



Benefice of Christ Church and St Mary's, Frome
Diocese of Bath and Wells

Sunday 1st February 2026

Choral Evensong for Candlemas

Organ: Byrd, Lord Willlobies Welcome Home (*My Ladye Nevells Booke*)

Introit: William Byrd (1540-1623), "Senex puerum portabat"

Text: Senex puerum portabat: puer autem senem regebat: Alleluia.

English translation: The old man carried the child, but the child ruled the old man: Alleluia.

Welcome

Hymn 44 Faithful vigil ended

Prayers (page 15 of the green prayer book)

Responses (William Byrd)

Psalm 122 (chant Andrew Seivewright (1926-2010))

First 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.

Magnificat: (*Stand*) William Byrd, Third Evening Service

Second 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.

Nunc dimittis: (*stand*) William Byrd, Third Evening Service

Creed (*said*)

Responses (William Byrd)

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.

Anthem: Johannes Eccard (1553-1611), When to the temple Mary went

When to the temple Mary went, And brought the Holy Child, Him did the aged Simeon see, As it had been revealed. He took up Jesus in his arms And blessing God he said: In peace I now depart, my Saviour having seen, The Hope of Israel, the Light of men. Help now thy servants, gracious Lord, That we may ever be As once the faithful Simeon was, Rejoicing but in Thee; And when we must from earth departure take, May gently fall asleep and with Thee wake.

Prayers

Hymn 157 Hail to the Lord who comes

(During the hymn, a collection will be taken for church funds: cash or contactless are both welcome. Thank you.)

Blessing

Organ: J S Bach, "Herr Gott, nun schleuss den Himmel auf" (BWV 617)

Retiring collection for church funds. Thank you.

Do stay for mulled cider or tea!

**Next evening service, Ash Wednesday February 18th 7.30pm
Holy Communion and imposition of ashes. All welcome.**

Prayers for those in need: David Fielden, Yvonne Stewart, Aisling, Jane, Wai Ping, Hugh Nowlan, Judy Matthews, Mick Dunk, Janet Dudley, Marri Carmichael

RIP Andrew Church, Keith Berry

Years Mind for February: Georgio Parmakis, Joe Parmakis, Gordon Bailey, Peter Bardgett, Bernadette Case, Dave Jones, Mary Kilner, Colin Smith, Audrey Ashley-Belbin, Jane Meaden

The week ahead

Mon 2nd 5.15pm Anna Chaplaincy Evensong Wells Cathedral
7.30pm Deanery Synod at Holy Trinity
2.00pm Holy Communion at Critchill Court
6.30pm Contemplative Prayers at St. Marys
Wed 4th 10.00am Holy communion at St. Mary's
Thurs 5th 2.30pm Holy Communion at Belmont Villa
3.00pm Thanksgiving Service for Keith Berry at
Christ Church
Fri 6th 4.00pm Scallop Shells Choir at Christ Church
Sat 7th 10.00am Living with Gratitude at St. Marys

This coming Saturday, Mary's House Community host their second retreat day when we welcome Jonathan Herbert from Hilfield Friary to lead us in a day titled "How living with gratitude could be our first step away from ecocide". The day is from 10-4pm and a simple lunch is provided (vegetarian and gluten free) All welcome.

Services Next Week: 8th February

**9.00am Parish Eucharist at St. Mary's
10.30am Parish Eucharist at Christ Church**

Contact Details: Revd Liz: 01373 473249/07305 623160

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Prayer Shed <https://pray.247prayer.com/signup/7525ce>