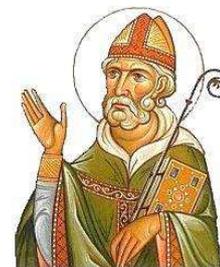


# The Parish Church of Aldwick St Richard



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*Registered Charity Number 1206799*

## SUNDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> FEBRUARY 2026

### THE PRESENTATION OF CHRIST IN THE TEMPLE (CANDLEMAS)

<b>Sunday 1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>08:00 Holy Communion</b>
<b>Presentation of Christ in the Temple</b>	<b>10:30 Coffee in the Mosse Hall</b>
	<b>11:15 Parish Family Eucharist</b>
	<b>12:45 Lunch on Sunday in the Mosse Hall</b>
<b>Monday 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>09:15 Morning Prayer (Pagham)</b>
<b>Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>17:30 Evening Prayer on Zoom</b>
<b>St. Anskar, Archbishop of Hamburg-Bremen</b>	<b>19:00 Tuesday@7 (Pagham)</b>
<b>Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>19:30 Mothers' Union AGM (Waverley, Bognor Regis)</b>
	<b>09:30 Morning Prayer (St. Richard's)</b>
	<b>09:30 Breakfast Club (Manor Nursery)</b>
	<b>16:00 Meet with &amp; try the Coat of Hopes (Mosse Hall)</b>
	<b>17:30 Evening Prayer on Zoom</b>
<b>Thursday 5<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10:00 Holy Communion (Pagham)</b>
<b>Friday 6<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>No public worship today</b>
<b>Saturday 7<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>No public worship today</b>
<b>Sunday 8<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>08:00 Holy Communion</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday before Lent</b>	<b>10:30 Coffee in the Mosse Hall</b>
	<b>11:15 Parish Eucharist</b>

The Church is open for private prayer, Monday – Saturday 10.00-4.00 and until 4.00 on Sunday

*The Collection plate - If you would like to make an offering, please use the contactless Payaz machine or the collection plate, both of which can be found by the door. Thank you for your generosity.*

If you wish to take part in the Zoom evening prayer services on Tuesday or Wednesday, please contact [trudikearsley@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:trudikearsley@hotmail.co.uk) for the link.

### Hymns

**Introit: 408 Love Divine, all loves excelling**

**Gradual: 44 Faithful vigil ended, watching, waiting cease**

**Offertory: 295 Let all mortal flesh keep silence**

**Final: 420 O Jesus, I have promised to serve thee to the end**

## **The Collect (Opening Prayer) for the Presentation of Christ in the Temple**

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. **Amen.**

## **Old Testament reading: 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.

## **Psalm 24: 7-end**

## **New Testament Reading: The Letter to the 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.

## **Gospel Reading: 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.

### **Prayers of Intercession**

***The sick and those who care for them:*** Janet Lock, Peter Dickinson, Sue and family, Edna Nolson, Don Durrant, Betty Kernan, Molly Hendry, Bob Coyne, Sheila Chittenden, Jo Greenwood.

***Recently departed:***

***Anniversary of death:*** Hubert Cozens (1<sup>st</sup>), Alan Francis Norman (1<sup>st</sup>), Merle Ann Moody (2<sup>nd</sup>), Richard Jeffery (4<sup>th</sup>).

***We pray*** for and with the people of Ukraine; for the people of Israel, Gaza and the West Bank; for peace of the Holy Land; and for those who will weep, and fear, and die this day.

***We pray*** for our vacancy – PCC Secretary.

### **Post Communion Prayer:**

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.**

#### **Next week's readings**

**Genesis 1.1–2.3; Psalm 136; Romans 8. 18–25; Matthew 6. 25–end**

**PCC vacancy.** We are still looking to fill the post of PCC Secretary. If you may be interested, please contact Revd Julian or one of the churchwardens. Training will be offered.

**Leading intercessions.** Would you like to get more involved in our services? Could you do this by joining a rota to lead the intercessions? If this is something you might be interested in doing, please speak to Rev'd Julian to find out more.

**Sponsoring flower arrangements in church:** If you would like to sponsor a flower arrangement in church, perhaps in memory of a loved one, or simply because you love to see the beautiful decorations created by our flower group, please do sign up - there is a rota on the noticeboard as you go into church. Please take an envelope, pop in your cash and leave it in the collection plate. Alternatively, if you'd like to donate by BACS transfer, please ask David, our treasurer, for the account details and use the reference: Flowers.

## Community Groups and Events

**Lunch on Sunday** is today at 12.45pm following the Parish Family Eucharist. A wonderful chance to enjoy a 2-course meal and fellowship in relaxed surroundings, at just £10 for adults, children free. If you have not yet signed up, and you would like to attend, please ask if there is space. If you, along with some friends, would like to organise a lunch in the future, please contact Angela Purser.

**Aldwick Mothers' Union AGM** will be held at the Waverley on **Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February at 7.30pm**. All are welcome to come and join us for what will primarily be a social event.

**Breakfast club** meets next **Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> February** at Manor Nursery Palm Court café, at 9.30am. The cost of breakfast at Manor Nursery is between £10 and £14. All are welcome to come along and enjoy a cooked breakfast with like-minded people with wide ranging conversation!! Any queries, please contact Alex Brockhurst 07792 544259.

**Meet with and try the Coat of Hopes** on **Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> February**, in the **Mosse Hall, 4-5pm**. Refreshments will be available. The Coat of Hopes is a patchwork coat that is on an ongoing walk through Britain. Made, worn and walked by hundreds of people during and since its pilgrimage from the south coast of England to COP26, the UN climate summit, in Glasgow autumn 2021. The coat is made up of pieces of blanket into which people have worked their griefs, remembrances, prayers and hopes for the place they call home. It carries an invitation to share our love and responsibility in facing this climate and ecological emergency. Visit the website to find out more: <https://www.coatofhopes.uk/>

**The Bear Necessities** will meet next on **Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February at 7.30pm** at The Bear Inn, Pagham

**Pints of View** will meet next on **Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> February at 7.30pm** at the Inglenook, Pagham

**Valentine's Ball:** This fundraising event will be held in the Mosse Hall on **Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> February, 6pm-9pm**. Dress code - evening dress/dress to impress. Live music provided by Regis Rhythms. Love Quiz. Bring 'n' share buffet. Bring your own liquid refreshment. Bring a friend! Numbers are limited, so please book now using the sign-up sheets in church, or by emailing [strichardsaldwick@gmail.com](mailto:strichardsaldwick@gmail.com). Tickets are just £12 per person to include a glass of bubbly. You are asked to pay in advance to secure your booking. Pay by BACS transfer to Aldwick Parochial Church Council, Sort Code: 20-20-65, account number: 50759368, putting 'Valentine' as the reference. Alternatively pay Angela Purser or David Williams by cash or cheque made payable to Aldwick PCC Mosse Hall Account.

**Ash Wednesday and Lent Course:** Our Ash Wednesday service will be at 7.30pm on **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> February** at St Richard's. **The following Wednesday, 25<sup>th</sup> February, at 7pm** marks the beginning of our **five-week Lent course**. The Diocesan course for this year is called, 'The Year of Matthew'. Key themes that we will be looking at include, the birth of Jesus, the calling of the disciples, Jesus as teacher, his miracles, and his impending passion. This year's parish Lent course will be held in St Andrew's Chapel, St Thomas à Becket Church, Pagham. A sign-up sheet and flyer will be available at the back of the church on the Sundays leading up to Lent.

**Knitted poppies:** Following the success of our display of knitted poppies for Remembrance Sunday last year, Barbara would like to make an even bigger display this year – and there's no time like the present to get started! If you would like to help with this Mothers' Union project by knitting more poppies, please contact Carole ([cmatthews@jrmail.co.uk](mailto:cmatthews@jrmail.co.uk)) for the pattern, or pick a copy up at the back of church, and drop your poppies into church as you complete them

**SUPPORT FOR THE FOODBANK IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN EVER.**



**Urgently needed this week:** Sturdy carrier bags, tinned meat, tinned rice puddings, UHT fruit juice, UHT milk. **We have plenty of:** pulses.