

**The Parishes of Adbaston, Gnosall, High Offley & Knightley,
Moreton and Norbury
Sunday 1st February. (Candlemas)**

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.

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.**

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.

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.

In our year's mind (St Lawrence, Gnosall) we

remember: Pauline Margaret Walwyn, Ellen Alexandra Meddings, Astrid Vanessa Garvey, Olive Cato, Louisa Dorothy Hutchinson, Ralph T.W. Farmer.

Notices

This Week's Services- 1st February

Gnosall 8am Holy Communion
Benefice Zoom Service 10am

Next Week's Services- 8th February

Gnosall 8am Holy Communion
10:30am Holy Communion
Knightley 9:30am Morning Worship
Adbaston 9:30am Family Communion
Norbury 11am Morning Worship
Moreton 11am Holy Communion

Coffee and Chat

All Welcome for Coffee and Chat 10:30-12:30 at St Lawrence Church. 1st Saturday of every month.

Bingo and Bangers

Saturday 28th February 7.15pm for 7.30pm start Norbury Village Hall. Admission £6.00 (children £3.00) Price includes 2 books and Hotdog in the interval. Please bring own drinks and glasses
Proceeds to Church funds
Contact 01785 284463 for further information

Lent Get-Togethers

Rachael would like to invite you to join her for coffee, cake and prayer at 11am on each of the Fridays during Lent. You would be welcome to come along to any or all of the sessions. There will be an opportunity to explore this year's theme of 'Life Giving Habits for Lent' and the sessions will include conversation, prayer and a short time of worship. Do come along!

Friday 27th February 11am Millenium Hall, Moreton

Friday 6th March 11am Jubilee Rooms, Adbaston

Friday 13th March 11am St Peter's, Norbury

Friday 20th March 11am Woodseaves Village Hall

Friday 27th March 11am The Vestry at St Lawrence

Lent Resources

The Church of England's theme for Lent 2026 is 'Draw Near: Life-Giving Habits for `Lent.' For each of the days of Lent, there will be a reflection exploring a different aspect of Christian discipleship, helping us to learn how we can cultivate the habits and practices that will draw us nearer to God. A booklet containing all 40 daily reflections is available from Church House Publishing. You can also download the Everyday Faith app to access free daily reflections. These are also complimented by the Archbishop of Canterbury's 2026 Lent Book, 'Dancing to the Heartbeat of God' (SPCK) which contains stories of discipleship from across the Anglican Communion. For more information, visit the Church of England website.

Eco Tip of the Month

This Lent, take part in Climate Steward's Carbon Fast. Find out more and sign up at climatestewards.org/resources/carbon-fast/

Contact Details for the Church Office.

Phone: 01785 822820 Benefice Administrator: Victoria Hainsworth

Office email: churchofficegnosall@gmail.com

Office hours: Tuesday and Wednesday 9-12.00, Friday 9-1:00. When the office is not staffed, leave a message and someone will reply as soon as possible.



Gnosall



Adbaston



Norbury

Just Giving Pages