



The United Benefice of Slyne with Hest St Luke and Halton St Wilfrid with Aughton St Saviour

1st February 2026

The Presentation of Christ in the Temple (Candlemas)



Collect

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. **Amen**

Readings

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.

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.

This is the word of the Lord. **All:** Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

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.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

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. **Amen**

Please remember in your prayers:

St Luke's: Pat, Julia, William, Michael, Moya, June, Karen, Alice and Julie, Chris, Hazel, Revd John Gordon (URC) R.I.P Douglas

St Wilfrid's: Katie Victoria, Marjorie, Margaret, George and Daphne, Ruby, Christine, Hilary.

May they and all those unable to be with us, feel the healing power of Jesus.

Village prayers. This week we pray for those who live and work on Sunningdale Avenue; Sunningdale Crescent in Slyne with Hest and Harrowdale Park, Bowland Fold in Halton and the people of Aughton.

Notices

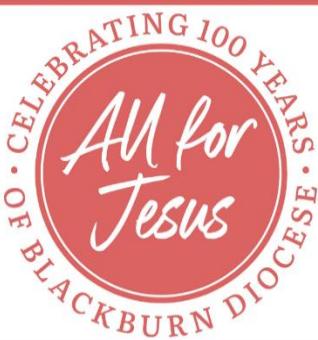
Confirmation. Please pray for our candidates, Ava, Ebony, Emily and Evelyn from St Luke's and Angel, Bethany, Macy, Maggie and Nora from St Wilfrid's as they prepare for their Confirmation service on 22nd February. If any adults would like to be Confirmed, please talk to Revd Susan ASAP.

St Luke's Lent Challenge

Are you up for our Lent Challenge? Give something up for lent and donate the money saved to the Church roof fund. Please sign up on the list at the back of church!

St Wilfrid's Coffee Morning. Thursday 5th February 10 am

At Bolton-le-Sands Community Centre. Contributions to the raffle and Cake stall would be much appreciated.



Heavenly Father,
in our Centenary year
we rededicate ourselves and our Diocese to you.
Send the Holy Spirit to give us
confidence in our witness,
generosity in our service,
and love for our neighbours,
that your Church may be renewed
and many come home to you,
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen**

Calendar of services and events				
<u>1st February</u> Presentation of Christ in the Temple	8 am 9.30 am 10 am 4 pm	Holy Communion Family Worship Family Communion Families@4	St Luke's St Luke's St Wilfrid's Church Hall Slyne	
Mon	2 pm	Knit and Natter	Church Hall Slyne	
Tues	9 am 9 am	Morning Prayer Shining Stars	St Wilfrid's Slyne Church Hal	
Weds	9 am 2 pm 4 pm	Morning Prayer Community Tea Confirmation Class	St Luke's St Wilfrid' School Church Hall Slyne	
Thur	10 am 10 am 10.45 am 2 pm 7.30 pm	St Wilfrid's Coffee Morning Prayer and discussion group Community Coffee morning Body and Soul Halton Bible Study group	Bolton-le-Sands Church Hall Slyne Church Hall Slyne Church Hall Slyne Thrushgill Drive	
Fri	3.30 pm	Messy Church	St Luke's School	
<u>8th February</u> 2nd Sunday before Lent	8 am 9.30 am 10 am 11.30 am 1.30 pm	Holy Communion Family Communion Family Worship Morning Prayer Baptism of Nellie	St Wilfrid's St Luke's St Wilfrid's St Saviour's St Luke's	

Rector: Susan Seed – 01524 822128, revsusan.seed@btinternet.com

Priest: Helen Leathard

Lay minister: Martin Wakelin-07740933463, martin@racquetstringer.co.uk

Parish Safeguarding Officers:

St Luke's – Ann-Marie Lindsay 07779155839

St Saviour's – Karen Swindlehurst 07894173315.

St Wilfrid's – Children: Christine Walmsley 07788646740.

Adults: Sarah Mainwaring 01524 811430