

# ST. MARY OF NAZARETH/ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI – WEST WICKHAM

## 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2025 Candlemas – Presentation of Christ in the Temple

### Services over the next two weeks

Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup> February	8.00 a.m. Holy Communion at St Francis 10.00 a.m. Joint Service at St. Mary's
Sunday 9 <sup>th</sup> February	8.00 a.m. Holy Communion at St. Francis 9.15 a.m. Morning Praise at St. Mary's 10.45 a.m. Morning Worship at St. Francis

*Services are livestreamed on YouTube during the main services, weekly at St Mary's and whenever possible at St Francis.*

### Weekly services/Prayers

Tuesday at 10am	Pray for growth of the church held at 130 The Avenue. Contact Jean Pogose on 8289 5996 for more information.
Wednesday at 9:30am	Morning Prayer at St Francis
Wednesday at 10:30am	St Francis' open for <b>private prayer</b> till 11:30am
Thursday at 9am	Morning prayer at St Mary's

### Upcoming events

**Warm space at St Francis:** Wednesday mornings from 10:00am – 2:00pm

**Valentine's Lunch at St. Mary's – Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> February 12.30pm:** This is our annual event organised by the men of St. Mary's for church funds. The cost is £12 per person. You can book your place through Beryl on 0208 289 8097, [berylbolton@hotmail.com](mailto:berylbolton@hotmail.com) or by signing the list in St. Mary's vestibule. Numbers will be limited to 40 so book early to avoid disappointment. When booking we need to know if you would like mushroom or tomato soup, and whether you would like cheese, ham or pate with your ploughman. There will also be a raffle.

**Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> March St. Georges Church, Beckenham concert by Beckenham Chorale**  
Mozart C Minor Mass Exsultate Jubilate. [www.ticketsource.co.uk.beckenhamchorale](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk.beckenhamchorale)  
Tickets £20,£15,£5 to include drink and programme. Online and on door from 6.15pm.  
See attached flyer.

### Please pray for the following people associated with our community:

Vicky Pearce, Jane Smith, Rowena Griffiths, Daphne Dack, John Dack, Joan Burford, Pam

Tabner, Barbara Goodchild, Marcia Chandler, Tim Curtis. Pauline Jackson and Kim Teare and her family at this difficult time. Please also pray for the soul of Charlie Smythe who died this week and to remember Dot and the family at this sad time.

## Notices

**Lent 2025:** This year we shall once again be running three Lent Groups: one on Mondays at 8 pm, one on Wednesdays at 10.30 am and one on Wednesdays at 8 pm. Numbers in the Monday group are limited because of space. We shall be rerunning the course that we started in 2020, but were unable to complete because of Lockdown, looking at the events of Holy Week through the lens of the BBC serialisation "The Passion," first seen in Holy Week 2008, starring, amongst others, James Nesbitt, Joseph Mawle and Penelope Wilton. The course will run for five weeks, beginning in the week beginning March 9th for the two evening groups and on the 19th for the morning group. Sign-up lists are now available at the back of both churches.

**Below** is the link for resources for **Lay Ministry** for your information: [Celebration of Lay Ministries - The Diocese of Southwark](#)

**Welcare in Bromley (St Mary's and St Francis):** For many years Margaret Bond and I have been our Church representatives for this Charity. I am now resigning but would be pleased to know that someone else would be interested in taking on this position. It is a local Charity supporting many needy families in the London Borough of Bromley. Another way of supporting it would be to become a 'friend' This means making a regular donation to the Charity. Please contact me if you would like to know more.  
Merri Womack

**For St. Mary's** this year is the 6 yearly revision of the church electoral roll. All those on the roll will have to fill in the appropriate forms available from Chris Fitzgerald. If there are any parishioners who are not on the roll but would like to be, now is a good time to get an application form as well. This all has to be done and finalised in time for our APCM which is on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> March so all forms must be returned to Chris or left on the table at the back of the church by Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> March.

**The December/January** edition of The Bridge is live! As always, this edition is packed full of stories and features from across the Diocese, which we hope you will enjoy and be encouraged by. Please feel free to share it with your friends, family and wider community. You can also re-use individual stories for your parish magazines, newsletters and pew sheets (crediting The Bridge, please). The Bridge is also available in print and copies have been distributed directly to each parish.

Thank you to those of you who have got in touch and shared your stories with us over the past year - we look forward to receiving more submissions for future editions. Remember this is your newspaper, so please do send us your stories, high-res photographs and What's On listings. We would also like to hear your thoughts to help us shape the future of the newspaper. Your feedback is important, so please tell us what you think by completing this short survey: <https://forms.office.com/e/p6dsVRH4gw> Don't forget that you can also advertise in The Bridge – contact us for more information and charge rates. Email: [bridge@southwark.anglican.org](mailto:bridge@southwark.anglican.org)

Read and download The Bridge from: [southwark.anglican.org/thebridge](http://southwark.anglican.org/thebridge)

**Bromley Food bank – Items required:** Tinned Tomatoes, Tinned Cold Meats, Tinned Potatoes and Men/Ladies Deodorants. Thank you.

We will continue to collect items for the **Bromley Homeless Starter Pack Scheme** for those starting out in a new home with nothing. Starter Packs for families in need include cutlery, crockery, duvet covers (not duvets) pillowcases, tea towels, saucepans, frying pans, bath towels, toothbrushes etc. Please continue to bring these items to St. Francis.

**Flowers:** If anyone would like a pedestal at either church in memory of a loved one or to commemorate a special anniversary etc., please contact Merri Womack (8777 8772) for St Mary's (or there is a list to sign in the vestibule at St. Mary's) or Nicky Nightingale [nicholanightingale@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:nicholanightingale@hotmail.co.uk) or 8916 9855) for St Francis'.

Items for pew sheet to Beryl [berylbolton@hotmail.com](mailto:berylbolton@hotmail.com) **Deadline is Thursday MIDDAY**

Items for St Mary's website to Gifty [office@stmarywestwickham.co.uk](mailto:office@stmarywestwickham.co.uk)

Items for St Francis' website to Bo [bolaptop1@outlook.com](mailto:bolaptop1@outlook.com)

## 2<sup>nd</sup> February Candlemas – Presentation of Christ in the Temple

### 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. Amen

### First Reading: Hebrews 2: 14-18

<sup>14</sup> 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, <sup>15</sup> and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. <sup>16</sup> For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham.

<sup>17</sup> 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. <sup>18</sup> 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: Luke 2: 22-40

<sup>22</sup> 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 <sup>23</sup> (as it is written in the law of the Lord, 'Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord'), <sup>24</sup> 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.'

<sup>25</sup> 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. <sup>26</sup> It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah <sup>27</sup> 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, <sup>28</sup> Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

<sup>29</sup> ‘Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace,  
according to your word <sup>30</sup> for my eyes have seen your salvation,  
<sup>31</sup> which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,  
<sup>32</sup> a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.’

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

<sup>36</sup> 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, <sup>37</sup> 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. <sup>38</sup> 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.

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

### **Post Communion**

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

*The Archbishops' Council of Church of England. Bible reading from the New Revised Standard Version Bible: Anglicised Edition, copyright © 1989, 1995 the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States*