

## **260201 The Presentation (tr)**

### **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.

### **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. <sup>2</sup>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; <sup>3</sup>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. <sup>4</sup>Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

<sup>5</sup> 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 24.7-10**

Lift up your heads, O gates!  
and be lifted up, O ancient doors!  
that the King of glory may come in.

<sup>8</sup> Who is the King of glory?  
The LORD, strong and mighty,  
the LORD, mighty in battle.

<sup>9</sup> Lift up your heads, O gates!  
and be lifted up, O ancient doors!  
that the King of glory may come in.

<sup>10</sup> Who is this King of glory?  
The LORD of hosts,  
he is the King of glory.

### **Hebrews 2.14-18**

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, <sup>15</sup>and

free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. <sup>16</sup>For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. <sup>17</sup>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. <sup>18</sup>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 <sup>23</sup>(as it is written in the law of the Lord, 'Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord'), <sup>24</sup>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.'

25 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. <sup>26</sup>It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. <sup>27</sup>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, <sup>28</sup>Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

<sup>29</sup> 'Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace,  
according to your word;  
<sup>30</sup> for my eyes have seen your salvation,  
<sup>31</sup> which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,  
<sup>32</sup> a light for revelation to the Gentiles  
and for glory to your people Israel.'

33 And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. <sup>34</sup>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 <sup>35</sup>so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.'

36 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, <sup>37</sup>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. <sup>38</sup>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.

39 When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. <sup>40</sup>The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him.

## **Cycle of Prayer**

**Our bishops:** David, Mark and Matthew

**The Anglican Communion**

The Church of England

**Porvoo Communion**

*Church in Wales:* Diocese of Bangor

*Church of Ireland:* Diocese of Dublin and Glendalough

*Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Faroe Islands*

**Schools and Colleges**

All Saints; St Wilfrid's; Briscoe Lane Academy;

Christ the King; Co-op Academy Broadhurst;  
Oldham Blue Coat; Trinity High School; Bowdoin College, Maine; Churchill College, Cambridge;  
University of Coventry; Edge Hill University; University of Leeds; Oldham Sixth Form College.

**Parish**

Chelsea Road, Christopher Street, Church Avenue, Clough Street, Cloughton Walk, Clovelly Street.

**Book of Remembrance**

Stanley Newton; Stanley Redman; Albert Cromton; Lynne Hulse; Charlotte Curley; Annie  
Coyne; George Hunt; Nora Ernest; Elizabeth Dennerly; Ronald Hatch; Ruby Walmsley.

**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.

## 260208 The Second Sunday before Lent

### Collect

Almighty God,  
you have created the heavens and the earth  
and made us in your own image:  
teach us to discern your hand in all your works  
and your likeness in all your children;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who with you and the Holy Spirit reigns supreme over all things,  
now and for ever.

### Genesis 1.1-2.3

1In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, <sup>2</sup>the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. <sup>3</sup>Then God said, 'Let there be light'; and there was light. <sup>4</sup>And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. <sup>5</sup>God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

6 And God said, 'Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.' <sup>7</sup>So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. <sup>8</sup>God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

9 And God said, 'Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.' And it was so. <sup>10</sup>God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. <sup>11</sup>Then God said, 'Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it.' And it was so. <sup>12</sup>The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. <sup>13</sup>And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

14 And God said, 'Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, <sup>15</sup>and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth.' And it was so. <sup>16</sup>God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. <sup>17</sup>God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, <sup>18</sup>to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. <sup>19</sup>And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

20 And God said, 'Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky.' <sup>21</sup>So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. <sup>22</sup>God blessed them, saying, 'Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.' <sup>23</sup>And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

24 And God said, 'Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind.' And it was so. <sup>25</sup>God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.

26 Then God said, 'Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.'

<sup>27</sup> So God created humankind in his image,  
in the image of God he created them;  
male and female he created them.

<sup>28</sup> God blessed them, and God said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.' <sup>29</sup> God said, 'See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. <sup>30</sup> And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.' And it was so. <sup>31</sup> God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

2 Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. <sup>2</sup> And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. <sup>3</sup> So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.

### **Psalm 136**

<sup>1</sup> O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,  
for his steadfast love endures for ever.

<sup>2</sup> O give thanks to the God of gods,  
for his steadfast love endures for ever.

<sup>3</sup> O give thanks to the Lord of lords,  
for his steadfast love endures for ever;

<sup>4</sup> who alone does great wonders,  
for his steadfast love endures for ever;

<sup>5</sup> who by understanding made the heavens,  
for his steadfast love endures for ever;

<sup>6</sup> who spread out the earth on the waters,  
for his steadfast love endures for ever;

<sup>7</sup> who made the great lights,  
for his steadfast love endures for ever;

<sup>8</sup> the sun to rule over the day,  
for his steadfast love endures for ever;

<sup>9</sup> the moon and stars to rule over the night,  
for his steadfast love endures for ever;

<sup>10</sup> who struck Egypt through their firstborn,  
for his steadfast love endures for ever;

<sup>11</sup> and brought Israel out from among them,  
for his steadfast love endures for ever;

<sup>12</sup> with a strong hand and an outstretched arm,  
for his steadfast love endures for ever;

<sup>13</sup> who divided the Red Sea in two,  
for his steadfast love endures for ever;

<sup>14</sup> and made Israel pass through the midst of it,  
for his steadfast love endures for ever;

<sup>15</sup> but overthrew Pharaoh and his army in the Red Sea,  
 for his steadfast love endures for ever;  
<sup>16</sup> who led his people through the wilderness,  
 for his steadfast love endures for ever;  
<sup>17</sup> who struck down great kings,  
 for his steadfast love endures for ever;  
<sup>18</sup> and killed famous kings,  
 for his steadfast love endures for ever;  
<sup>19</sup> Sihon, king of the Amorites,  
 for his steadfast love endures for ever;  
<sup>20</sup> and Og, king of Bashan,  
 for his steadfast love endures for ever;  
<sup>21</sup> and gave their land as a heritage,  
 for his steadfast love endures for ever;  
<sup>22</sup> a heritage to his servant Israel,  
 for his steadfast love endures for ever.

<sup>23</sup> It is he who remembered us in our low estate,  
 for his steadfast love endures for ever;  
<sup>24</sup> and rescued us from our foes,  
 for his steadfast love endures for ever;  
<sup>25</sup> who gives food to all flesh,  
 for his steadfast love endures for ever.

<sup>26</sup> O give thanks to the God of heaven,  
 for his steadfast love endures for ever.

### **Romans 8.18-25**

18 I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. <sup>19</sup>For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; <sup>20</sup>for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope <sup>21</sup>that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. <sup>22</sup>We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labour pains until now; <sup>23</sup>and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. <sup>24</sup>For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? <sup>25</sup>But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

### **Matthew 6.25-34**

25 'Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? <sup>26</sup>Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? <sup>27</sup>And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? <sup>28</sup>And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, <sup>29</sup>yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. <sup>30</sup>But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? <sup>31</sup>Therefore do not worry, saying, "What will we eat?" or "What will we drink?" or "What will we wear?" <sup>32</sup>For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. <sup>33</sup>But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

34 'So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today's trouble is enough for today.

### **Cycle of Prayer**

**Our bishops:** David, Mark and Matthew

#### **The Anglican Communion**

Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui

#### **Porvoo Communion**

*Church Of England:* Diocese of Worcester

*Church of Norway:* Diocese of Hamar

#### **Schools and Colleges**

All Saints; St Wilfrid's; Briscoe Lane Academy;

Christ the King; Co-op Academy Broadhurst;

Oldham Blue Coat; Trinity High School; Bowdoin College, Maine; Churchill College, Cambridge;

University of Coventry; Edge Hill University; University of Leeds; Oldham Sixth Form College.

#### **Parish**

Coleridge Street, Coltness Walk, Coniston Street.

#### **Book of Remembrance**

Mary Bickerdike; Albert Allen; Frank Norton; Albert Thornton; Caroline Thompson; Wilfred Parker;

Amy White; Mable Gabbadon; Len Kendall; Hannah Woodhead; Joyce Davies.

### **Post Communion**

God our creator,

by your gift

the tree of life was set at the heart of the earthly paradise,

and the bread of life at the heart of your Church:

may we who have been nourished at your table on earth

be transformed by the glory of the Saviour's cross

and enjoy the delights of eternity;

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## **260215 The Sunday next before Lent (Transfiguration Sunday)**

Almighty Father,  
whose Son was revealed in majesty  
before he suffered death upon the cross:  
give us grace to perceive his glory,  
that we may be strengthened to suffer with him  
and be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory;  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

### **Exodus 24.12-18**

12 The LORD said to Moses, 'Come up to me on the mountain, and wait there; and I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction.' <sup>13</sup>So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. <sup>14</sup>To the elders he had said, 'Wait here for us, until we come to you again; for Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them.'

15 Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. <sup>16</sup>The glory of the LORD settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. <sup>17</sup>Now the appearance of the glory of the LORD was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. <sup>18</sup>Moses entered the cloud, and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

### **Psalms 2**

#### **God's Promise to His Anointed**

- <sup>1</sup> Why do the nations conspire,  
and the peoples plot in vain?  
<sup>2</sup> The kings of the earth set themselves,  
and the rulers take counsel together,  
against the LORD and his anointed, saying,  
<sup>3</sup> 'Let us burst their bonds asunder,  
and cast their cords from us.'
- <sup>4</sup> He who sits in the heavens laughs;  
the LORD has them in derision.  
<sup>5</sup> Then he will speak to them in his wrath,  
and terrify them in his fury, saying,  
<sup>6</sup> 'I have set my king on Zion, my holy hill.'
- <sup>7</sup> I will tell of the decree of the LORD:  
He said to me, 'You are my son;  
today I have begotten you.  
<sup>8</sup> Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage,  
and the ends of the earth your possession.  
<sup>9</sup> You shall break them with a rod of iron,  
and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel.'

<sup>10</sup> Now therefore, O kings, be wise;  
be warned, O rulers of the earth.  
<sup>11</sup> Serve the LORD with fear,  
with trembling <sup>12</sup>kiss his feet,  
or he will be angry, and you will perish in the way;  
for his wrath is quickly kindled.

Happy are all who take refuge in him.

Or

## **Psalm 99**

### **Praise to God for His Holiness**

<sup>1</sup> The LORD is king; let the peoples tremble!  
He sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth quake!  
<sup>2</sup> The LORD is great in Zion;  
he is exalted over all the peoples.  
<sup>3</sup> Let them praise your great and awesome name.  
Holy is he!  
<sup>4</sup> Mighty King, lover of justice,  
you have established equity;  
you have executed justice  
and righteousness in Jacob.  
<sup>5</sup> Extol the LORD our God;  
worship at his footstool.  
Holy is he!

<sup>6</sup> Moses and Aaron were among his priests,  
Samuel also was among those who called on his name.  
They cried to the LORD, and he answered them.  
<sup>7</sup> He spoke to them in the pillar of cloud;  
they kept his decrees,  
and the statutes that he gave them.

<sup>8</sup> O LORD our God, you answered them;  
you were a forgiving God to them,  
but an avenger of their wrongdoings.  
<sup>9</sup> Extol the LORD our God,  
and worship at his holy mountain;  
for the LORD our God is holy.

## **2 Peter 1.16-21**

### **Eyewitnesses of Christ's Glory**

16 For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. <sup>17</sup>For he received honour and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, 'This

is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.’<sup>18</sup> We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain.

19 So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. <sup>20</sup>First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one’s own interpretation, <sup>21</sup>because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

## **Matthew 17.1-9**

### **The Transfiguration**

17 Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. <sup>2</sup>And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. <sup>3</sup>Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. <sup>4</sup>Then Peter said to Jesus, ‘Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.’ <sup>5</sup>While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, ‘This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!’ <sup>6</sup>When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. <sup>7</sup>But Jesus came and touched them, saying, ‘Get up and do not be afraid.’ <sup>8</sup>And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

9 As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, ‘Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.’

### **Cycle of Prayer**

**Our bishops:** David, Mark and Matthew

#### **The Anglican Communion**

The Church of the Province of the Indian Ocean

#### **Porvoo Communion**

*Church of Ireland:* Diocese of Tuam; Limerick and Killaloe

*Evangelical Lutheran Church in Denmark:* Diocese of Roskilde

#### **Schools and Colleges**

All Saints; St Wilfrid’s; Briscoe Lane Academy;

Christ the King; Co-op Academy Broadhurst;

Oldham Blue Coat; Trinity High School; Bowdoin College, Maine; Churchill College, Cambridge;

University of Coventry; Edge Hill University; University of Leeds; Oldham Sixth Form College.

#### **Parish**

Court Drive, Crammond Close, Cranmore Street, Cravenhurst Avenue, Crawford Street, Crayford Road.

#### **Book of Remembrance**

Elsie Corless; Denys Pope; Hilda Kirkham; Alice Dawson; Sydney Jackson; Frank Cartwright; Leslie Wild; Mark Drinkwater; Alice Coates, Alison Cooney; Lily Bateman.

### **Post Communion**

Holy God,  
we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ:  
may we who are partakers at his table

reflect his life in word and deed,  
that all the world may know his power to change and save.  
This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## 260218 Ash Wednesday

### Collect

Almighty and everlasting God,  
you hate nothing that you have made  
and forgive the sins of all those who are penitent:  
create and make in us new and contrite hearts  
that we, worthily lamenting our sins  
and acknowledging our wretchedness,  
may receive from you, the God of all mercy,  
perfect remission and forgiveness;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

### Joel 2.1-2, 12-17

2 Blow the trumpet in Zion;  
    sound the alarm on my holy mountain!  
Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble,  
    for the day of the LORD is coming, it is near—  
<sup>2</sup> a day of darkness and gloom,  
    a day of clouds and thick darkness!  
Like blackness spread upon the mountains  
    a great and powerful army comes;  
their like has never been from of old,  
    nor will be again after them  
    in ages to come.

<sup>12</sup> Yet even now, says the LORD,  
    return to me with all your heart,  
with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning;

<sup>13</sup> rend your hearts and not your clothing.

Return to the LORD, your God,  
    for he is gracious and merciful,  
slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love,  
    and relents from punishing.

<sup>14</sup> Who knows whether he will not turn and relent,  
    and leave a blessing behind him,  
a grain-offering and a drink-offering  
    for the LORD, your God?

<sup>15</sup> Blow the trumpet in Zion;  
    sanctify a fast;

call a solemn assembly;

<sup>16</sup> gather the people.

Sanctify the congregation;  
    assemble the aged;

gather the children,  
even infants at the breast.  
Let the bridegroom leave his room,  
and the bride her canopy.

<sup>17</sup> Between the vestibule and the altar  
let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep.  
Let them say, 'Spare your people, O LORD,  
and do not make your heritage a mockery,  
a byword among the nations.  
Why should it be said among the peoples,  
"Where is their God?" '

Or

## **Isaiah 58. 1-12**

### **False and True Worship**

58 Shout out, do not hold back!  
Lift up your voice like a trumpet!  
Announce to my people their rebellion,  
to the house of Jacob their sins.  
<sup>2</sup> Yet day after day they seek me  
and delight to know my ways,  
as if they were a nation that practised righteousness  
and did not forsake the ordinance of their God;  
they ask of me righteous judgements,  
they delight to draw near to God.  
<sup>3</sup> 'Why do we fast, but you do not see?  
Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?'  
Look, you serve your own interest on your fast-day,  
and oppress all your workers.  
<sup>4</sup> Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight  
and to strike with a wicked fist.  
Such fasting as you do today  
will not make your voice heard on high.  
<sup>5</sup> Is such the fast that I choose,  
a day to humble oneself?  
Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush,  
and to lie in sackcloth and ashes?  
Will you call this a fast,  
a day acceptable to the LORD?

<sup>6</sup> Is not this the fast that I choose:  
to loose the bonds of injustice,  
to undo the thongs of the yoke,  
to let the oppressed go free,  
and to break every yoke?  
<sup>7</sup> Is it not to share your bread with the hungry,  
and bring the homeless poor into your house;

when you see the naked, to cover them,  
and not to hide yourself from your own kin?  
<sup>8</sup> Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,  
and your healing shall spring up quickly;  
your vindicator shall go before you,  
the glory of the LORD shall be your rearguard.  
<sup>9</sup> Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer;  
you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.

If you remove the yoke from among you,  
the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,  
<sup>10</sup> if you offer your food to the hungry  
and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,  
then your light shall rise in the darkness  
and your gloom be like the noonday.  
<sup>11</sup> The LORD will guide you continually,  
and satisfy your needs in parched places,  
and make your bones strong;  
and you shall be like a watered garden,  
like a spring of water,  
whose waters never fail.  
<sup>12</sup> Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;  
you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;  
you shall be called the repairer of the breach,  
the restorer of streets to live in.

## **2 Corinthians 5.20b - 6.10**

<sup>20</sup>So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup>For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

<sup>6</sup>As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. <sup>2</sup>For he says,

‘At an acceptable time I have listened to you,  
and on a day of salvation I have helped you.’

See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! <sup>3</sup>We are putting no obstacle in anyone’s way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, <sup>4</sup>but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, <sup>5</sup>beatings, imprisonments, riots, labours, sleepless nights, hunger; <sup>6</sup>by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, <sup>7</sup>truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; <sup>8</sup>in honour and dishonour, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; <sup>9</sup>as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see—we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; <sup>10</sup>as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

## **John 8.1-11**

<sup>8</sup>while Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. <sup>2</sup>Early in the morning he came again to the temple. All the people came to him and he sat down and began to teach them. <sup>3</sup>The scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught in adultery; and making her stand before all of them, <sup>4</sup>they

said to him, 'Teacher, this woman was caught in the very act of committing adultery. <sup>5</sup>Now in the law Moses commanded us to stone such women. Now what do you say?' <sup>6</sup>They said this to test him, so that they might have some charge to bring against him. Jesus bent down and wrote with his finger on the ground. <sup>7</sup>When they kept on questioning him, he straightened up and said to them, 'Let anyone among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her.' <sup>8</sup>And once again he bent down and wrote on the ground. <sup>9</sup>When they heard it, they went away, one by one, beginning with the elders; and Jesus was left alone with the woman standing before him. <sup>10</sup>Jesus straightened up and said to her, 'Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?' <sup>11</sup>She said, 'No one, sir.' And Jesus said, 'Neither do I condemn you. Go your way, and from now on do not sin again.']]

### **Post Communion**

Almighty God,  
you have given your only Son to be for us  
both a sacrifice for sin  
and also an example of godly life:  
give us grace  
that we may always most thankfully receive  
these his inestimable gifts,  
and also daily endeavour  
to follow the blessed steps of his most holy life;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## **260222 The First Sunday of Lent**

### **Collect**

Almighty God,  
whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness,  
and was tempted as we are, yet without sin:  
give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your Spirit;  
and, as you know our weakness,  
so may we know your power to save;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

### **Genesis 2.15-17; 3.1-7**

15 The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. <sup>16</sup>And the LORD God commanded the man, 'You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; <sup>17</sup>but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die.'

### **The First Sin and Its Punishment**

3Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, 'Did God say, "You shall not eat from any tree in the garden"?' <sup>2</sup>The woman said to the serpent, 'We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; <sup>3</sup>but God said, "You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die." ' <sup>4</sup>But the serpent said to the woman, 'You will not die; <sup>5</sup>for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.' <sup>6</sup>So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. <sup>7</sup>Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

### **Psalms 32**

#### **The Joy of Forgiveness**

Of David. A Maskil.

<sup>1</sup> Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven,  
whose sin is covered.

<sup>2</sup> Happy are those to whom the LORD imputes no iniquity,  
and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

<sup>3</sup> While I kept silence, my body wasted away  
through my groaning all day long.

<sup>4</sup> For day and night your hand was heavy upon me;  
my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.  
Selah

<sup>5</sup> Then I acknowledged my sin to you,

and I did not hide my iniquity;  
I said, 'I will confess my transgressions to the LORD',  
and you forgave the guilt of my sin.  
Selah

<sup>6</sup> Therefore let all who are faithful  
offer prayer to you;  
at a time of distress, the rush of mighty waters  
shall not reach them.  
<sup>7</sup> You are a hiding-place for me;  
you preserve me from trouble;  
you surround me with glad cries of deliverance.  
Selah

<sup>8</sup> I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go;  
I will counsel you with my eye upon you.  
<sup>9</sup> Do not be like a horse or a mule, without understanding,  
whose temper must be curbed with bit and bridle,  
else it will not stay near you.

<sup>10</sup> Many are the torments of the wicked,  
but steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the LORD.  
<sup>11</sup> Be glad in the LORD and rejoice, O righteous,  
and shout for joy, all you upright in heart.

## **Romans 5.12-19**

### **Adam and Christ**

12 Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned— <sup>13</sup>sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. <sup>14</sup>Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come.

15 But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. <sup>16</sup>And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgement following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. <sup>17</sup>If, because of the one man's trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

18 Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. <sup>19</sup>For just as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

## **Matthew 4.1-11**

## **The Temptation of Jesus**

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. The tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.' But he answered, 'It is written,

"One does not live by bread alone,  
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God." '

Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, 'If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written,

"He will command his angels concerning you",  
and "On their hands they will bear you up,  
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone." '

Jesus said to him, 'Again it is written, "Do not put the Lord your God to the test." '

Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour; and he said to him, 'All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.'

Jesus said to him, 'Away with you, Satan! for it is written,  
"Worship the Lord your God,  
and serve only him." '

Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

## **Cycle of Prayer**

**Our bishops:** David, Mark and Matthew

**The Anglican Communion**

The Province of The Church of Ireland

**Porvoo Communion**

*Church of England:* Diocese of Peterborough

*Church of Ireland:* Diocese of Meath and Kildare.

**Schools and Colleges**

All Saints; St Wilfrid's; Briscoe Lane Academy;

Christ the King; Co-op Academy Broadhurst;

Oldham Blue Coat; Trinity High School; Bowdoin College, Maine; Churchill College, Cambridge;

University of Coventry; Edge Hill University; University of Leeds; Oldham Sixth Form College.

**Parish**

Crosby Road, Crowbank Walk, Crown Point Avenue, Croydon Drive, Culcheth Lane, Cuthill Walk..

**Book of Remembrance**

Bill Fitton; Mary Wild; Ernest Cartwright; Lois Bradley; Annie Leary; Lilian Roberts; Ronnie Bettles; Sarah White; Eric Taylor; Lilian Vickers; Clifford Booth.

## **Post Communion**

Lord God,  
you have renewed us with the living bread from heaven;  
by it you nourish our faith,  
increase our hope,  
and strengthen our love:  
teach us always to hunger for him who is the true and living bread,  
and enable us to live by every word

that proceeds from out of your mouth;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.