

**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2024**

**08.00 Holy Communion**

**09.30 Parish Eucharist**

Those who are not attending St John's can watch live (or later) on YouTube. The links are below and the church website.

<https://youtube.com/live/WY4tNqRnKhg?feature=share>

**Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February**

**11.15 Holy Communion at St John's**

**Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> February – Second Before Lent**

**09.30 Parish Eucharist**

**Ladies Lunch: Thursday February 8<sup>th</sup>**

The Bell, Woodham Walter at 12.30pm Phone Ann Poulard, 224221

**Ash Wednesday – 12noon on 14th February**

This year we will be trying something a little different as we mark the start of Lent. Rather than an evening service we will be having our sung service, with the imposition of ashes, at midday followed by a home made soup lunch. There is a list in the porch for you to sign up to if you want to join us for the lunch so that we have an idea of numbers for catering purposes.

**Sharing in Ministry at St John's**

**Priest in Charge (Danbury and Little Baddow)**

The Revd Canon Jacqui Jones

St John's Rectory, 55 Main Road, Danbury CM3 4NG Tel: 01245 223140

Email: [ebbaafter@gmail.com](mailto:ebbaafter@gmail.com) ***Jacqui's day off is Wednesday***

**Authorised Local Preachers** Jenny Molyneux-Berry, Janet Arthurs

**Treasurer:** Alan Dixon 225208

**Director of Music and Organist** Paul Hagger

Parish Church of  
St John the Baptist, Danbury



Registered Charity no. 1130296

[www.stjohnbaptistchurch.org.uk](http://www.stjohnbaptistchurch.org.uk)

[www.facebook.com/churchofstjohnthebaptist](https://www.facebook.com/churchofstjohnthebaptist)

**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2024**

**PRESENTATION OF CHRIST IN THE TEMPLE/CANDLEMAS**

**08.00 Holy Communion**

**09.30 Parish Eucharist**

**Readings: Hebrews 2: 14-end Luke 2 :22-40**

**Hymns:**

Introit Hymn 113 omit \* When candles are lighted

Gradual Hymn 396 Faithful vigil ended

Offertory Hymn 701 King of the ages

Sending out Hymn 677 In a world where people walk in darkness

Motet: Nunc Dimmitis – Frank Henry Shera

*Closing voluntary:* Chorale prelude on “Mit fried und freud”

(In peace and joy I now depart) – JS Bach

Refreshments will be available in the meeting room opposite the main Church door following the service this morning.

## Collect

Lord Jesus Christ,  
light of the nations and glory of Israel: make your home among us,  
and present us pure and holy to your heavenly Father,  
your God, and our God. **Amen**

## 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. **Amen**

## Intercessions

Please pray for one another during this difficult time and those who  
you know are unwell at present: **Pam Melville, Julie Barker, Catherine,  
Lisa Payne, Janet Bennet, Margaret Cockerill, Christina Fitheridge,  
Rita Telling**

and please remember the faithful departed, commending them to  
God's love and mercy: **Clive Willey, Christine Jemmeson**  
**Clive's funeral will be held at 11am on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February at St John's**  
**Everyone attending are warmly invited to join Clive's sons David and Alan for**  
**refreshments after the service which they hope will be at the Cricketers pub**

*If anyone wants to add someone to St John's prayer list please contact Jacqui or  
Jenny Molyneux-Berry 01245 223231*

## Readings

### Hebrews 2: 14-end

<sup>14</sup> 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, <sup>15</sup> and free those who all  
their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. <sup>16</sup> For it is clear that  
he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham.

<sup>17</sup> Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters<sup>1</sup> 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. <sup>18</sup> Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able  
to help those who are being tested.

### Luke 2:22-40

<sup>22</sup> 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 <sup>23</sup> (as it is written in the law of the Lord, 'Every firstborn male  
shall be designated as holy to the Lord'), <sup>24</sup> 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.'

<sup>25</sup> 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. <sup>26</sup> It had  
been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see  
death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. <sup>27</sup> 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, <sup>28</sup> Simeon took him in his arms and praised God,  
saying, <sup>29</sup> 'Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace,  
according to your word; <sup>30</sup> for my eyes have seen your salvation,  
<sup>31</sup> which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,  
<sup>32</sup> a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people  
Israel.' <sup>33</sup> And the child's father and mother were amazed at what  
was being said about him. <sup>34</sup> 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 <sup>35</sup> so  
that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will  
pierce your own soul too.' <sup>36</sup> 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,  
<sup>37</sup> 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. <sup>38</sup> 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. <sup>39</sup> When they had finished everything required by  
the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of  
Nazareth. <sup>40</sup> The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom;  
and the favour of God was upon him.

## LENT COURSE

Would you like to explore your faith a little deeper in a friendly informal atmosphere? If so, Jenny Molyneux-Berry and Janet Arthurs are proposing to lead a weekly Lent course on Wednesday mornings starting 21st February.

Each session will last 1 and a half hours when we shall talk about aspects of Lent. Tiggy and Steve Farrow have kindly offered to host at their house at 5 Hopping Jacks Lane. We need to have an idea of numbers, so if you are interested please speak to Jenny or Janet or email on [molyneuxberry@btinternet.com](mailto:molyneuxberry@btinternet.com) or [diverjudge@aol.com](mailto:diverjudge@aol.com)"



A date for your diary

Flower Festival  
'Beauty of the Earth'  
at St John's

21st - 24th June

Details of sponsorship will be  
made available soon