

The Haverfordwest Local Ministry Area
Sunday 5th February: Candlemas/The Presentation of Christ

Receiving Communion

Anyone who is baptised in the Name of the Trinity is welcome to receive Communion in this church. When you come to receive, hold out your hands and you will be given bread and wine. If you would like a blessing instead, please indicate by holding your service book in your hands. Children under 5 can receive the bread. Over 5's may receive either bread and wine or the bread alone as parents decide. If you are not yet baptised, please speak to us. We would love to welcome you into the family of the Church.

COLLECT

Almighty and everliving 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.**

FIRST 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.

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

PSALM (Psalm 24:7-10)

Lift up your heads, O gates; be lifted up, you ever/lasting / doors :
and the King of / glory / shall come / in.

‘Who is the / King of / glory?’ :

‘The Lord, strong and mighty, the / Lord • who is / mighty in / battle.’

Lift up your heads, O gates; be lifted up, you ever/lasting / doors :
and the King of / glory / shall come / in.

‘Who is this / King of / glory?’ :

‘The Lord of hosts, / he is the / King of / glory.’

SECOND 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.

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

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 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. **Amen.**

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Sunday 12th February

The Third Sunday before Lent

8:00am Low Mass at St Martins, Haverfordwest

9:30am Sung Parish Mass at St Martins

10:15am Holy Eucharist at St Ismaels Camrose

11:15am Sung Parish Eucharist at St Marys Haverfordwest, with presentation of music award to Mr William Cale.

This week's Notices

Sunday 5th February

5:00pm Parish Evensong at St Martins Haverfordwest

Wednesday 8th February

10:00am Mass followed by coffee at St Martins

4:00pm Junior Singers at St Marys

7:00pm United Parish PCC meeting at the Baring Gould Room

Thursday 9th February

2.45pm Funeral for Mrs Mary Hemmingway at St Martin's

Friday 10th February

11:00am Holy Eucharist followed by tea and toast at St Marys

1.45pm Funeral for Mrs Gwen Edwards at Parc Gwyn Crematorium

6:00pm Fundraising Musical Soiree for St Mary's at Picton Castle, with Mr Peter Allen on organ and Alexandra Lucas on flute. Tickets available from Picton Castle Office (01437 751326).

Saturday 11th February

2:30pm Bishop's Installation at St Davids Cathedral

Parish Clergy

Vicar: Fr Nick Cale, St Martin's Vicarage, Barn Street, Haverfordwest. Tel. 01437 762303. Email: nickthevic@parishofhaverfordwest.co.uk (Day of rest: Tuesday)

Assistant Curate: Fr Alun Evans, St Thomas House, Scarrowscant Lane, Haverfordwest. Tel: 01437 769303. Email: rev.alun@outlook.com (Day of rest: Monday)

Assistant Curate: Rev. Heather Cale, St Martin's Vicarage, Barn Street, Haverfordwest. Tel: 01437 762303. Email: heather.cale@btinternet.com

Haverfordwest Local Ministry Area

Children and Youth Project Worker: Mr Jeremy Stone.

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St Davids Centre of Mission, Merlins Bridge

Lead Evangelist: Sister Val Legg CA

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Haverfordwest Parish Website: www.parishofhaverfordwest.co.uk

Haverfordwest Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/parishofhaverfordwest

Camrose Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/CamroseParishChurch