

Holy Saviour Church, Croydon

Epiphany 4 - Candlemas– 28 January 2024

Entrance Hymn: 131 – *Love divine, all Loves Excelling*

Hymn Before the Gospel: 453 – *Faithful Vigil Ended*

Offertory Hymn: 224– *Lead us Heavenly Father, Lead Us*

Communion Hymn(s):; 343– *Be Thou My Vision: 311*—*Virgin Born, We Bow Before Thee*

Final Hymn: HHS 117–*Praise to the Holiest in The Height*

COLLECT FOR THE DAY

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**

FIRST READING : Malachi 3: 1-5 – Pearl

3 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.² 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 washers' soap;³ 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.⁴ Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord, as in the days of old and as in former years.⁵ Then I will draw near to you for judgment; 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.

PSALM 24: 1-10 *Domini est terra*

THE earth is the Lord's, and all that therein is: the compass of the world, and they that dwell therein.

² For he hath founded it upon the seas: and prepared it upon the floods.

³ Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord: or who shall rise up in his holy place?

⁴ Even he that hath clean hands, and a pure heart: and that hath not lift up his mind unto vanity, nor sworn to deceive his neighbour.

⁵ He shall receive the blessing from the Lord: and righteousness from the God of his salvation.

⁶ This is the generation of them that seek him: even of them that seek thy face, O Jacob.

⁷ Lift up your heads, O ye gates, and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors: and the King of glory shall come in.

⁸ Who is the King of glory: it is the Lord strong and mighty, even the Lord mighty in battle.

⁹ Lift up your heads, O ye gates, and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors: and the King of glory shall come in.

¹⁰ Who is the King of glory: even the Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory.

We remain seated for the concluding doxology:

Glory be to the Father and to the Son : and to the Holy Ghost;

as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be : world without end. Amen

SECOND READING : Hebrews 2: 14-18 - Sheri

¹⁴ 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, ¹⁵ and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. ¹⁶ For it is clear that he did not come to help angels but the descendants of Abraham. ¹⁷ Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. ¹⁸ Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

GOSPEL – Luke 2: 22-40– Mitzi

²² 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 ²³ (as it is written in the law of the Lord, “Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord”), ²⁴ and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.” ²⁵ 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. ²⁶ It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah. ²⁷ 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, ²⁸ Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, ⁹ “Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word, ³⁰ for my eyes have seen your salvation, ³¹ which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, ³² a light for revelation to the gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.”

³³ And the child’s father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. ³⁴ 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 ³⁵ so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul, too.”

³⁶ 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 seven years after her marriage, ³⁷ then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸ 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.

³⁹ When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰ The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom, and the favour of God was upon him.

INTERCESSIONS – Christine

We Pray for those Unwell in Body, Mind or Spirit:

Amy, Milton Findlay, Clifford, Finn, Tony, Julie and her father, Billy, Jacob, Ellie and her mother, Roger, Trudy's sister Sally, Rev Peter's wife Jennifer, Brandon, Billy's Uncle Richard, Barbara G, Margaret L, Janine H, John J, Geraldine, Sandra, Kat's sister Christine, Jean, Sarah's mother Fedora, Vilma Morgan, Matt, Brenda, Stephanie, Cyril, Minnie, Alexander, Cousin Zen, Christopher, Denise M, Enid, Simon & Samantha, Girish, Pat, Adrian, Ron, Cleveland, Britt and Barry, Margaret T, Rev'd Catherine Tucker and family, Odion Ayotunde Edeki

We pray for those who mourn

We pray for the souls of Estriana Shaw, Esther Shoduri, Hilary, Jean Freeman, Micheline Langlois, Janet Jeyes, Stacey's mother Debbie, Rev'd Catherine's sister Judith, Trudy Payne (priest), Miriam Kolandawal
May light perpetual shine upon them. May they rest in peace.
And rise in glory.

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**

PRAYER OF ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace;
Where there is hatred, let me sow love; Where there is injury, pardon;
Where there is doubt, faith; Where there is despair, hope;
Where there is darkness, light; Where there is sadness, joy;
O Divine Master,
Grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;
To be understood as to understand; To be loved as to love;
For it is in giving that we receive;
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
And it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

Rev'd Tomos Reed, Holy Saviour Vicarage
115 St Saviour's Road, Croydon CR0 2XF
vicar@holysaviourcroydon.co.uk; 07832967059; 02036334924
www.holysaviourcroydon.co.uk

Hall Bookings: info@holysaviourcroydon.co.uk

For Baptisms (Christenings) and Weddings, please speak to or contact the Vicar

Services this Week

- Today** **10am – The Parish Eucharist on the Feast of The Presentation of Christ in the Temple (Candlemas):** Fr Tomos presiding and preaching; Sunday School; Children's procession with lights at the end of the service
- Tues 30 Jan** **7.30pm Zoom Night Prayer with Bible Study:** over the next few weeks we will be looking at examples of Psalms of Praise and Lament
- Wed 31 Jan** **10.00am – Holy Communion**
- Sat 3 Feb** **10:30am – Holy Dusters**
- Sun 4 Feb** **10am – The Parish Eucharist on the Second Sunday Before Lent:** Fr Tomos presiding and preaching;
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Other Notices

Season of Lay Ministry (Sunday 7 January to Sunday 28 January) -
The Season is designed to encourage people to think about whether God might be calling them into new things. We hope that the Season of Lay Ministries will encourage people to think about whether God is calling them into one of the recognised Lay Ministries that we offer here in the Diocese of Southwark or simply into new things in their life. We give thanks to God for our lay ministers (Mitzi, Marie and James) and for all they do for us here at Holy Saviour. Please do talk to them if you would like to know more about lay ministry.

Food Bank - New donations are always welcome. Thank you for your generosity!

Advance Notice: Lent Bible Study Course looking at the Easter Vigil readings; beginning Tuesday 13 Feb at 7.30pm online (the evening before Ash Wednesday)

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