

# St. Thomas the Apostle & Martyr, Ipswich

30th January 2022—Presentation of Christ in the Temple

## 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. **Amen.**

## A reading from the Book of 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.

**This is the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.**

## Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to 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.

**This is the gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.**

## 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 Jesus Christ who he comes to bring us eternal life; for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## Notices:

**Funding Appeal:** It's not too late to respond to our appeal to eliminate our predicted financial deficit for 2021. Donations can be accepted up to the end of January. For ways to do this please refer to the letter we sent in December or contact Lucy Drake (details on this page).

**Morning Prayer** is starting again on Tuesdays and Thursdays from this week at 9.30am!

**Safeguarding:** We are looking for a new Safeguarding Officer to join our safeguarding team and work closely alongside Lyanne. Please talk to Rachel, Cat, Lyanne or John if you would like to know more.

**Alpha Course:** Alpha starts on Wednesday 9th February at 7pm. Please come and invite your friends. Come along and help, and offers of food would be most appreciated.

**Bring and Share lunch** is back on the 13th February after the service.

**Bible Study:** starts at 7pm on 21st February, we are looking at the Gospel of Luke. We are meeting in person in the vicarage. It will last 5 weeks. Talk to Rachel if you would like to know more.

**Pancake Supper** is happening at 6 pm on 1st March! It will be delicious! Please come along for food, fellowship and fun.

**Ash Wednesday:** 2nd March we will be having two Ash Wednesday services one at 10am and one at 7pm. This marks the start of Lent and our journey towards Easter.

**We are creating a St Thomas video diary for Lent and we need your help!**

**World Day of Prayer** is on the 4th March at Castle Hill at 2pm.

**Imagine Sunday:** 13th March we are having our Imagine Sunday, where we think about and pray about ours and God's vision for the parish. This will be after the service.

## Coming Up This Week:

### Sunday 30th January (Candlemas)

8.15am: BCP Eucharist

10am: All-Age Eucharist with Facebook livestream

### Monday 31st January

11.30-1.30: Church open for prayer

### Tuesday 1st February

9.30am: Morning Prayer

7.30pm: Zoom Meditation Group. Contact Lucy for details: [lucydrake22@gmail.com](mailto:lucydrake22@gmail.com)

### Wednesday 2nd February

10am: Eucharist

### Thursday 3rd February

9.30am: Morning Prayer

11.30-1.30: Church open for prayer

### Sunday 6th February (4 before Lent)

10am: Eucharist with Facebook livestream

## Birthdays This Week:

★ Kyle Harrison (5th February)

★ Jill Wilson (6th February)

*Many happy returns from all at St. Thomas!*

## Please Pray For:

Rosemary, Eric, Jenny, Kathy, Andrew, Peggy, Margaret, Natacha, Samantha, Theresa, Gloria, Angela, Helen, Pat, Daniel, Ezra, Eddie, Naomi, Andrew C., Betty, Muriel M.

**Those who have recently died, and their families mourning their loss:** Bartha Moyes



Church Website:

<https://stthomasipswich.org.uk/>

**Sunday Worship & other Worship resources** on the Church Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/stthomasipswich/>

## Contacts:

**Priest in Charge:** Revd Rachel Revely

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*Rachel's days off: Fridays and Saturdays*

**Assistant Curate:** Revd Cat Connolly

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*Cat's day off: Mondays*

**Assistant Curate, SSM:** Revd John Irwin

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*John's Parish days (normally): Weds/Thurs*

**Lay Evangelist:** Malcolm Gibbs m: 07906 663530

**Director of Music:** Simon Clark BA FLCM FRCO

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**Treasurer:** Lucy Drake

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**Church wardens:** Roger Elmer m: 07810 274586

Stephen Marginson 01473 258791

*If you would like to chat, you could also ring:*

Mary Bullass 625135

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Rev Jackie 07962 172639

Rev Pat 464748

Rev Canon Chris 462109