

## This week's services



### Sunday 1st February

10.30am, Holy Communion, CW, **Leafield**

### Friday 6th February

6.30pm, Evening Prayer, **Wilcote**

### Sunday 8th February

10.30am, Holy Communion, CW, **Ramsden**

6.00pm, Evening Prayer, **Leafield**



These Bible readings are designated for each day

**Monday** Matthew 27: 11-26

**Tuesday** Matthew 27: 27-44

**Wednesday** Matthew 27: 45-56

**Thursday** Matthew 27: 57-end

**Friday** Matthew 28: 1-15

**Saturday** Matthew 28: 16-end

Please pray for the following throughout the week

**Monday** Those who are sick or grieving within our community.

**Tuesday** Those who are suffering in this country and around the world.

**Wednesday** The King and other leaders in this country.

**Thursday** For the troubled areas around the world, we pray for peace and justice.

**Friday** For the ministry of the Forest Edge Benefice and for those who lead us.

**Saturday** For an abundance of love, peace, harmony and forgiveness to reign within families and relationships.

Please also pray for the Chipping Norton Deanery, and particularly this week:

All Saints, Spelsbury.

Please pray for Mark Abrey & Ilona Cheyne and the Church Warden Ken Wakefield.



If we as a Church can help in any way, please contact:

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## PEW SHEET



**1st February 2026**

Presentation of Christ in the Temple  
Candlemas

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Please take this pew sheet with you  
when you leave.

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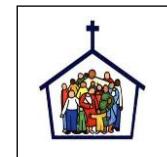
Benefice website:

<http://www.forestedgebenefice.co.uk>

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## 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.

## First Reading

**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.

### **Second Reading** **Hebrews 2: 14-end**

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.

### **Gospel Reading** **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 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.

Lord Jesus Christ,  
You are the true Light  
enlightening every soul born into this world.  
Today we celebrate the feast of Candlemas.  
The flames of these candles  
will shed their light upon the world.  
Help us realize,  
that they are a symbol of Yourself,  
the Light shining in the darkness of this world.  
Help us to live in that Light,  
to make it our own,  
and to kindle it in the souls of others,  
increasing the area of light  
and lessening the darkness in the world.  
Then we, too, working for You,  
shall be light-bearers who will help to spread  
Your kingdom on earth,  
and increase the number of those who dwell in  
heaven, the city of eternal light.  
Amen.

