



Bourne Abbey and Parish Church

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Bourne Abbey Church Group

Sunday 2 February 2025

Presentation of Christ in the Temple - Candlemas

A warm welcome to all! Please take this pew sheet home and include those listed named in your prayers.

Are you visiting the Abbey today? If you are a communicant member of your own church, you are invited to take communion here. If you prefer to receive a blessing, please come forward with the service booklet as an indication. Gluten-free wafers are available – please ask a greeter/ the Churchwarden.

Services this week:

Morning and Evening Prayer will be said as shown in 'This Week at the Abbey' (usually at 0900 and 1730, but please check the noticeboard or website).

This evening: 1830 - Sung Evensong.

Tuesday 4 February: 1900 - Said Eucharist.

Thursday 6 February: 1000 – Said Eucharist (BCP).

Sunday 9 February: 1100 – Sung Eucharist.

Tea and coffee are served after the Thursday and Sunday services; do stay.

Please pray for:

The diocese, parish and deanery: for Bishops Stephen, David and Nicholas, Fr Stephen Buckman, Fr Peter Lister, Bishop Hall, Rev. Sylvia Rice-Oxley, Rev. Canon David Staples, and our Ministry Team.

Peace and goodwill within and between nations.

Those suffering hunger, disease, oppression, injustice and exploitation.

The sick.

The souls of the recently departed: Daniel Ingham and Vera Hargadon.

Those whose year's mind falls this week: John Lewis, Douglas Reeson, Kathleen Castel, Phyllis Pawlett, Betty Woodman, Conor Murphy, Bryan McNamara, Patrick Elliott, and Michael Reynolds.

We welcome the names of those who are ill or awaiting an operation, so that prayers may be offered for them, and/or a visit arranged.

Dates for Your Diary

Sung Evensong will be held this evening at 1830. All welcome.

Julian Group, Monday 3 February at 10am, Abbey vestry for 30 minutes of silent prayer and reflection.

Christmas tree. The Christmas tree will be dismantled on Monday 3 February at 1500. All assistance welcome. There may even be refreshments!

MU Lunch, Wednesday 5 February, 1230 for 1300, Church Hall.

New Church Electoral Roll

A new church electoral roll for Bourne Abbey is due to be prepared in 2025. Belonging to the roll allows us to take part in decisions which affect the church and parish, to take part in the Annual Parish Church Meeting, and to stand for the Parochial Church Council.

Every person wishing to be included on the new electoral roll, including those on the existing roll, should complete an application form.

Forms will be available from 9th February and everyone is encouraged to fill one in and join the Abbey community. Forms should be returned to Sarah Speers, Church Electoral Roll Officer.

Save the Date! Quiz Evening, Saturday 22 February 2025, 1900 for 1930.

Teams of four. Entry forms with further details are available on top of the long oak chest in the NW tower.

Foodbank. The 'Bank the Food' app shows the most urgently-needed items:



UHT milk; fruit juice/squash; desserts; jam; coffee; tinned meat; custard; snack items – pot noodles, rice etc.; washing powder/gel; washing up liquid; toilet rolls; toothbrushes; and razors and shaving foam.

Please leave donations in the plastic boxes at the back of the church.

Many thanks.

Easter Lilies. As usual, lilies will be arranged at Eastertide in memory of loved one. Please see the notice on the board by the servery for full details.

2 February – Presentation of Christ in the Temple (Candlemas)

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

Thus says the LORD God: 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 2:14-18

Since the children share flesh and blood, Jesus 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 Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia.

This child is the light to enlighten the nations,
and the glory of your people Israel.

Alleluia.

Gospel Reading

Luke 2:22-40

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, Mary and Joseph brought Jesus 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 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.

Post Communion Prayer

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.