

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.

Gospel Reader: *This is the Gospel of the Lord*

All: *Praise to you, O Christ*

## SERMON

## MUSICAL INTERLUDE

## THE NICENE CREED followed by PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

## OFFERTORY HYMN # 441 *Light of the world, you stepped down*

The service continues on Page 12 of the Service Booklet

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

## PRIESTLY BLESSING

## FINAL HYMN *King of the Ages*

See separate Hymn Sheet No. 1

## SENDING OUT & POSTLUDE

The service is followed by coffee

## NOTICES

1. This is our last Service with Fr. Paul PAYTON and we thank him most sincerely for his ministry with us over the past weeks.
2. On February 17th (Shrove Tuesday), we are holding our annual Quiz and Lunch and we hope as many as possible will come for a light-hearted occasion.

*Service on Sunday 8th February : (Second Sunday before Lent)  
Morning Prayer with A+B ROSS and Communion with Keith BRETEL  
Genesis 1:1-2:3; Romans 8:18-25; Matthew 6:25-34*

**O felix culpa, quae tales et aeternum  
meruit habere Redemptorem**

**O happy fault, which has deserved to  
have such and so mighty a Redeemer**

"Exsultet" on Holy Saturday

# St. John's Anglican Church, St. Raphaël

117 Avenue Paul Doumer  
83700 St. Raphaël

Website: [www.sjvar.com](http://www.sjvar.com)

YouTube: [@St\\_Johns\\_Anglican\\_Church\\_Var](https://www.youtube.com/@St_Johns_Anglican_Church_Var)

A congregation of the Church of England's  
Diocese in Europe and a member of the  
World-Wide Anglican Communion.  
St. John's is an inclusive congregation and  
welcomes everyone to worship with us.

Une congrégation de L'Église d'Angleterre  
dans le Diocèse d'Europe et un membre de  
la Communauté Anglicane Mondiale.  
Notre Église est une congrégation inclusive,  
et tout le monde est bienvenu

**A VERY WARM WELCOME  
TO OUR SERVICE THIS  
MORNING**

The presentation of Christ in the  
Temple

by Petar Bilic



**Sunday 1st February 2026  
Presentation of Christ in the Temple/Candlemas  
Fourth Sunday of Epiphany**

Chaplain (Locum)  
Warden & Secretary  
Warden  
Music Director & Vice-Chair  
Congregational Worship Leader

Fr. Paul Payton  
Peter Owen  
Bérénice Ross  
Shirley Rowson  
Alastair Ross

07 86 05 81 12  
04 94 76 17 70  
06 60 71 93 54  
04 94 76 17 70

# COMMUNION SERVICE

## NOTICES & MUSICAL PRELUDE

## OPENING HYMN # 491 Love divine, all loves excelling

## WELCOME & PRAYER OF PREPARATION

## CONFESSON, KYRIE, ABSOLUTION, GLORIA

## COLLECT PRAYER OF 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.

## A READING FROM THE BOOK OF 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.

He will sit as a refiner and a purifier of silver; He will purify the sons of Levi, And purge them as gold and silver, That they may offer to the Lord An offering in righteousness.

Malachi 3:3

Reader: *This is the word of the Lord*  
All: *Thanks be to God*

The knowledge of sin is the beginning of salvation  
EPICURUS (341-270 BC)

## A READING FROM THE LETTER TO THE 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.

Reader: *This is the word of the Lord* All: *Thanks be to God*

## GOSPEL HYMN # 167 Faithful vigil ended

Gospel Reader: *The Lord be with you* All: *And also with you*

Gospel Reader: *Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St Luke*  
All: *Glory to you, O Lord*

## THE GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO SAINT 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