



ST MARY'S THORPE

A warm welcome for everyone

Church Family News

Week of the 2nd February

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.

Praise to you O Christ

We pray to the Lord

- ◆ For the people of India and all those who perished at the Hindu religious festival
- ◆ For priests, parishioners and councillors in Runnymede Deanery
- ◆ For those named on our February prayer list: Sue, Maureen, James, Heather, John, Kenny, Baby Theo
- ◆ For those whose anniversary of death falls at this time: Alice Boswell, Betsy Thornton, Daphne Matthews, Alan Brittain, Brian Osborne, June Brain

Father Stephen and others are available to talk or pray with anyone; please just ask. God bless you this week

Copies of Fr Stephen's sermon available email : vicar@stmaryschurchthorpe.co.uk

Greetings

Last Tuesday evening we were invited to put a candle in a window to mark Holocaust Memorial Day. If you, like me, listened to survivors' accounts of their ordeals and the darkness that enveloped Europe, the lighting of a candle probably felt rather tame. But it's making an important statement and doing it as a nation: evil shall not triumph. This Sunday we remember the occasion when Mary and Joseph presented the child Jesus to God, in the Temple. He was described by Simeon (a worshipper and prophet) as light for revelation and glory, a light that the darkness would never overcome. This festival is called 'Candlemas' after the tradition of blessing candles at the Mass, for use in the coming year. All are welcome - and do bring along a candle from home that we can bless, that in household and nation the light of Christ will dispel all darkness. and do bring along a candle from home that we can bless, that in household and nation the light of Christ will dispel all darkness.

Father Stephen

This Week:

Today **8am Said and 10am** Sung Holy Communion
(Refreshments will be served at the back of church near the children's area)
11.30 –12nn Family Service in the Chancel *(all welcome)*
From 12nn Bring and Share lunch in the Rutherwyke Room

Monday/Tuesday -

Wednesday 9am-3pm Parish office open
11am Holy Communion *(all welcome)*
Server: Kim Stangroom Warden: Jill Collinson
Welcome: Joy Mitchiner

7.15pm-9.15pm Art Class

Thursday 9.00-11.30am Noah's Ark parent and toddler group
(all welcome)

Friday Father Stephen's day off

Contact Us:

Office Administrator: stmaryschurchthorpe@outlook.com

Office open: Wednesday 9.30am – 3.00pm

Vicar: Fr Stephen Girling Churchwardens: Peter Gruncell, Diana Lees

Future Services and Events:

9th February after the 8am and 10am services

Informal meetings over coffee and an opportunity to provide feedback on the new service and newsletter formats.

9th February 4.00pm—5.15pm

Baptism families - Tea in the Rutherwyke Room

10 February 2pm Tea & Talk in the Rutherwyke Room

David and Naomi - 'A modern approach to training electronic engineers.'

Future Tea and Talk dates: 10 March, 13 April

Sunday 2nd March

Baptism of Grace Attreed

Wednesday 5th March

11 am Service of Holy Communion for Ash Wednesday

Sunday Worship 2nd February Candlemas

(The Presentation of Christ in the Temple)

We gather for worship, welcoming everyone as Christ would, learning from him through the Bible and being spiritually nourished by him through Holy Communion. The Gospel reading and prayers for this week are below.

Those serving us today are:

8am Holy Communion

Server: Andy West Welcome/Reader Bev Germany

10am Holy Communion

Warden: Pete Gruncell Welcome: Joan Gruncell Server: Susi Thornton

Chalice: Susi Thornton/Allison Kelly

Organist: David Howard

Hymns (from the orange hymn book)

Introit:	Angels from the realms of Glory	36
Gradual:	Hail to the Lord's anointed	259
Offertory:	The Church's one foundation	636
Communion:	Take my life and let it be	625
Recessional:	Immortal Invisible, God only wise	314

11.30am—12nn Family Service led by Margaret Harnden

Collect (*prayer for the week*)

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**

Psalm 24

Response

ALL The Lord of Hosts, He is the king of glory

Gospel Reading: Luke 2 vs 22-40

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

Glory to you O Lord

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

Notices

REFRESHMENTS AFTER THE 10am SERVICE this morning will be served at the back of church by the children's corner. The Family Service will be held in the Chancel. Do join in the songs if you wish! **BRING AND SHARE LUNCH** — Please leave food in the R Rm before the 10am service. Make your way to the R Room from 12nn

Lent course

Details of the Lent course to be circulated in next week's newsletter

Choir Practice held on 2nd and 4th Sundays. New members needed

Runnymede Foodbank

Details available with requests for urgent items. Items collected regularly from inside and outside the Rutherwyke Room

Contemplative Prayer Group – meetings held on 0pm at Susi's house. All welcome. Speak to Susi if interested.