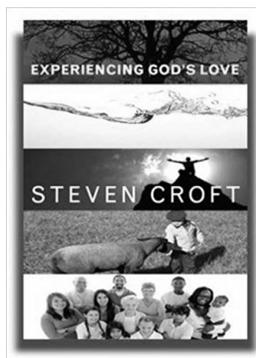


- ◆ **Ash Wednesday 14th February:** There will be two Communion services with ashing to mark the start of Lent: one is at 12.30pm and the other is at 7.00pm. Both services are at St Nicolas, Taplow.

- ◆ **Our Lent Course:** Having enjoyed Bishop Steven's material on the Beatitudes in Advent, we will follow another course he has written in Lent: *"Experiencing God's love: Five images of transformation."*

Everyone is welcome to be part of a Lent group – we will run as many small groups as we need to include anyone who wants to take part. Look out for sign-up sheets.



- ◆ **Shrove Tuesday Pancakes at St Peter's Church, Burnham:** On 13th February, St Peter's Church is having a Pancake, Books and CDs evening (6-8pm) where you can enjoy a pancake and browse through a massive CD collection (everything from Mozart to the Manic Street Preachers) and a lot of beautiful books.
- ◆ **Taplow's new Community Choir:** Next meeting of this monthly singing workshop is **next Sunday (11th), 2-4pm** at Taplow Village Centre. For more information, contact Zoe Hatch on 07974 457925. Songs from Africa, Gospel songs, songs of peace, freedom and joy. All songs are taught by ear and no musical experience is necessary. Everyone is welcome.

### **Services for next Week**

**Wednesday, (7th):** 12.30—Open Wednesday Service followed by Ploughman's Lunch.

### **Sunday, 11th February: 1st before Lent**

9.15am: Matins at St Anne's Church, Dropmore

10.45am: Parish Communion at St Nicolas' Church, Taplow

Further information on **St Nicolas Church Website:** <http://st-nicolas-taplow.org>

If you need to **contact the Vicar**, you can ring her on 01628 661182 or email her: [janecresswell523@gmail.com](mailto:janecresswell523@gmail.com)

**Notices in the Pew Leaflet:** If you have a notice or news for the Pew Leaflet, please email it to Jim Oliver ([oliverjim1@sky.com](mailto:oliverjim1@sky.com)) by the end of the Wednesday preceding the Sunday date you want it in. This leaflet is on the website from the Friday preceding each Sunday.

**St Anne's Church, Littleworth Common**

We are part of



**St Nicolas' Church, Taplow**

**Candlemas**

**4th February, 2018**



*Faithful to God*

*Caring for each other*

*Serving the Community*

*Welcome to this morning's Holy Communion Service. At St Nicolas, a particular welcome to the family and friends of Robyn Norris Wiles who is to be baptised today. Children are invited to join the Sunday School after the first hymn.*

### **Collect (or Prayer for Today)**

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 *The Coming Messenger***

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.

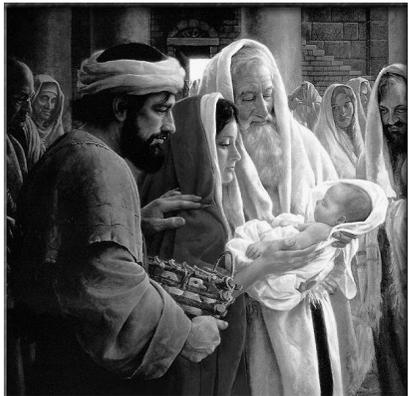
Then I will draw near to you for judgment; I will be swift to bear witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired workers in their wages, the

widow and the orphan, against those who thrust aside the alien, and do not fear me, says the Lord of hosts.

**The Gospel:** Luke 2:22-40 *Jesus Is Presented in the Temple*

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 turtledoves 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.

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**Anthem:** *When to the temple Mary went* Johann Eccard

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**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.

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***This Week’s News and Notices***

- ◆ **A Service of Remembering:** At St Anne’s Church, Dropmore, **this afternoon at 3.00pm**, there is a short service of music, prayer and silence. This is an opportunity to remember your loved ones and light a candle in their memory. Everyone is welcome. Bring the family. Tea/coffee/cake will be served after the service.
- ◆ **An introduction to Buddhist philosophy:** There is to be a public talk next **Sunday (11th) at 2.00pm**. at Taplow Court. It is free to attend and a wonderful opportunity to find out more about our Buddhist neighbours.
- ◆ **Our Second Hand Book Store:** Honesty Box Books now have their own bookcase at the back of the church. Books are £1 each (or more if you like . . .). All profits to St Nicolas’ Church Roof/Wall Fund. Paperbacks in good condition are welcome - just leave them on or near the bookcase.

