

## Please Pray for Peace in our troubled world

God, our refuge and strength, bring near the day when wars shall cease.  
and poverty and pain shall end, that earth may know the peace of heaven.  
Through Jesus Christ Our Lord. Amen

### A Prayer

Holy God,  
when our memories blot out your kindness  
and we ignore your patient love,  
remember us, re-make us,  
and give to us poor sinners  
the rich inheritance of Jesus Christ our Lord

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**Supporting St Bartholomew's** – There is a donations plate by the door at every service, and if you can Gift Aid your donation, please use & complete a yellow Gift Aid envelope with your details.  
There's also a "Contactless Collection Plate" if you prefer, also by the south door.

Or here's a QR code, which will take you straight to our donations page –



If you would like to find out how to support St Bartholomew's on a regular basis, then please go to our website for more information, or phone the Parish Office on 01793 853272. And thank you!

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**Keep in touch, or let us know if any help is needed at:**

Telephone: 01793 853272

Email: [churchadmin@stbartholomews-wb.com](mailto:churchadmin@stbartholomews-wb.com)

**Please visit our website:** [www.stbartholomews-wb.com](http://www.stbartholomews-wb.com)

for more information and links to Facebook & YouTube

**We seek to grow through prayer and share Christ's love through engagement with all.**



# Weekly News

## 1st February 2026



### 8:00 am Holy Communion BCP

Followed by refreshments in the Croft.

### 10:00 am All Age Eucharist

**Church Children** meet in the children's area and Lady Chapel in church  
Followed by refreshments in the Croft.

### 4:00pm A service for Candlemas

(marking the end of the season of Christmas)  
with music from Taize, readings and prayers – followed by refreshments too.

**Wednesday**

### 10:30 am Holy Communion

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**Honor Page RIP** - Honor's funeral will be at 11:00 am on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February.

**The Friends of St Bartholomew's** invite you to a Coffee Morning in The Croft on **Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> February** – Coffee, Cakes, Raffle and a chat ! Raising funds to help maintain our beautiful church for future generations.

**The Friends of St Bartholomew's** are holding their AGM at **12:00 noon on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> February** in The Croft.

**Charity Concert** at St Barts Church Saturday 7th February 3-5pm raising funds for music therapy Charity Wiltshire Hope and Harmony. Tickets available on the door- all are welcome to our relaxed Concert- donations are very very welcome! Special musical guests include RWB Dementia Choir and Burn the Midnight oil.

**The Ladies Guild** invite you to a Pancake and cuppa on **Shrove Tuesday, 17<sup>th</sup> February** in The Croft 10:00 am – 2:00pm. Just £2.50 and there'll be a raffle too.

**Lent Lunches:** The first of our four Lent lunches will be on Wednesday, 25<sup>th</sup> February with the proceeds going to the Sudan appeal. We are looking for volunteers to delight diners with their favourite soups and we also need donations of bread and cheese. If you are able to help, please sign up on the sheet on the noticeboard in church. Many thanks, Dave Woollett

**Palm Crosses:** If you have last year's cross, could you please bring it in to church, so that it may be used to prepare ashes for the Ash Wednesday services. Thank you.

**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2026**

## **Presentation of Christ in the Temple**

### **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***

Thus says the Lord God: 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.

### **SECOND READING: *Hebrews 2.14-end***

Since the children share flesh and blood, Jesus 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.

### **GOSPEL READING: *Luke 2.22-40***

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, Mary and Joseph brought Jesus 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, 28Simeon 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 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.