



## **Notices for 2<sup>nd</sup> of February 2025**

*A warm welcome to everyone*

*We welcome Revd David Packham who will be taking the 8am BCP service.*

### **Candlemass**

*Please come into the hall for refreshments after the 09:30 service.*

#### **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.

#### **Hymns:**

- 494** King of glory, King of peace
- 516** Love divine, all loves excelling
- 87** Hail to the Lord's anointed
- 308** Just as I am  
When Candles are lighted

Although there is no formal collection during the offertory hymn, please feel free to make a contribution to the work of St. Mary's either in the Treasury box at the back of church, or using the card reader, also at the back of church. Thank you.

#### **Readings:**

## **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.

## **Luke 2.22-40**

### **Jesus Is Presented in the Temple**

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.

### **The Return to Nazareth**

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 prayer:**

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.

### **And so we bring to an end our celebration of the Saviour's birth.**

Father, we have sung your praise with shepherds and angels:  
may Christ be born in our hearts today.

**All Praise to Christ our Light.**

We have shared in the joy of Simeon and Anna;  
help us, like them, to trust your word.

**All Praise to Christ our Light.**

We have greeted Jesus, the Light of the world;  
may we be filled with the light of your love.

**All Praise to Christ our Light.**

Here at the font, we stand near the place of new birth.

**All Let us shine with the light of your love.**

Here, we turn from the crib to the cross.

**All Let us shine with the light of your love.**

We go to carry his light.

**All Let us shine with the light of your love.**

Here we bless one another in your name.

**All Thanks be to God.** (All are sprinkled with baptismal water)

## Vacancy News – Peter & Dan

Now that advertising has closed, Peter & Dan will meet with Bishop Paul, Archdeacon Martin and Revd Alex Stevens on Weds 5<sup>th</sup> Feb to review those who have applied, and shortlist for formal interview on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> March.

Assuming this all goes to plan the PCC will join an informal gathering on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> March to welcome and meet the candidates.

**8am SERVICES will be held only once a month** on the first Sunday of each month. Any questions please talk to Dan or Peter.

### Dates for your diary

**Monday 3rd February** is the next **Knit and Natter** meeting, and the March meeting date has changed to Monday 10<sup>th</sup> March.

This year the **Electoral Roll for St. Mary's** needs to be fully revised and, hence, everyone currently on the Electoral Roll will need to complete a new Electoral Roll form. Electoral Roll forms, and an explanatory letter, are available for everyone on the existing Electoral Roll at the back of Church. **These should be returned by 9th March.** For those who are not on the existing Roll but would wish to be included blank Electoral Roll forms are available at the back of Church. Kind Regards, Paul.

### CONFIRMATION

We are delighted that there are some young people and adults who have expressed a wish to be confirmed. So, there will be a service of confirmation at St Mary's on **Sunday 9th March at 6.30 p.m.** Conducted by Bishop Andrew to which all are welcome. This service will be for the Epsom deanery, and we will welcome candidates from other parishes in the deanery.

If you would like to think about confirmation or know someone who may be interested, please do talk to us, and we will be happy to give you more details. John and Maggie