

THE FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD: CANDLEMAS



WORD OF THE WEEK



Luke 2: 22-32

When the time for their purification according to the law of Moses has been completed, Joseph and Mary took Jesus to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male is to be consecrated to the Lord"), and to offer a sacrifice in keeping with what is said in the Law of the Lord: "a pair of doves or two young pigeons". Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit, that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Christ.

Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying:

"Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you now dismiss your servant in peace. For my eyes have seen your salvation which you have prepared in the sight of all people, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel."



PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Lord God, you are the source of everlasting light. May we, like Simeon, behold the glory of the Lord Jesus. Grant that we may stand before you with hearts cleansed by your forgiving love. May we serve you all our days and make your name known, as we worship you as our Lord, so may we come by your grace of eternal life. Amen



SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT



This week is about baby Jesus being presented to the temple and Jesus being introduced as the light of the world.

This celebration is called Candlemas and is an opportunity to reflect on how Jesus brought light and truth and love to this world.

But the feast of the Presentation of the Lord is not just about something and somebody else in the past. In fact, the feast of the Presentation is a feast about all of us and our communities' abilities to be dedicated to God, and one another.

To be dedicated or consecrated to someone requires a devotion, a single-mindedness and a loyalty. We can be devoted to people, things and activities. When we are dedicated to God, this devotion and loyalty is to our very call and invitation to be people, loving and merciful.

SOMETHING TO DO

In your form folders you will find candle cut outs. Take a candle each and on your candle write down what you can do to be a beacon of light. What can you do to be a light for others around you, guiding them in the right direction?



SOMETHING TO TALK ABOUT



As we think about the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, we remember that for most of us our parents presented us at church for our baptism. We were dedicated to God, and given a name. We too received a lit candle from the paschal candle, at which point the priests said: "You have been enlightened by Christ. Walk always as a child of the light and keep the flame of faith alive in your heart," Therefore, as a light, each of us must bear witness to our God. We must be the beacon that guides others to Christ. Talk to the person next to you about how do you think you can do this?
With your actions?
With your words?



WHATS ON!?

Wednesday and Thursday: Year 7 go on visits to the Cathedrals in Liverpool.

Friday: Breakfast with God.

Friday: Beautify and the Beast rehearsals.