



**29 January
2023**

The Presentation (Candlemas)



Welcome to
St Barnabas' in Pound Hill and
St Nicholas' in Worth

This sheet details the readings in today's
services as well as notices for everyone.

SERVICES TODAY

Certain services will still be
available online (live or recorded)

08:15 Said Eucharist (BCP) St Nicholas'
Celebrant & Preacher Revd Gordon Parry

10:00 Sung Eucharist St Barnabas'
Celebrant & Preacher Revd Sarah Upchurch

10:00 Candlemas Eucharist St Nicholas'
Celebrant & Preacher Fr Michael Boag

11:45 Baptism St Nicholas'

16:00 New Church Music St Nicholas'
and Lessons

Please try our new QR code to donate to
Worth Parish. Scan this code with a
smartphone to take you straight to a giving
page.



For Christians, St Luke, in this morning's Gospel reading, draws to a close the Old Testament. Messiah has come, he is here. Jesus is revealed to Simeon as the light of the world, the light that dispels all darkness of sin and despair.

Coinciding with the turn towards spring and lengthening daylight, forty days after Christmas, the church marks this with a celebration of light, 'the Candle Mass', during which the priest blesses candles to use at home. In the temple, Simeon offers praise for the 'light for revelation' that has come into the world.

The Christmas/Epiphany season now comes to an end with a reminder that Christ our Light is with us in every season - Christmas is not just for Christmas - and so we sing:

Christ, be our light!
Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in your church
gathered today.

Fr Michael

Collect

Lord Jesus Christ, light of the nations and glory of Israel: make your home among us, and present us pure and holy to your heavenly Father, your God, and our God.

Amen

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 *Psalm 24*

The earth is the Lord's and all



that is in it, the world, and those who live in it; for he has founded it on the seas, and established it on the rivers.

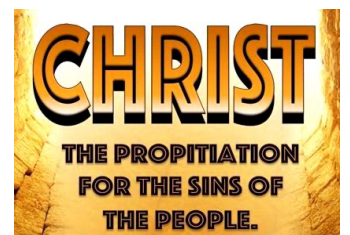
Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord? And who shall stand in his holy place? Those who have clean hands and pure hearts, who do not lift up their souls to what is false, and do not swear deceitfully. They will receive blessing from the Lord, and vindication from

the God of their salvation. Such is the company of those who seek him, who seek the face of the God of Jacob.

Lift up your heads, O gates! and be lifted up, O ancient doors! that the King of glory may come in. Who is the King of glory? The Lord, strong and mighty, the Lord, mighty in battle. Lift up your heads, O gates! and be lifted up, O ancient doors! that the King of glory may come in. Who is this King of glory? The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory.

Reading *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, 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 *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.

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.

Amen

SERVICES THIS WEEK

Tues 31 Jan	10:30 Said Eucharist	St Barnabas'
Thur 2 Feb	10:30 Said Eucharist	St Nicholas'
Sat 4 Feb	15:30 Messy Church	St Barnabas'
Sun 5 Feb	8:15 Eucharist (BCP) 10:00 Sung Eucharist 10:00 Said Eucharist	St Nicholas' St Barnabas' St Nicholas'
Sunday 5 February 2023 3 before Lent Isaiah 58.1-9a Psalm 112.1-9 1 Corinthians 2.1-12 Matthew 5.13-20		

Festivals this week

Mon 30 Jan	Charles, King and Martyr 1649 (LF)
Tues 31 Jan	John Bosco, Priest, Founder of the Salesian Teaching Order 1888 (C)
Wed 1 Feb	Brigid, Abbess of Kildare c.525 (C)
Fri 3 Feb	Anskar, Archbishop of Hamburg, Missionary in Denmark and Sweden 865 (LF)
Sat 4 Feb	Gilbert of Sempringham, Founder of the Gilbertine Order 1189 (C)
(F) Festival; (LF) Lesser Festival; (C) Commemoration	

DIARY NOTES & NOTICES

Toddlers Group meets on **Tues 13:00-15:00** and **Thurs 9:00-11:00** during term time in St Barnabas' Hall.

Pilgrim's Nurture Course

Our six-session course concludes on **Wed 1 Feb**. Watch this space for our next one! Usually on Wed nights at 19:00 in the Café at St Barnabas'; for those who are exploring or want to refresh their faith.

Friday Lunches

Friday lunch on **3 Feb** in the Pastoral Centre at 12:30. Two courses and a drink £7.00. To help with catering please book your place at the Pastoral Centre (café open Wed and Sat) or via the Parish Office, by **Wed 1 Feb**. All welcome.

The Hangout

Youth Club at St Barnabas' on
Fri 3 February 19:00-20:30
Ages 12-16. Entry free. Weekly during term time.

Come and see, Crafts, Bible story, a song and a prayer, followed by Pizza and lollies.

In February Messy

Church will meet on **Sat 4 Feb** 15:30-17:00 and **Wed 8 Feb** 15:00-16:30 (in the Church) at St Barnabas'. Everyone welcome - mums, dads, grandparents, carers - come and have fun!



St Nicholas' Julian Group

will meet for half an hour of silent prayer **Wed 8 Feb** at **12:30**. Please feel free to join us - everyone welcome!

St Barnabas' Julian Group

Meets on **Mon 13 Feb** at **14:00** in St Barnabas'. All welcome.

Jumble Sale

Sat 18 Feb, 10:00-11:30, St Barnabas' Church Hall, in aid of St Barnabas' Refurbishment. Please save your jumble for us but please do not bring it before 17 Feb as we have nowhere to store it. Helpers needed with this event. Please sign the list at St Barnabas' or inform Sue in the Office. Thank you.

CONTACTS

The Rector

Fr Michael Boag 01293 882229
rector@worthparish.org (Tues-Sun)

Vicar at St Barnabas'

Revd Sarah Upchurch 01293 524804
vicarstb@worthparish.org (Tues-Sun)

Assistant Priest

Revd Gordon Parry 07802 432398
gordonmwperry@btinternet.com

Assistant Priest

Fr Francis Pole 07764 752608
francis.pole@virgin.net

Assistant Curate

Revd Greta, the Curate (Thurs & Sun)
curate@worthparish.org

Churchwardens

David Anderson (St B) 01293 409914
stbwarden@worthparish.org
Rose Wells (St N) 01293 884250
stnwarden@worthparish.org
Colin Smith (St N) 01293 889894

Worth Parish Office

Sue Perry 0300 111 8150
office@worthparish.org



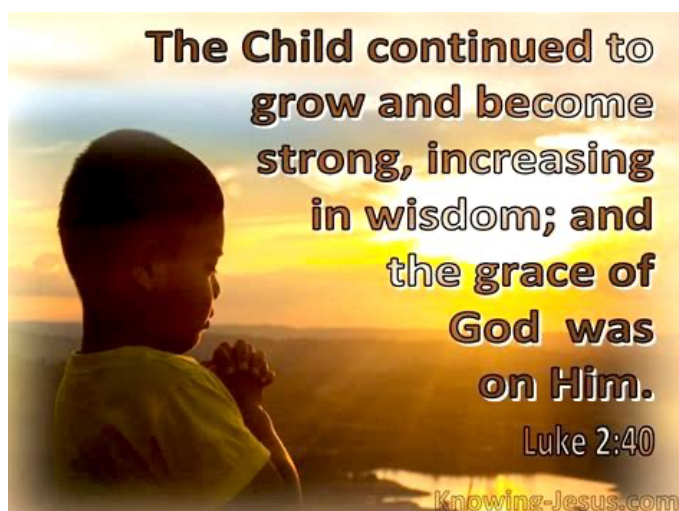
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**The Child continued to
grow and become
strong, increasing
in wisdom; and
the grace of
God was
on Him.**

Luke 2:40

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