

◆ **Oasis:** A week on Wednesday from 10.00am to 3pm, at Burnham Abbey, Alison Webster, Deputy Director of Mission (Social Justice) in the Diocese of Oxford will be leading a session called “*Courageousness in Later Life*”. The session will explore spiritual journeys – understanding our own and those of others; and the shifts and changes that growing older brings. Please book for these sessions by contacting Rob Penn Tel:07768483385 or email robipenn@aol.com

◆ **South Side Roof and Wall Restoration Appeal:**

◇ **Taplow Christmas Card:** In the weeks between now and Easter, we are invited to start taking pictures (or look through ones from past years) which might be suitable for our Christmas Cards. General shots of Taplow in winter may be as popular as ones of St Nicolas itself. Fuller details of this project are on the website.

◇ **Sue Blore’s Legendary Sunday Lunches:** The next ones are planned for 17th February and 17th March—both at 1:00pm (minimum donation £10). Contact Sue on 01628 661815 to book in.

◇ **Tesco Bags of Help Grant Scheme:** Phil has been successful in

TESCO applying for funding from this scheme which involves Tesco customers voting for which of three projects should get the most funding: top votes get £4K, second £2K and the third £1K. Voting will take place in Tesco stores in March and April. More information nearer the time but if we can mobilise the whole community to vote for us (every time they buy things), we could raise £4000 for our appeal!

Services/Events next Week

Wednesday, 6th February: 12:00 to 3:00pm—Open Wednesday with a Service at 12:30 followed by Ploughman’s Lunch.

Sunday, 10th February:

9:15—Matins at St Anne’s Church, Dropmore

10:45—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
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) by the end of the Wednesday preceding the Sunday date you want it in.



We are part of

St Anne’s Church, Littleworth Common

St Nicolas’ Church, Taplow

Candlemas

3rd February, 2019



Faithful to God

Caring for each other

Serving the Community

Welcome to this morning’s Joint Service of Holy Communion. Children are invited to our Sunday School at the end of the first hymn.

Collect (or Prayer for Today)

Almighty God, by whose grace alone we are accepted and called to your service: strengthen us by your Holy Spirit and make us worthy of our calling; through Jesus Christ your Son 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.

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

Post Communion Prayer

God of truth, we have seen with our eyes and touched with our hands the bread of life: strengthen our faith that we may grow in love for you and for each other; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

This Week’s News and Notices

- ◆ **Traidcraft Stall:** Our Traidcraft Stall is open before and after our service **this morning** with the usual wide range of fairly traded goods. Do stock up for February.
- ◆ **PCC Meeting:** Following the postponement of the PCC meeting recently, the PCC will meet after this morning’s service in the Lady Chapel.
- ◆ **Remembering Service:** This annual Service takes place **this afternoon** at 3:00pm at St Anne’s Church, Dropmore providing a lovely opportunity to reflect on the lives of those we see no longer but hold so lovingly in our hearts.
- ◆ **Connections:** The next session is this **coming Wednesday** at St Nicolas Church; **7:00 to 9:00pm** starting with supper. The session is called ‘*Stories that Shape Us*’ drawing comparisons between aspects of the lives of Elijah and Jesus and how we deal with political and economic systems today which seem to be so destructive. All are welcome.
- ◆ **Sunday School Cake Sale: Next Sunday** is the next Cake Sale (for our South Side Appeal) so no baking this week—purchase delicious treats next Sunday.

