

**Candlemas**  
**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2024**  
**Parish Eucharist**  
**Mass of St Thomas – Thorne**

## **Processional Hymn**

**Praise to the Holiest in the height,  
and in the depth be praise,  
in all his words most wonderful,  
most sure in all his ways.**

**O loving wisdom of our God!  
when all was sin and shame,  
a second Adam to the fight  
and to the rescue came.**

**O generous love! that he, who smote  
in Man for man the foe,  
the double agony in Man  
for man should undergo;**

**And in the garden secretly,  
and on the cross on high,  
should teach his brethren, and inspire  
to suffer and to die.**

**Praise to the Holiest in the height,  
and in the depth be praise,  
in all his words most wonderful,  
most sure in all his ways.**

## **Introduction**

In the name of the Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit,  
**Amen.**

The Lord be with you  
**and also with you.**

*The congregation sits and the president introduces the theme of the service.*

## **Prayer of Preparation**

**Almighty God,  
to whom all hearts are open, all desires known,  
and from whom no secrets are hidden:  
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name;  
through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

## **Prayers of Penitence**

*introduced by the Deacon*

The grace of God has dawned upon the world  
through our Saviour Jesus Christ,  
who sacrificed himself for us to purify a people as his own.  
Let us confess our sins.

**Most merciful God,  
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
we confess that we have sinned in thought, word and deed.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart.  
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.  
In your mercy forgive what we have been,  
help us to amend what we are, and direct what we shall be;  
that we may do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God.  
Amen.**

*Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.  
Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.  
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.*

## **Absolution**

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you,  
pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you  
in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

## **Gloria**

*please stand*

**Refrain: Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to God in the Highest.**

**Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.  
Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.**

***Refrain***

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.**

***Refrain***

**For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father.  
*Refrain***

## **The Collect**

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.**

## **THE LITURGY OF THE WORD**

### **First Reading      *Malachi 3: 1-5***

*At the end the reader may say:*

This is the word of the Lord  
**Thanks be to God.**

## **Gradual Hymn**

**Father, hear the prayer we offer:  
not for ease that prayer shall be,  
but for strength that we may ever  
live our lives courageously.**

**Not for ever in green pastures  
do we ask our way to be;  
but the steep and rugged pathway  
may we tread rejoicingly.**

**Not for ever by still waters  
would we idly rest and stay;  
but would smite the living fountains  
from the rocks along our way.**

**Be our strength in hours of weakness,  
in our wanderings be our guide;  
through endeavour, failure, danger,  
Father, be thou at our side.**

## **Gospel Reading**

**Luke 2: 22-40**

*please stand*

*We all stand and turn to face the Deacon as they prepare to read the Gospel.*

**Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia**

*A sentence from the scripture is sung and then we respond singing:*

**Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*At the end:*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **Sermon**

*please sit*

## **The Creed**

*please stand*

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God, begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit  
and the Virgin Mary and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge  
the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and  
glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come.  
**Amen.****

## **Prayers of Intercession** *please sit*

Lord, in your mercy  
**hear our prayer.**

*At the end:*

Most merciful Father,  
**accept these prayers  
for the sake of your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ.  
Amen.**

## **THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT**

### **The Peace** *please stand*

*The children return and gather at the Chancel steps.*

*The president says:*

In the tender mercy of our God the dayspring from on high has broken upon us,  
to give light to those who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death and to  
guide our feet into the way of peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you  
**and also with you.**

*The children invite us to share a sign of peace.*

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

### **Offertory Hymn**

*A collection plate will be passed around if you would like to leave a cash donation. Alternatively,  
please use our contactless card reader in the entrance lobby.*

**Longing for light, we wait in darkness.  
Longing for truth, we turn to you.  
Make us your own, your holy people,  
Light for the world to see.**

**Refrain:**

***Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts.  
Shine through the darkness.  
Christ, be our light!  
Shine in your church gathered today.***

**Longing for peace, our world is troubled.  
Longing for hope, many despair.  
Your word alone has pow'r to save us.  
Make us your living voice.**

*Refrain*

**Longing for food, many are hungry.  
Longing for water, many still thirst.  
Make us your bread, broken for others,  
Shared until all are fed.**

*Refrain*

**Longing for shelter, many are homeless.  
Longing for warmth, many are cold.  
Make us your building, sheltering others,  
Walls made of living stone.**

*Refrain*

**Many the gifts, many the people,  
Many the hearts that yearn to belong.  
Let us be servants to one another,  
Making your kingdom come.**

*Refrain*

*The president takes the bread and wine and says:*

Father, in Christ there has sprung up a light for the righteous;  
accept the offering of your Church  
and grant that Christ may shine in us  
to the praise and glory of your name.

**Amen.**

## **The Eucharistic Prayer**

The Lord be with you  
**and also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give thanks and praise.**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

*The president recalls the Last Supper, and we use this acclamation:*

Great is the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

*At the end of the prayer of consecration we all respond:*

**Amen.**

## **The Lord's Prayer** *please sit*

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

**Our Father in heaven,**

**hallowed be your name,**

**your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours  
now and for ever.**

**Amen.**

## **Breaking of the Bread**

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

**Though we are many, we are one body,  
because we all share in one bread.**

## **The Agnus Dei**

*Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.*

*Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.*

*Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.*

## **Giving of Communion**

*The president says an invitation to communion:*

Draw near with faith.

Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you,  
and his blood which he shed for you.

Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you,  
and feed on him in your hearts  
by faith with thanksgiving.

## **The Communion**

*If you would like to receive Communion you are very welcome to do so here. If you do not normally have communion but you would like a blessing, please come to the altar holding this service book as a sign. A sidesperson will show you when to come up*

## **Anthem**

*please sit*

*When to the temple Mary went - Eccard*

## **Prayer after Communion**

*silence is kept.*

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.**

**Almighty God,**  
**we thank you for feeding us**  
**with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.**  
**Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice.**  
**Send us out in the power of your Spirit**  
**to live and work to your praise and glory.**  
**Amen.**

## **The Blessing of Church Candles**

## **The Notices and Banns of Marriage**

## **Congregational Welcome for The Newly Baptised**

*A member of Children's Church presents the Baptismal Candle*

God has delivered us from the dominion of darkness  
and has given us a place with the saints in light.  
You have received the light of Christ;  
walk in this light all the days of your life.  
**Shine as a light in the world**  
**to the glory of God the Father.**

There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism:  
N, by one Spirit we are all baptised into one body.  
**We welcome you into the fellowship of faith;**  
**we are children of the same heavenly Father;**  
**we welcome you.**

## **The Blessing**

*please stand*

Christ the Son of God, born of Mary,  
fill you with his grace to trust his promises and obey his will; and the blessing ...  
**Amen.**



## **Recessional Hymn**

**Ye holy angels bright,  
who wait at God's right hand,  
or through the realms of light  
fly at your Lord's command,  
assist our song,  
for else the theme  
too high doth seem  
for mortal tongue.**

**Ye blessed souls at rest,  
who ran this earthly race,  
and now, from sin released,  
behold the Saviour's face,  
God's praises sound,  
as in his sight  
with sweet delight  
ye do abound.**

**Ye saints, who toil below,  
adore your heavenly King,  
and onward as ye go  
some joyful anthem sing;  
take what he gives  
and praise him still,  
through good and ill,  
who ever lives!**

**My soul, bear thou thy part,  
triumph in God above:  
and with a well-tuned heart  
sing thou the songs of love!  
let all thy days  
till life shall end,  
whate'er he send,  
be filled with praise.**

## **Dismissal**

**Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
In the name of Christ. Amen.**

## **Organ Voluntary**

**Please stay and join us for refreshments!**