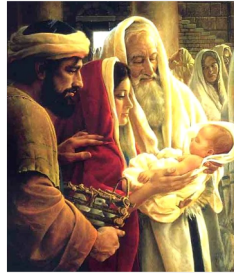




**2 February
2025**

Presentation of Christ in the Temple; 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) Celebrant	St Nicholas' Fr Michael Boag
10:00 Sung Eucharist Celebrant & Preacher	St Barnabas' Revd Sarah Upchurch
10:00 Sung Eucharist Celebrant Preacher	St Nicholas' Fr Michael Boag Revd Gordon Parry

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



Payments to the Parish

If you possibly can, please transfer the money
by electronic payment to: Parish of Worth
Poundhill & Maidenbower, sort code 40-18-22,
account 61223372.

If you need help, call the Office.

Candlemas

I wonder if, like me, you are excited to see
the first snowdrops each year. They are
such delicate little flowers. Small, yet strong
as they push their way through hard earth
and the snow. They bring with them the
promise of Spring. We are so blessed to
have such a delightful scene of these flowers
in the St Nicholas' Church churchyard.
Another name for the snowdrop is the
Candlemas Bell. The name comes from the
Festival of Candlemas which is celebrated
on 2 February. Snowdrops are said to
bloom at Candlemas, hence the name.
Snowdrops symbolise purity.

At Candlemas we rejoice and celebrate that
Jesus has come to be the Light of the World
and 'a light for revelation to the Gentiles'
(Luke 2.32) so that we can know more of
the love of Jesus.

The Gospel for Candlemas describes an
event when Jesus was forty days old. Mary
and Joseph took him to the Temple for the
first time. They were keeping the Jewish
tradition for three ceremonies: the
purification of the mother, the redemption
of the first born and the presentation of the
child to the service of God.

It was also a special day for two elderly folk,
Anna and Simeon. These two are a
wonderful example of hope, waiting many
years, trusting that they would see Jesus
who would bring salvation and reveal God's
love to the world.

The hymn 'Great is thy Faithfulness' reminds
us that God gives us 'strength for today and
bright hope for tomorrow'. In some small
way, I think the snowdrop or Candlemas
Bell does the same: hope in the wonderful
love and faithfulness of our Lord.

Canon Penny

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 *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, 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 4 Feb	10:30 Healing Eucharist	St Barnabas'
Thur 6 Feb	10:30 Said Eucharist	St Nicholas'
Sat 8 Feb	15:00 Messy Church	St Barnabas'
Sun 9 Feb	8:15 Eucharist (BCP) 10:00 Sung Eucharist 10:00 Sung Eucharist	St Nicholas' St Barnabas' St Nicholas'
Sunday 9 February 2025 Fourth Sunday before Lent Isaiah 6.1-8 1 Corinthians 15.1-11 Luke 5.1-11		

Festivals this week	
Mon 3 Feb	Anskar, Archbishop of Hamburg, Missionary in Denmark and Sweden 865 (LF)
Tues 4 Feb	Gilbert of Sempringham, Founder of the Gilbertine Order 1189 (C)
Thur 6 Feb	The Martyrs of Japan 1597 (C)
(F) Festival; (LF) Lesser Festival; (C) Commemoration	

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

Friday Lunches

Friday lunch on **7 Feb** in The Café at 12:30. Two courses and a drink £7.00. To help with catering please book your place at the Café (café open Wed and Sat) or via the Parish Office, by **Wed 5 Feb**. Profits for Parish funds.

The lunches are for everyone, why not bring a friend and give us a try. All welcome!

The Hangout

Youth Club at St Barnabas' meets Every **Friday** at 19:00 For Year Groups 7-11. Entry free. Weekly during term time.

Come and see, a song and a prayer, followed by pizza and lollies.

In February Messy Church will be on **Sat 8 Feb** and **Wed 12 Feb**; both 15:00-16:30, at St Barnabas'. This month: House on the Rock – building houses and painting rocks. Everyone welcome - mums, dads, grandparents, carers - come and have fun!



St Barnabas' Julian Group

meets on **Mon 10 February** at **14:00** in St Barnabas'. Old and new friends very welcome

St Nicholas' Julian Group

meets on **Wed 12 February** at **12:00** for half an hour of silent prayer. Please feel free to join us - everyone welcome!

Jumble Sale

Jumble Sale in St Barnabas' Hall, **Sat 22 Feb, 10:00-11:30**. Please save us your jumble but do not bring it before 21 Feb as we have nowhere to put it. Anyone willing to help please sign the list at St Barnabas' or ring Phyl on (01293) 883362. Thank you.

Creating new Electoral Roll for 2025

Prior to this year's APCM a new Electoral Roll needs to be created.

This requires anyone in the parish who wishes to be on the Electoral Roll to complete an Electoral Roll Form - this includes those whose names are already on the roll.

There will be forms placed at back of both Churches; if you wish to be included please complete a form and return to me, Jane Stanford, no later than **Sun 23 Feb**.

If you require any further information or assistance please contact me on 01293 543065.

Many thanks

Jane Stanford Electoral Roll Officer.



HEY! THEY'RE A DAY OFF! ISN'T IT SUPPOSED TO BE "THREE FRENCH HENS"?



WWW.AGNUSDAY.ORG

THE TURTLE DOVES ARE AN OFFERING IN MEMORY OF THE PASSOVER.



I DON'T THINK THEY HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH THE SONG.

PROBABLY JUST AS WELL, THAT WOULD BE A LOT OF POULTRY!



LUKE 2:22-32

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