



**PARISH OF ST. FELIX,
HAVERHILL**

**THE
PRESENTATION
of THE LORD**
[Year C]

Sunday 2nd February 2025

Psalter – Week 4

ST. FELIX CHURCH, PRINCESS WAY, HAVERHILL, CB9 9BP

Presbytery - 3 Wentworth Terrace, Haverhill, CB9 9BP

Parish Priest: Fr. JOHN WARRINGTON:

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Deacon: Rev. HUW WILLIAMS:

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Email: huw.williams@rcdea.org.uk

Messages may be left via our website:

www.stfelixchurch.org.uk

***To contact a priest in an emergency please call 07773 478835**

Our School: St. Felix Catholic Primary School:

Tel: 01440 703775

Head teacher: Mrs. A. Dodds

CHURCH CLEANING TEAMS:

Saturday 8th February – Sheila Dooley, Mary Dooley, Christine White

Saturday 15th February – Angela Rymills, Jo Rowson, Nora Roberts

SUNDAY WELCOMERS/STEWARDS:

Sunday 2nd February – Pat & PJ Sheehy and Annette Field

Sunday 9th February – Baiju & Sonia Varghese and Ian Blythe

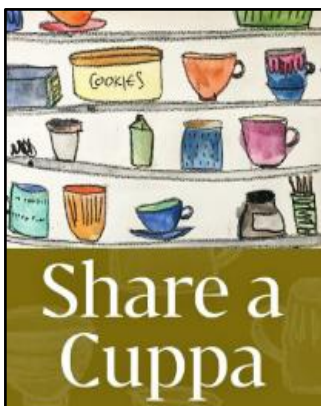
CANDLEMAS – FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD



Candlemas is celebrated this weekend. At our Saturday evening Mass and Sunday morning Mass we will begin with lighted candles and a procession into church - if the weather allows. Please collect your candle as you come into church, and you are welcome to keep your candle and take it home with you after Mass.

Why we celebrate Candlemas Day

According to the Law of Moses, a mother such as Mary who had given birth to a male child was considered unclean for seven days; moreover, she was to remain outside the temple for thirty-three more days. When the time was over, 40 days, the mother was to “bring to the temple a lamb for a holocaust and a young pigeon or turtle dove for sin”; if she was not able to offer a lamb, she was to take two turtle doves or two pigeons; the priest prayed for her and so she was cleansed (see Leviticus 12:2-8). Forty days after the birth of Christ, Mary complied with this precept of the law. She redeemed her first-born from the temple and was purified by the prayer of Simeon the Just in the presence of Anna the Prophetess.



... and a Chat

after 10.00 a.m. Mass
on Sunday
[2nd February]

Hope to see you there!

Dear Friends,

As we light our candles and celebrate the feast of the Presentation of the Lord, also known as Candlemas, the scene is set with Mary and Joseph coming to the Temple to do what was required of them by the Law. The Law also required an offering to redeem the firstborn son. The first of everything - crops, cows, sheep - was to be given to God. To keep it back, an appropriate offering had to be made instead. There is so much joy around a birth that to give something to say, "Thank you" seems entirely appropriate, but no gift could ever be as precious as the baby.

It is so hard to give God the first of everything. Time gets swallowed up in busyness or exhaustion. Attention is taken up with worry about this or fretting about that. We'd like to do enough. The Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, with Mary and Joseph offering to God what they can is a gentle reminder that saying "Thank you" can be offering enough. However, it can be a sacrifice at times. As Simeon takes the baby in his arms and looks down into the face of the God he has worshipped all his life; as Anna bursts out with joy that the Messiah has come, everything turns around. No longer is this a moral tale about us giving what we can to God. We are not the ones doing the presenting here. It is God who encounters us. The divine has become human, the immortal has been born, the light of Christ has come into the world and we see and follow.

Candlemas marks a moment for us to stop, to look back on the celebrations of Jesus' coming at Christmas and looking forward, moving towards Jesus' passion. We turn from birth towards death and resurrection. All of this, as we light our candles, fills us with light, in this Jubilee Year of Hope. Called to follow Jesus as Pilgrims of Hope we remember the light of hope sung out by Christmas angels; and look forward to the light of resurrection at Easter. We do not journey though all life gives us alone as we carry, as Simeon did, the light of the world with us and follow the Lord renewed by His everlasting love for us. Wishing you a very happy and light filled feast day.

With every blessing and prayers, *Fr John*

St Josephine Bakhita Feast Day 8th February

Santa Marta Group
santamartagroup.org

@santamarta-group

@santamartagroup



*“Human trafficking is a crime
against humanity. We must unite
our efforts to free victims and
stop this crime”*

- Pope Francis

If you see someone in danger,
call the police. If you have concerns, or want to
report anonymously, call Crimestoppers

☎ 999 ☎ 0800 555 111

For more information go to
santamartagroup.org/st-bakhita-day



ST JOSEPHINE BAKHITA

The feast day of **St Josephine Bakhita**, the patron saint of victims of human trafficking and modern slavery, is celebrated on February 8th.

There are 50 million victims of human trafficking across the world and as many as 130,000 in the UK, hidden in plain sight in your neighbourhood. Pope Francis describes human trafficking as “blood money” and a “crime against humanity”. We are all called to combat this evil trade. To find out more and what you can do, go to www.santamartagroup.org/resources

Also available for free in the narthex is a booklet produced by Caritas East Anglia. Please take a copy to raise awareness of this vital issue. *Thank you*

Short Pilgrimage to Lourdes. Fr John will be in Lourdes for the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes on 11th February and will be happy to place any prayer intentions at the Grotto and to light candles for any intentions. Please let Fr John have any intentions by next Sunday, 9th February or via email john.warrington@rcdea.org.uk

PRAYER INTENTIONS

God our Father, we pray for the many people who have asked for our prayers; for their healing and their peace. Hold them, shelter them and keep them in your tender care. Comfort those who grieve and give courage to those who are fearful. We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord. Amen.

- Please pray for people requesting prayers in our 'Intentions Book', especially Linette Fernandes, Gisèle Marçhon and Dave Morgan who are ill and Elias Gomes who is now receiving end of life care.
- Please continue to pray for peace in the Middle East, Ukraine and everywhere in the world affected by war and conflict.
- Pray for all people and lands devastated by the effects of climate change.
- Pray for people whose income is insufficient to meet their needs, Remember the work of 'REACH' and its volunteers in your prayers.
- Pray that all producers of food and commodities receive just treatment and fair recompense for their labour and products.
- Pray for migrants and refugees that they will receive the welcome and support they need from those to whom they turn for help.
- Pray for prisoners, their families and those who work with them. Remember especially all those associated with HMP Highpoint.
- Pray for Fr. John, Dcn. Huw, and all the people of our parish, especially the pupils and staff of St Felix School and those who are housebound or being cared for in care or nursing homes.

Pray for all the people we know and love who have died;
Remember their families and all who grieve.

Remember those whose anniversaries occur at this time:
Constantia Eden, Frances Myers, Leonard Garty, Alfred Mason, Julia Garty, Rose Mulhaive, Suzannah Roebuck, Ian Wade, Eva Wilkinson, William Barry, Anne-Marie Sheard, Rosa Jack, Frank Everett, Fr. Michael Teader.

During Winter (up to Lent) we are asked to pray for:
Peace on Earth, Christian Unity, Openess to the Word of God,
Victims of Trafficking, People who are Sick and Those Who Care for Them,
People who are Unemployed.

In February Pope Francis asks us to pray for vocations to the priesthood and religious life. Let us pray that the ecclesial community might welcome the desires and doubts of those young people who feel a call to serve Christ's mission in the priesthood and religious life.

NEED HELP DURING the ON-GOING COST of LIVING CRISIS?

Please speak to Fr. John or you can contact



Get in touch. Our friendly team of advisers are on hand to help you, so please do get in touch:

0800 009 6710

info@reachhaverhill.org.uk

Contact hours: Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. – 4.30 p.m.

January 2025

TOP 5 Items needed this week:

- Coffee: NESCAFÉ INSTANT
- Longlife milk: WHOLE LONGLIFE UHT MILK
- Longlife juice: TESCO ORANGE JUICE SMOOTH
- Tinned Vegetables: TESCO MIXED VEGETABLES IN WATER
- Sugar: TASTE THE LOVE GRANULATED SUGAR

Haverhill Foodbank Reach Community Projects
Together with Trussell

Some Thoughts On 'Living Simply'

Continuing with the Patience Strong view of life!

Never a Moment

Too many roads to explore. Too many battles to fight.

Too many rings at the door. Too many things to put right

Too many problems to face -- too many irons to heat.

Too many pleasures to chase. Too many people to meet.

Too many phone calls to make. Too many errands to run. Too many journeys to take. Too many jobs to be done

Too many worries that grind -- round in your brain like a mill. Too many things on your mind. That's why you never sit still.

Too many mountains to climb. Too many dates to fit in.

That's why you never find time to look for the treasures within -- cramming too much in a day -- with never a moment to pray.

Give Me a Quiet Corner (1972 p.94)

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT



Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Sunday 2nd February
4.30 p.m – 6.30 p.m.

All are welcome to come and spend time in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY



DATE	LEADER	ADULT HELPERS	CHILD Nos.
02.02.25	MARY MATHEW	1. Nnenna Ezugwu 2. Angela Wilson 3.	18

Children's Liturgy is for children who attend **Reception class, Year 1, Year 2 and Year 3**, so that they can hear the Word of God adapted to their age group. Younger children and/or those with additional needs are welcome to attend with an adult. Children who have made their First Holy Communion should remain in the main church and not attend Children's Liturgy. We have a side room that can be used for younger children and their adult carer, if they need some space to move about.

Our ratio of DBS-checked adults to children is 1:6 for our age group, so it is necessary to limit the number of children who are permitted to attend dependent upon the number of adult helpers we have and the space available in the Narthex area. We have a registration system before Mass where parents should sign their children in and they are given a registration card, which should be brought to the session on that day. Those without a card may need to be sent back to the main church if we are over-crowded. Children should register each time that they come to Mass.

We are always looking for more adult helpers, so if you would like to assist us and are willing to have a Disclosure and Barring Check carried out, please speak to Fr John or Angela Wilson.

Thank you for your co-operation. Angela Wilson

Items for the newsletter should be sent to
stfelixnewsletter@gmail.com
by 12 noon on THURSDAY for inclusion in the next newsletter



What Good News Study Day



Inter Faith Dialogue

The Second Vatican Council encouraged dialogue both with different Churches and with other Faiths. 2025 marks sixty year since *Nostra Aetate*, the Council's document on other Faiths.

Cardinal Michael Fitzgerald, a member of the Missionaries of Africa (White Fathers), taught Islamic studies and Arabic in several locations, and worked for many years in the Vatican's Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue. He was posted to Cairo as Apostolic Nuncio, the representative of the Pope. He now lives in the White Fathers' community in London.

Saturday 22nd February 2025 11 a.m – 2 p.m

The event is available on live stream free of charge at www.whatgoodnews.org No prior booking necessary. A recording of the talk will be available subsequently online

Thank You

I would like to say a big thank you to everyone for their kind wishes and presents on my retirement. Thank you for the very kind and generous gift from the parish.

With all my prayers, *Brendan*

HYMNS for SUNDAY 2nd FEBRUARY 2025



175 - In His Temple Now Behold Him

607 - Let All Mortal Flesh

341 - Sing of Mary Pure and Lowly

744 - Christ is the World's Light

PARISH LITURGY GROUP MEETING

Wednesday 5th February, 7.30 p.m. in church

Any suggestions on how we can improve or add to our celebrations in our parish, especially for the Seasons of Lent and Easter, please speak to Fr John or Deacon Huw to raise at the meeting. *Thank you*

PARISH JUSTICE & PEACE GROUP MEETING

Thursday 6th February in church at 7.30 p.m.

All are welcome to come and share ideas about Justice and Peace work in our parish community

PARISH FINANCES

Collection for the weekend of 25th/26th January 2025

Standing Orders	£421.00
Collection	£571.45
Total:	£992.45

Forthcoming Second Collections:

14th March 2025 – CAFOD Lent Family Fast Day

15th/16th March 2025 – Cafod Collection

18th April 2025, Good Friday – Holy Land Shrines
Collection to support the Holy Places of Palestine

Thank you for your continued generosity to our parish community.

Dona Card Machine Payments.

Just a reminder that you are able to make the following donations to our Parish via our Dona Card Machine in the narthex:

Sunday Collection, CAFOD, 100 Club, Flowers, Candles, Mass Offerings, Donations, Second collections. *Thank you*

READERS and EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS			
DATE	1st READING	2nd READING	EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS
Saturday 1st February	JO		MURRY
Sunday 2nd February	DAVE	SUE	Sign up list In narthex
Saturday 8th February	KAREN		ANGELA
Sunday 9th February	MARITA	RAYMOND	Sign up list In narthex

ST FELIX MASSES & MASS INTENTIONS

[Masses celebrated in church are also live-streamed]

The link for our Live-Streamed Masses via our YouTube channel is:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCEHq3Ww93rfGfMGzXS25A2w/>

[Sunday readings – Year c, Weekday readings Year I]

THE PRESENTATION of the LORD [Candlemas]

Saturday 1 st February:	6.30 p.m. Mass	<i>People of the Parish</i>
Sunday 2 nd February:	10.00 a.m. Mass	<i>Ned Noone RIP</i>
	4.30 - 6.30 p.m. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	

FOURTH WEEK of the YEAR

Tuesday 4 th February:	10.00 a.m. Mass	
Wednesday 5 th February:	10.00 a.m. Mass	
Thursday 6 th February:	10.00 a.m. Mass	
Friday 7 th February:	10.00 a.m. Mass	<i>Fr. Michael Teader RIP</i>

FIFTH SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME

Saturday 8 th February:	6.30 p.m. Mass	<i>Jo Sheppard RIP</i>
Sunday 9 th February:	10.00 a.m. Mass	<i>People of the Parish</i>

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT AND CONFESSIONS

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions
on Saturday evenings from 5.45 – 6.15 p.m.**

**If you need to speak with myself or Deacon Huw,
please call me on 01440 702156 or
Deacon Huw on 07399 163718.**

Wishing you and your families every blessing and prayers
Fr John and Deacon Huw