

**The Parish Church of  
St John the Evangelist  
Upper Norwood**



**High Mass and blessing of Candles**

**Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2021 10am  
The Presentation of Christ in the  
Temple**

*Fr John presides and preaches at Mass this morning.*

## **The Gathering**

*The president says*

+ In the name of the Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

## **The Greeting**

May the light and peace of Jesus Christ our Lord be with you.

**The Lord bless you.**

## **Introduction**

Dear friends, forty days ago we celebrated the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. Now we recall the day on which he was presented in the Temple, when he was offered to the Father and shown to his people. As a sign of his coming among us, his mother was purified, as we now come to him for cleansing. In their old age Simeon and Anna recognised him as their Lord, as we today sing of his glory. In this eucharist, we celebrate both the joy of his coming and his searching judgement, looking back to the day of his birth and forward to the coming days of his passion.

Cantor [1st time] ALL

A light to light-en the Gen - tiles; and the glo - ry of thy peo-ple Is - ra - el.

**A light to lighten the Gentiles; and the glory of thy people Israel.**

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in *peace*:  
ac-cord-ing to thy word.

**A light to lighten the Gentiles; and the glory of thy people Israel.**

For mine eyes have *seen*:  
— *thy* salvation.

**A light to lighten the Gentiles; and the glory of thy people Israel.**

Which thou hast pre-*par*-ed:  
before the face of *äll* people.

**A light to lighten the Gentiles; and the glory of thy people Israel.**

To be a light to lighten the *Gen*-tiles:  
and to be the glory of thy *peo*-ple Israel.

**A light to lighten the Gentiles; and the glory of thy people Israel.**

Glory be to the Father, and to the *Son*:  
and *to* the Holy Ghost:

**A light to lighten the Gentiles; and the glory of thy people Israel.**

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever *shall* be:  
world with-*out* end. Amen.

**A light to lighten the Gentiles; and the glory of thy people  
Israel.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give thanks and praise.**

Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the universe.  
You make our darkness to be light.  
For with you is the well of life  
and in your light shall we see light.  
**Blessed be God for ever.**

*You are invited to raise your lit candles.  
The president blesses the candles, saying*

Lord God, the springing source of everlasting light,  
pour into the hearts of your faithful people  
the brilliance of your eternal splendour,  
that we, who by these kindling flames  
light up this temple to your glory,  
may have the darkness of our souls dispelled,  
and so be counted worthy to stand before you  
in that eternal city where you live and reign,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

We wait for your loving-kindness, O Lord,  
**in the midst of your temple.**

Open to us the gates of righteousness,  
**that we may enter and give thanks to the Lord.**

God is the Lord who has shown us light.  
**Let us offer in his dwelling**

**an oblation with great gladness.**

## **Gloria in Excelsis**

**Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father.  
Amen.**

## **Collect**

*The president introduces a period of silent prayer,  
and then sings*

**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.**

## **The Liturgy of the Word**

*We **SIT**, keeping our candles alight.*

### **Readings**

#### **A reading from the prophet Malachi**

3.1-5

*Read by Margaret Stephens*

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.**

## Psalm 24

**The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory.**

- 1 Lift up your heads, O gates;  
be lifted up, you everlasting doors;  
and the King of glory shall come in. *R*
- 2 'Who is the King of glory?'  
'The Lord, strong and mighty,  
the Lord who is mighty in battle.' *R*
- 3 Lift up your heads, O gates;  
be lifted up, you everlasting doors;  
and the King of glory shall come in. *R*
- 4 'Who is the King of glory?'  
'The Lord of hosts,  
he is the King of glory.' *R*

**A reading from the letter to the Hebrews**

2.14-end

Read by David Riches

Since the children share flesh and blood, Jesus 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.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Gospel Reading**

Alleluia, **alleluia,**

Our eyes have seen your salvation :

a light to enlighten the nations and the glory of your people Israel.

**Alleluia.**

The Lord be with you

**And also with you**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

**Glory to you, O Lord**

Luke 2.22-40

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, Mary and Joseph brought Jesus 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**

**Sermon**  
Fr John Pritchard

*We **SIT**, and extinguish our candles.*

*We STAND.*

Let us declare our faith in God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is,  
seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary  
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven**

**and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,**

**and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## **Prayers of Intercession**

Led by Emily Owen

*We **KNEEL** or **SIT** to pray.*

Let us pray to the Father through Christ who is our light and life.

*These responses may be used*

Lord, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

*At the end of the prayers*

Lord God, you kept faith with Simeon and Anna,  
and showed them the infant King.  
Give us grace to put all our trust in your promises,  
and the patience to wait for their fulfilment;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **Prayers of Penitence**

*We **STAND**.*

*The deacon introduces a period of silence.*

Hear the words of our Saviour Jesus Christ:  
'I am the light of the world.  
Whoever follows me shall never walk in darkness  
but shall have the light of life.'  
Let us therefore bring our sins into his light  
and confess them in penitence and faith.

Father eternal, **giver of light and grace,**  
**we have sinned against you and against our neighbour,**  
**in what we have thought,**  
**in what we have said and done,**  
**through ignorance, through weakness,**  
**through our own deliberate fault.**  
**We have wounded your love,**  
**and marred your image in us.**

**We are sorry and ashamed,  
and repent of all our sins.**

**For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
who died for us,  
forgive us all that is past;  
and lead us out from darkness  
to walk as children of light.  
Amen.**

*The president gives the absolution*

May the God of all healing and forgiveness  
draw you to himself,  
+ and cleanse you from all your sins,  
that you may behold the glory of his Son,  
the Word made flesh,  
Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

## **The Liturgy of the Sacrament**

### **The Peace**

*The president introduces the Peace*

We are a chosen race, a royal priesthood,  
a holy nation, God's own people,  
that we may proclaim the mighty acts of him  
who called us out of darkness into his marvellous light.  
Gathered as his people we share his peace.

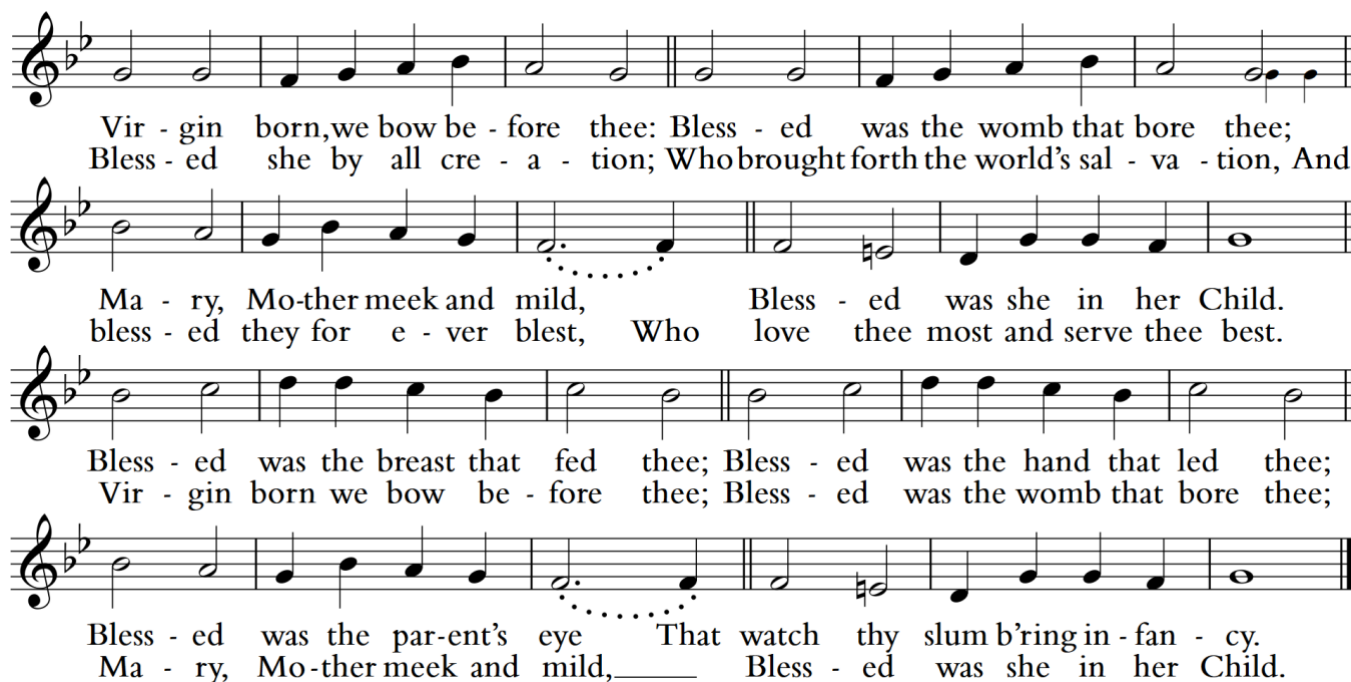
The peace of the Lord be always with you  
**and also with you.**

*The deacon says*

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

### **Preparation of the Table**

### **Taking of the Bread and Wine**



Vir - gin born, we bow be - fore thee: Bless - ed was the womb that bore thee;  
Bless - ed she by all cre - a - tion; Who brought forth the world's sal - va - tion, And

Ma - ry, Mo - ther meek and mild, Bless - ed was she in her Child.  
bless - ed they for e - ver blest, Who love thee most and serve thee best.

Bless - ed was the breast that fed thee; Bless - ed was the hand that led thee;  
Vir - gin born we bow be - fore thee; Bless - ed was the womb that bore thee;

Bless - ed was the par - ent's eye That watch thy slum b'ring in - fan - cy.  
Ma - ry, Mo - ther meek and mild, Bless - ed was she in her Child.

Bishop R Heber 1783-1826

Mon Dieu, prête moi l'oreille

Melody contributed by L Bourgeois c1510-61 to the  
French Psalter 1542 (Psalm 86)

Harmony by Ralph Vaughan Williams 1872-1958

*The following prayers are said*

Pray, my brothers and sisters,  
that our sacrifice may be acceptable to God the almighty Father.  
**May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands,  
for the praise and glory of his name,  
for our good and the good of all his church.**

Father, in Christ there has sprung up a light for the righteous;  
accept the offering of your Church  
and grant that Christ may shine in us  
to the praise and glory of your name.  
**Amen.**

## The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you  
**and also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right and good,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks and praise  
through Jesus Christ, who is one with you from all eternity.

For on this day he appeared in the Temple  
in substance of our flesh

to come near to us in judgement.

He searches the hearts of all your people  
and brings to light the image of your splendour.

Your servant Simeon acclaimed him as the light to lighten the  
nations,

while Anna spoke of him to all who looked for your redemption.

Destined for the falling and rising of many,

he was lifted high upon the cross

and a sword of sorrow pierced his mother's heart  
when by his sacrifice he made our peace with you.

And now we rejoice and glorify your name

that we, too, have seen your salvation

and join with angels and archangels

in their unending hymn of praise:

### *The Sanctus and Benedictus*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

### *We KNEEL or SIT*

We praise and bless you, loving Father,  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord; and as we obey his command,



send your Holy Spirit, that broken bread and wine outpoured  
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends  
and, taking bread, he praised you.

He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:  
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.  
Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:  
Drink this, all of you;  
this is my blood of the new covenant,  
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,  
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice  
made once for all upon the cross.

Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,  
we proclaim his death and resurrection  
until he comes in glory.

*The deacon says*

Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died:**

**Christ is risen:**

**Christ will come again.**

Lord of all life,  
help us to work together for that day  
when your kingdom comes  
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.

Look with favour on your people,  
gather us in your loving arms  
and bring us with Our Lady Mary, Simeon and Anna,  
Saint John the Evangelist, Saint Alban the Martyr  
and all the saints to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father, for ever and ever. **Amen**

## **The Lord's Prayer**

Believing the promises of God,  
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come;  
thy will be done;  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
the power and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

## **Breaking of the Bread**

We break the bread of life,  
and that life is the light of the world.  
**God here among us, light in the midst of us,  
bring us to light and life.**

## **Giving of Communion**

God's holy gifts for God's holy people.  
**Jesus Christ is holy, Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.**

*We say the Agnus Dei*

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,  
have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,  
grant us peace.**

*The sacrament is distributed to you in your places following the words.*

The body and blood of Christ keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

*We STAND.*

### **Prayer after Communion**

Let us pray.

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.

*We pray together*

**Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us  
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.  
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies  
to be a living sacrifice.  
Send us out in the power of your Spirit  
to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.**

*We relight our candles.*

### **The Dismissal**

The Lord be with you  
**and also with you.**

*The president pronounces God's blessing*

Christ, whose glory fills the skies, fill you with radiance  
and scatter the darkness from your path. **Amen.**

Christ, the Sun of Righteousness,  
gladden your eyes and warm your heart. **Amen.**

Christ, the Dayspring from on high,

draw near to guide your feet into the way of peace. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God almighty, + the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

*The deacon says*

Go in the light and peace of Christ.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **The Angelus**

The Angel of the Lord brought tidings to Mary,  
**And she conceived by the Holy Ghost.**

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee,  
Blessed art thou among women,  
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.  
**Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners,  
now and at the hour of our death. Amen.**

Behold the handmaid of the Lord;  
**Be it unto me according to thy word.**

Hail, Mary . . .

And the Word was made flesh,  
**And dwelt among us.**

Hail, Mary . . .

Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.  
**That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.**

Let us pray.

We beseech thee, O Lord, pour thy grace into our hearts;  
that, as we have known the incarnation of thy Son Jesus Christ  
by the message of an angel, so by his cross and passion  
we may be brought unto the glory of his resurrection;  
through the same Christ our Lord. **Amen**

## **THIS WEEK'S PRAYER DIARY**

Christopher our Bishop; Justin our Archbishop;  
Jonathan, Bishop of Croydon

### **Those we have been asked to pray for**

David Fuest, Helen Nutting, Dave Hines, Fintan Crotty, Graham Spalding, Sabir, Donovan Donaldson, Liz Woodhouse, Pat Parker, James Delaney, Nathan Tulip, Christopher Love, David Maitland, Simon Gabe, Michael Hale, Vinnette & Mike Melbourne, Michael Cooper, Adam Phillips, Peter Bibby, Julie Loh, Ann Newman, Naomi Ioannou, Alan Driedger, June McCallum, Carmen Alveraz, Paul Allen, and Poh Wong

### **Those known to us recently departed**

Ivy Sheen, Manuel Noel, Tyrell Shy.

### **Past priests, benefactors, friends, and all whose year's mind occurs this week**

Arthur Lancaster, Annie Welch, *Benefactor 1926*, Francis Baird, Arthur Stone, Mina Edwards, Ellen Bush, Alex Lubinski, Amy Rundle, Kay Bradley, Trevor Wheble

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## SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK

### Monday 1<sup>st</sup> February

6pm Christian Meditation *on Zoom*

### Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup>

3.30pm Christian Meditation *on Zoom*

### Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup>

10am Low Mass (*also on Zoom*)

### Saturday 6<sup>th</sup>

10am Mass (also on Zoom)

### Next Sunday, 7<sup>th</sup> February

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday before Lent

9.15am Morning Prayer

10am High Mass

6pm Choral Evensong and Benediction (Streamed)

## The Parish Church of St John the Evangelist, Upper Norwood

**Vicar: The Reverend John Pritchard** (day off Tuesday)

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**Honorary Assistant Priests:** The Reverend Canon Andrew Wilson,  
The Reverend Tom Hurcombe, The Reverend Myles Owen

**Reader:** Rob Barber **SPA:** Danny Simpson

**Reader in Training:** Sarita Brown Smedley

For amendments to the prayer list please contact Fr John

**Safeguarding Officers:** Rachel Rae and Rebecca Hall.

E: [sjunsafeguarding@gmail.com](mailto:sjunsafeguarding@gmail.com)

