 1-17

7th Joshua 4: 1-13

8th Joshua 4: 14-24

Prayer Square

This week we are praying for residents of Darfield

*Venetian Crescent
Burnham Way
Ancona Rise
Florence Rise
Amalfi Close*

Prayer:

Forward any prayer requests to our Prayer Ministry team through

Carol Hunter: 07542 527 331



Church Flowers:

The new Flower Rotas for 2026 are now available. If you want to see fresh flowers decorating our church buildings on a week by week basis we need you to sign up.
Please contact Wendy or Peter if you would like to make a donation to the on-going costs or see Wendy if you need help in providing and arranging your own flowers.



Presentation of Jesus in the Temple

Lord Jesus Christ, light of the nations and glory of Israel: make Your home among us, and present us pure and holy to Your heavenly Father, Your God, and our God.

Readings:

Malachi 3: 1-5 Psalm 24: 1-10 Hebrews 2: 14-18 Luke 2: 22-40



Candlemas

Light of the World, You stepped down into darkness... Tim Hughes MP 1096

Candlemas is celebrated each year on or near the second of February and in some traditions marks the end of the Christmas season and coincides with the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple. The name Candlemas derives from the custom of bringing candles into church on that day to be blessed. These would then be used for the rest of the year in churches and homes. In some areas special services and candle-lit processions are held as part of the celebrations.

Candles have been used as a source of light for more than five thousand years and have been used in Christian celebrations since the fourth Century. We still use them in our services as a symbol of the **Light of Christ** at certain times of the year and more particularly in our Baptism services where the parents are given a lighted candle on behalf of the child with the words... "You have received the light of Christ; walk in this light all the days of your life. Shine as a light in the world to the glory of God the Father



Thoughtful Thursday at Great Houghton

Resumes on Thursday, 8th January between 11:00 a.m. and noon.

Craft and Natter back after Easter

Resources and Contacts

**Churchwarden
PCC Secretary**

Peter Robinson
Karen Walton

01226 753 572

Safeguarding

Contact Peter Robinson
07910 728 581

DEADLINE for Content

Items, preferably via e-mail, to
pdrobinson@live.co.uk

Tuesday 5:00 p.m.

Find us on A Church Near You

<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/>
Search your current location or Postcode

Our Web Site

<http://www.darfieldallsaintschurch.org.uk/>

Email Allsaintschurchdarfield@gmail.com

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All Saints PCC Darfield is a Registered Charity (no. 1185316).



All Saints

St Michael