

**Presentation of Christ in the  
temple (Candlemas)  
1<sup>st</sup> February 2026**



**Worship at St Luke's this weekend**

**Sunday am: Holy Communion**

*(Hymns: TIS 231, TIS 497,vv1,3,4, MP 201,vv1-3,5, TIS 457,vv1,2,5)*

**Sunday 9am: Family Service (also streamed via ZOOM\*)**

*(Hymns: MP 1201,vv1-3,5, MP 921, MP 34,vv1,3-5, TIS 675)*

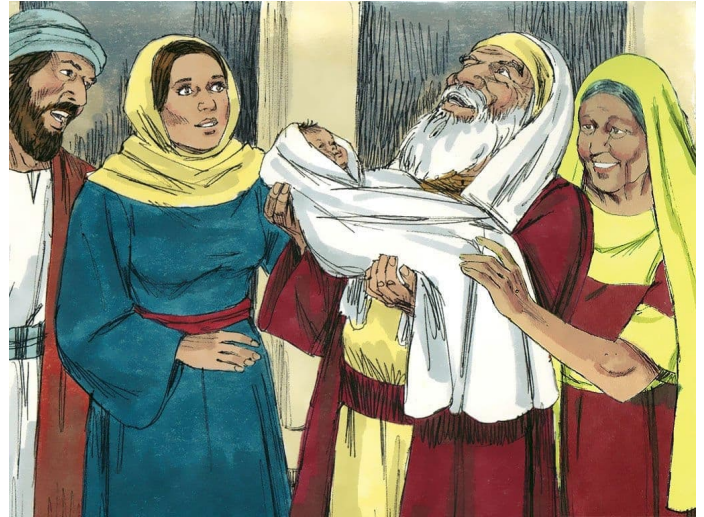
\* <https://zoom.us/j/7210725462> or by telephone (07 3185 3730, meeting ID 721 072 5462).  
Contact the office for the password.

God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

*1 Corinthians 1.9*

Rev'd Timothy writes...

The feast of the Presentation of Christ in the temple falls 40 days after Christmas. It was the Jewish custom to come to the temple to mark the purification of the mother after childbirth (see Leviticus 12) and to dedicate a firstborn son to God (see Exodus 13). Therefore as our gospel passage we have jumped back into St Luke's nativity story.



Just as in the Christmas and Epiphany stories where the angels, shepherds and magi recognised who Jesus was, here the devout Simeon and the prophetess Anna do the same. They, so the gospel writer tells us, had been waiting patiently for the consolation (encouragement), or the redemption (saving), of Israel, and this is what they see in the five-week old baby whom his parents bring to the temple. Simeon's song is both a prayer of thanks for the promise fulfilled, and a prophecy for the new life ahead in the mission that Jesus will inaugurate. His words include a foretelling of impending suffering and opposition, but also of God's glory revealed to all. It is in this knowledge that, full of hope, he can die in peace. Simeon's song remains a much loved part of our liturgy (it is often known as the Nunc Dimittis from its opening words in Latin), and reminds us that we share the same hope.

But what's with the candles? Simeon prophesied that Jesus would be "a light for revelation to the Gentiles" (Luke 2:32). Therefore the day became one on which people would bring their candles to church to be blessed and then taken home as a reminder of the true light in the darkness.

## Ash Wednesday

The season of Lent starts with Ash Wednesday on 18<sup>th</sup> February. Services will be held at St Luke's at 9.30am and 6.30pm that day with imposition of ashes.



## Jan Moody

died on 23<sup>rd</sup> January.

Her funeral will be held at St Luke's, but the family have requested a private service.

We give thanks for Jan's life, and pray for her family at this time.

*May she rest in peace and rise in glory*

## Readings for the Presentation of Christ

Malachi 3:1-4 The prophet foretells the coming 'day of the Lord', when he will come to his temple. There is a call to be prepared, but a promise of a new relationship between humankind and God.

Psalm 24 A psalm thought to have been written as the Ark of the Covenant entered Jerusalem, it also reminds us of the ascension of Jesus to glory.

Hebrews 2:14-18 The author of this sermon describes Jesus' role in bringing redemption to humankind, and of the importance of his being human to this mission.

Luke 2:22-40 Luke tells of Joseph, Mary and Jesus' visit to the temple in Jerusalem and of their encounters with Simeon and Anna who had been long awaiting this moment. They bless Jesus and prophecy about what Jesus would do. Simeon sings a canticle, which we know as the Nunc Dimittis

### *First reading*

A reading from the book of Malachi

<sup>1</sup> 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. <sup>2</sup> 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; <sup>3</sup> 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.

<sup>4</sup> Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

*Malachi 3:1-4*

### *Psalm 24*

<sup>1</sup> The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it:  
the compass of the world and those who dwell therein.

<sup>2</sup> For he has founded it upon the seas:  
and established it upon the waters.

<sup>3</sup> Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord:  
or who shall stand in his holy place?

<sup>4</sup> Those who have clean hands and a pure heart:  
who have not set their soul upon idols,  
nor sworn their oath to a lie.

<sup>5</sup> They shall receive blessing from the Lord:  
and recompense from the God of their salvation.

<sup>6</sup> Of such a kind as this are those who seek him:  
those who seek your face, O God of Jacob.

<sup>7</sup> Lift up your heads, O you gates, and be lifted up, you everlasting doors:  
and the King of glory shall come in.

<sup>8</sup> Who is the King of glory?:  
the Lord, strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle.

<sup>9</sup> Lift up your heads, O you gates,  
and be lifted up, you everlasting doors:

and the King of glory shall come in.

<sup>10</sup> Who is the King of glory?:  
the Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory.

### *Second Reading*

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

<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.

*Hebrews 2:14-18*

### *Gospel Reading*

A reading from the gospel of Luke

<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.

Luke 2:22-40

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## Word for the Day

Joseph, Mary, and Jesus made a ritual trip from Bethlehem, 40 days after Jesus' birth as noted in Luke 2. Arriving in Jerusalem, Mary would have had to wash in a pool of natural water to be "purified" after giving birth (she would have been considered "unclean" because of birth-related discharge). In the temple, they would have followed the Mosaic Law ceremony to consecrate Jesus to the Lord, offering a sacrifice of a pair of doves or two young pigeons. These would be given by families who were too poor to provide a lamb for sacrifice. God's plan for Jesus' life on earth even included this "irony." The family couldn't provide a lamb for sacrifice to redeem their son, but this same son was the lamb that would one day be slain as a sacrifice for the sins of the world.

After they completed the rites, Joseph and Mary were approached by a man named Simeon, whom God had promised would live until he saw the Messiah. Simeon prophesied that Jesus would be "a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel" (Luke 2:32). There was also a prophetess named Anna who lived at the temple who also approached Joseph, Mary and Jesus and "...coming up at that very hour she gave thanks to God, and spoke of him to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem."

This festival has been celebrated since at least the 4<sup>th</sup> century. Simeon's prophecy that Jesus would be the light of the world led to the tradition of bringing candles to church to be blessed on this day, hence 'Candle mass'. As the candles were used throughout the year this was a constant reminder of Jesus and his redeeming work.

## Ideas for reflection

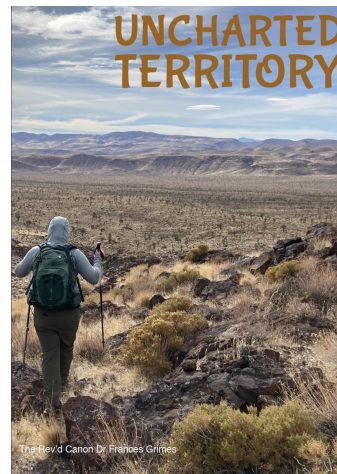
- Imagine what it would have been like for Simeon and Anna after their long years of waiting were over.
- Simeon blessed Jesus. That means he prayed for God's blessing on him. Who do you know that you can pray for God's blessing? How can this be shown in practical ways?
- Simeon blessed Jesus. That means he prayed for God's blessing on him. Who do you know that you can pray for God's blessing? How can this be shown in practical ways?

## Lent studies 2026

Our Lent Study this year is "Uncharted Territory" by the Rev'd Dr Canon Fran Grimes. The author writes of her course:

*This series of Lenten studies will take us on a journey through uncharted territory to find that in all life's uncertainties Jesus Christ can show us the Way. Drawing on Sunday's lectionary readings for Lent during Year A we are invited to walk with Jesus into some of His many encounters and realise that He was charting a brand new map for the tired old ways of life....*

The studies run for six weeks, Tuesday at 10am (starting on 17<sup>th</sup> February) and Thursdays at 7pm (starting on 19<sup>th</sup> February). Please speak to Rev'd Timothy or June if you would like to join us. Study books available now, cost \$12.



## Shrove Tuesday Pancakes

After a hiatus during the redevelopment we are delighted that we are able to hold our Pancake Dinner again this year.



Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> February at 6.30pm in the Hall.

Cost is \$20 (adult), \$5 (child 5-12), \$40 family (2 adults, 2 children), under 5 free.

**Book now at <https://www.trybooking.com/DIUYW>**  
or call 3848 2123.

*Help is also needed on Sunday 15th February after church to get the hall set up ready.*

## Annual Parish Meeting

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on 22<sup>nd</sup> February.

Any reports for the Annual Report Book should be sent to the Parish Office NOW

## Refreshing the Parish prayer list

Week by week, in our notice paper, we list the names of members of the parish and their friends who have asked specifically for our prayers. From time to time it is appropriate to ask whether these people still wish their names to be included, or whether we can rejoice by removing their names from the list.

We will therefore be refreshing the list on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> February (the first Sunday in Lent). Please contact the parish office if you wish your, or your friend's, name to remain on the list before Ash Wednesday.

# For our Prayers

## *Prayer for the day*

Righteous God, you confound the world's wisdom by giving your blessing to the lowly and pure in heart: give us such a hunger and thirst for justice and perseverance in striving for peace, that in our words and deeds the world may see the promise of your kingdom, which has been revealed in Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

## *The World*

Pray those affected by the heatwave in Australia's southern states, including those threatened by the risk of bushfire.

## *The Anglican Communion*

The Church of England

The ongoing work of peace-making in Sudan & South Sudan

The Anglican Church of Australia: The Primate – †Mark Short; The General Secretary – Anne Hywood; The General Synod and the Standing Committee

The Parish of Maleny: Ingrid Busk, Kaye Pitman

Director of Clergy Development and Training: Michael Stalley

Anglican Schools Office, Church House: A/g Executive Director – Geoff Newton, Executive Director & staff

## *Our missionary partners*

Danie Middeldorp, SU chaplain at Wellers Hill State School

## *Local Schools and colleges*

Wellers Hill Primary, Junction Park Primary, Moorooka Primary

## *Our parish*

Give thanks for the receipt of our Certificate of Occupancy for our redevelopment and for all the work that has led to this milestone.

## ***Those who are sick, frail or emotionally stressed***

Ryan, Jocelyn Hawes, Peter F, Peter Pressdee, David F., Robyn and Maxine McElnea, Rita Johnson, Sharon L., Margaret Sheehan, Don & Deb Rennie, Georgina Crawford, Glenda, Sue, Liz and Angie Lockhorst, Rev'd Shane Hubner, Natalie McHue, Lynette Coop, Sue, Rose, Al, Jennifer D, Sandy Tonello. Mary Bickerdike, Lee.

## *From the Parish Book of Remembrance*

*1 February:* Kevin White, Dianne Margaret Toms, Jane Onini Markotsis; *2 February:* Deidre Joy Feeney; *3 February:* Charlotte Emily Williams; *5 February:* Maxwell Scott Butson; *7 February:* John Henry South, Ian Salisbury Hankey, John Derek Dickey



Children's Church  
Children's Church for 2026 will start  
TODAY 1<sup>st</sup> February.  
All welcome



## Containers for Change

Donate your '10c refund' bottles and cans to St Luke's. Either by bring them to church or take them direct to TOMRA (9/655 Toohy Road, Salisbury) and use the parish code: C10686424

## Church News March 2026

Please send articles and photos to Honor by Sunday, 15<sup>th</sup> February 2026. Email: [phlawler@optusnet.com.au](mailto:phlawler@optusnet.com.au)

Or phone: 0410 423 446

## Also part of St Luke's:

**Little Angels  
Tarragindi**

Anglican Childcare  
opening early 2026:

[littleangels.qld.edu.au](http://littleangels.qld.edu.au)



St Luke's Theatre Society:  
[stlukestheatre.asn.au](http://stlukestheatre.asn.au)

## Services This Week:

Tuesday –Friday

6pm: Evening Prayer (Zoom)

Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2026

(5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany)

7am: Holy Communion (St Luke's)


9am: Holy Communion  
(St Luke's/Zoom)

Readings: Isaiah 58:1-9a, Psalm 112,  
1 Corinthians 2:1-13, Matthew 5:13-20

## Keep in touch:

 [priest@stlukesekibin.org.au](mailto:priest@stlukesekibin.org.au)  
(Rector, Rev'd Dr Timothy Nicholson)

 [admin@stlukesekibin.org.au](mailto:admin@stlukesekibin.org.au) (Office)

 [families@stlukesekibin.org.au](mailto:families@stlukesekibin.org.au)  
(Children's church)

 3848 2123 (Rectory and Office)

 P.O. Box 79, Wellers Hill, QLD 4121

 [www.stlukesekibin.org.au](http://www.stlukesekibin.org.au)

 @stlukesekibin

Parish Wardens:

Brian Wood (0466 656 149)

Alison Lampe (0408 183 701)

Lynn Mitchell (0409 150 861)

## Offerings:

Bank details  
(internet  
banking):  
Anglican Parish  
of Ekibin  
A/C 0000 7820  
BSB 704 901



Or scan the QR code to give online:

[https://www.bpoint.com.au/pay/  
TIM/?BillCode=1709377](https://www.bpoint.com.au/pay/TIM/?BillCode=1709377)