



Pew Sheet for 1 February 2026

A warm welcome to everyone attending today's services

The Fourth Sunday of Epiphany

Please come into the hall for refreshments after the 09:30 service.

Collect:

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.

Hymns:

CP278	Alleluia Sing to Jesus
CP2	Christ whose glory fills the skies
CP94	Hail to the Lord who comes - Candlemas hymn
CP96	Jesu lover of my soul
CP432	From heaven you came helpless babe

Although there is no formal collection during the offertory hymn, please feel free to make a contribution to the work of St. Mary's either in the Treasury box at the back of church, or using the card reader, also at the back of church. Thank you.

Readings:

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 become 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.

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 turtledoves 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 ³⁵so 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 seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped 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.

The Return to Nazareth

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 prayer:

Generous Lord,

in word and eucharist we have proclaimed the mystery of your
love:

help us so to live out our days

that we may be signs of your wonders in the world;
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Dates for your diary

1ST FEBRUARY TO 1ST MARCH - The annual revision of the Church Electoral Roll will take place between 1st February and 1st March. If

you filled in an Electoral Roll Form in 2025 when the Roll was completely revised you do not need to complete another form.

If, however, you did not fill in a Roll form last year and wish to be on the Electoral Roll blank forms are available at the back of church. Completed forms should be returned to Paul Nowak.

MONDAY 2ND FEBRUARY & WEDNESDAY 4TH FEBRUARY - Knit & Natter - Monday 2nd 7.30pm and Wednesday 4th February 10.30am. Both in the Leverton Room.

WEDNESDAY 18TH FEBRUARY 2026 - Ash Wednesday 8.00 "Making Sense of Lent" - Monday Evening Series

Mondays 23 February, 2 March, 9 March, 16 March, and 23 March

- 7.30 pm - Tea and coffee in the Church Hall
- 7.45 pm - Session led by Maggie

All are very welcome.

Special Service

- Sunday 15 March, 9.30 am - Mothering Sunday
- Sunday 29 March, 6.00 pm - Special Service on the *Crucifixion* at St Mary's.

Holy Week Services (Monday–Thursday)

- 8.00 pm each evening - Holy Communion at St Mary's.

Good Friday (at the Church Hall unless stated otherwise)

- 10.00 am - Non-Eucharistic Service
- 12.00 - 3.00 pm - Meditative Liturgy of the Last Supper
- There will also be a workshop during the day. We will share more details here soon.

Easter Day

- 6.00 am - Easter Sunrise Service, followed by breakfast
- 8.00 am and 9.30 am - Regular Easter Day services

27TH SEPTEMBER 2026 - Confirmations will take place at St Mary's, hopefully led by Bishop Paul - we welcome anyone who wishes to be confirmed to register with Rev Joshva.