

News from St Mary's

East Barnet Parish Church

February 2026

Sunday 1 February	10am All Age Messy Christingle and Eucharist 6pm Evensong
Sunday 8 February	10am Eucharist for 2 before Lent
Sunday 15 February	10am Eucharist for 1 before Lent 3 pm Messy Church at Brookside Methodist Church 4pm Contemplative Eucharist
Wednesday 18 February	10am Eucharist for Ash Wednesday
Sunday 22 February	10am Eucharist for Lent 1

We're starting a regular mid-week parish lunch at the Prince of Wales.

Alec is even trying to negotiate us a church table and a special discount on the main lunch menu. Please contact him if you're interesting in attending.

From 7pm on Friday 6 February Roger Melling and John Savage are hosting a Men's Night at St Mary's.

All gentlemen (and blokes) are invited along to hear Dan Tomlinson MP talk about his experience as a new MP and minister, and our constituency representative for Chip-ping Barnet. Please be in touch with Roger or John if you are interested.

The Church Choir rehearses before Evensong and special services.

To join, please contact the Director of Music.

Enjoy coffee and cake in the community halls on the first Thursday of the month from 10:30 - 12 noon.

Every Thursday from 12:30pm there are food parcel packing sessions in the community halls.

For information, please contact the Rector.

The Prayer Group meets at 3pm on Fridays.

For more information please contact the Director of Music or Debbie Windeler (debbw@talktalk.net).

The Sewing Circle meets in the community halls on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month from 10am-1pm.

St Mary's will soon be able to issue vouchers for our local foodbank.

Please contact Alec if you are in need of help with foodbank vouchers or accessing food redeliveries we organise with Barnet Collective.

stmaryseastbarnet.org

@smaryeastbarnet

Sunday 1 February

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 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 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. 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 favor of God was upon him.

Some questions for conversation:

What does it mean to be pure?

What does it mean to be designated as holy to the Lord?

Who has been an important role model or part of your journey in faith and self-discovery?

What are you waiting and hoping for from God?

What sadnesses and challenges are you left pondering?

How do you prepare yourself to praise God and to speak to others of the hope you see in Jesus?

Contacts

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