

The Gathering of God's People -
Welcome and Greeting

Grace, mercy and peace from God
our Father and the Lord Jesus
Christ be with you all
and also with you.

*[Silence while the candles on the Advent
Wreath are lit for the last time.]*



Jesus Christ is the light of the
world:
a light no darkness can quench.

As God's people we have gathered:
let us worship him together.

Like Simeon,
**may we grow old in hope and in
wonder.**

Like Anna,
**may we be in love with you all our
days.**

**May we be open to truth,
open to surprises.
May we let your Spirit into our
lives.**

**May we let your justice change our
behaviour.**

**May we live in the brightness of
your joy.**



Hymn No. 203 (Lourdes)

[Verses 1-3]

1. When candles are lighted on
Candlemas Day,
the dark is behind us and spring's on
the way.

*A glory dawns in every dark place,
the light of Christ, the fullness of
grace.*

2. The kings have departed, the
shepherds have gone,
the child and his parents are left on
their own.

3. They go to the temple, obeying
the law,
And offer two pigeons, the gift of
the poor.

4. But Anna and Simeon recognise
there
the Christ-child who came at the
turn of the year.

Collect for Purity

(Please remain standing)

***Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are
hidden;
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy
Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy
name; through Jesus Christ our
Lord. Amen.***

The Penitence

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ says:

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.

This is the first and great commandment.

And the second is like it.

You shall love your neighbour as yourself.

On these two commandments depend all the law and the prophets.

Lord, have mercy on us, and write these laws in our hearts.

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son Jesus Christ, to save us from our sins, to intercede for us in heaven, and to bring us to eternal life.

Let us then confess our sins in penitence and faith, firmly resolved to keep God's commandments and to live in love and peace.

(Please sit or kneel)

[Silence]

***Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned in thought and word and deed,
and in what we have left undone.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us,
that we may walk in newness of life to the glory of your name.
Amen.***

Almighty God,
who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy on you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in eternal life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Gloria - Hymn No. 203 (Lourdes)

[Verses 4, 8, 9]

4. But Anna and Simeon recognise there

the Christ-child who came at the turn of the year.

*A glory dawns in every dark place,
the light of Christ, the fullness of
grace.*

8. They see before Mary a heart-
piercing grief,
but trust is complete at the end of
their life.

9. For Mary will follow, with tears in
her eyes,
her saviour and son to the foot of
the cross.

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

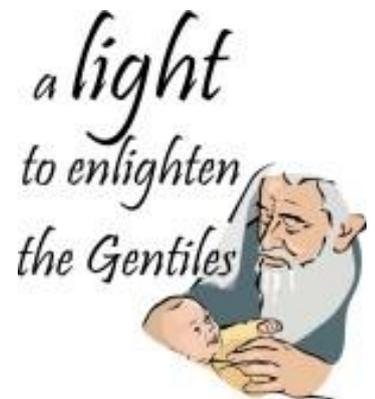
The Collects

The Collect of the 2nd Sunday before Lent

Almighty God,
you have created the heavens and
the earth
and made us in your own image:
Teach us to discern your hand in
all your works
and your likeness in all your
children;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who with you and the Holy Spirit
reigns supreme over all things, now
and for ever. **Amen**

The Presentation of Christ in The Temple - 2 February

Almighty and everliving God,
clothed in majesty,
whose beloved Son was this day
presented in the temple
in the substance of our mortal
nature:
may we be presented to you with
pure and clean hearts,
by your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.



The Gradual - Hymn No. 203

(Lourdes) [Verses 10-11]

10. O Spirit of God, with like courage
inspire
your everyday saints who face up to
despair.

*A glory dawns in every dark place,
the light of Christ, the fullness of
grace.*

11. They pass through temptation,
through failure, through death.
When darkness descends, they plod
onward in faith.



The Holy Gospel - Luke 2: 22-40

(Please stand)

Hear the Gospel of our Saviour Christ, according to Luke, chapter 2, beginning at verse 22.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

22 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 ²³(as it is written in the law of the Lord, 'Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord'), ²⁴and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, 'a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons.'

25 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. ²⁶It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. ²⁷Guided 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, ²⁸Simeon took him in his arms and praised God,

saying,

²⁹ 'Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace,

according to your word;

³⁰ for my eyes have seen your salvation,

³¹ which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

³² a light for revelation to the Gentiles

and for glory to your people Israel.'

33 And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. ³⁴Then 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 ³⁵so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.'

36 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, ³⁷then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped there with fasting and prayer night and day.

³⁸At 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.

39 When they had finished everything required by the law of

the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.



The Nunc Dimittis - The Song of Simeon - Luke 2: 29-32

[At the end of the Nunc Dimittis, the candles on the Advent Wreath are extinguished.]

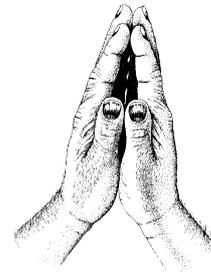
1 Lord, now lettest thou thy
servant de|part in | peace:
ac|cording | to thy | word.
2 For mine eyes have seen | thy
sal|vation
which thou hast prepared be|fore
the | face of · all | people;
3 To be a light to | lighten · the |
Gentiles
and to be the glory of thy | people |
Isra|el.
Glory | be · to the | Father,
and to the Son, | and · to the | Holy |
Spirit;
as it | was in · the be|ginning,
is now and ever shall be, | world
with·out | end. A|men.

The Sermon

(Please stand)

The Nicene Creed *(shortened version)*

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord,
Jesus Christ, the only Son of God.
We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
Amen.**



Intercessions *(Please kneel or sit)*

**Jesus Christ, Light of the World:
scatter the darkness and lead us
on your path.**

**Merciful Father,
accept these our prayers
for the sake of your Son, our
Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

The Peace *(Please stand) (page 207, L.P. p.131)*

**Jesus said, A new commandment I
give to you, that you love one
another: even as I have loved you,
that you also love one another.**

John 13: 34

The peace of the Lord be always
with you.
And also with you.



Offertory Hymn No. 203 (Lourdes)

[Verses 12-13]

12. Like Anna, like Simeon, may we
have trust,
the eyes to see Jesus and peace at
the last.

*A glory dawns in every dark place,
the light of Christ, the fullness of
grace.*

13. The candles invite us to praise
and to pray
when Christmas greets Easter on
Candlemas Day.

THE MINISTRY OF THE SACRAMENT

The Taking of the Bread and Wine

Christ, our passover has been
sacrificed for us,
***therefore let us celebrate the
feast.***

The Great Thanksgiving - Prayer 1

The Lord is here.
His Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our
God.
***It is right to give him thanks and
praise.***

Father, almighty and everliving God,
at all times and in all places it is
right to give you thanks and praise:
for Jesus Christ our Lord
who in human likeness revealed your
glory,
to bring us out of darkness
into the splendour of his light:
and so with all your people, with
angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious
name,

for ever praising you and saying:

(Verse 1 of Hymn 355)

***Holy, holy holy is the Lord;
holy is the Lord God almighty!
Holy, holy holy is the Lord;
holy is the Lord God almighty!
who was, and is, and is to come:
holy, holy holy is the Lord!***

(Please feel free to stand, sit or kneel)

Blessed are you, Father, the creator
and sustainer of all things; you made
us in your own image; male and
female you created us; even when we

turned away from you, you never ceased to care for us, but in your love and mercy you freed us from the slavery of sin, giving your only begotten Son to become man and suffer death on the cross to redeem us; he made there the one complete and all-sufficient sacrifice for the sins of the whole world: he instituted, and in his holy Gospel commanded us to continue, a perpetual memory of his precious death until he comes again:

On the night that he was betrayed he took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup; and when he had given thanks to you, he gave it to them, saying, Drink this, all of you, for this is my blood of the new covenant which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Therefore, Father, with this bread and this cup we do as Christ your Son commanded:

we remember his passion and death,

we celebrate his resurrection and ascension, and we look for the coming of his kingdom.

Accept through him, our great high priest, this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; and as we eat and drink these holy gifts, grant by the power of the life-giving Spirit that we may be made one in your holy Church and partakers of the body and blood of your Son, that he may dwell in us and we in him:

Through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, by whom, with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, ***all honour and glory are yours, Almighty Father, for ever and ever. Amen.***

The Lord's Prayer

The Breaking of the Bread

Jesus' disciples recognised him in the breaking of the bread:
may we recognise him in our midst and in each other.

The Invitation

Due to COVID-19 restrictions and in the interests of having as little movement of the congregation as possible, please remain in your seat to receive Holy Communion.

The Communion



The Great Silence

You are invited to take some time to reflect, having received Holy Communion.

The Post Communion Prayer

***God, for whom we wait,
you fulfilled the hopes of Simeon
and Anna,
who lived to welcome the Messiah.
Complete in us your perfect will,
that in Christ we may see your
salvation,
for he is Lord for ever and ever.
Amen***

The Blessing

Christ the Son of God, born of Mary,
fill you with his grace to trust his
promises
and obey his will;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy

Spirit,
be with you and remain with you
always. **Amen.**

Hymn No. 195 - Shine Jesus Shine

Lord, the light of your love is shining
in the midst of the darkness shining;
Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon
us,
set us free by the truth you now
bring us,
shine on me, shine on me.

*Shine, Jesus, shine,
fill this land with the Father's glory;
blaze, spirit, blaze,
set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river flow,
flood the nations with grace and
mercy;
send forth your word, Lord, and let
there be light.*

Lord, I come to your awesome
presence,
from the shadows into your radiance;
by the blood I may enter your
brightness,
search me, try me, consume all my
darkness.

Shine on me, shine on me.

As we gaze on your kingly brightness,
so our faces display your likeness,
ever changing from glory to glory,
mirrored here may our lives tell your
story.

Shine on me, shine on me.

The Closing Responses and Dismissal

As Anna and Simeon recognised you
in the temple
*may we recognise you in those we
meet.*

As Brigid kept your light shining in
times of darkness
may we be light for those in need.

As Jesus grew and became strong
and wise
*may we grow in wisdom and wonder
and joy. Amen.*

Go in peace to love and serve the
Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

WHAT'S ON...

Whilst some of these things go on
throughout the year, you might like to
try them in Lent; to take something up,
rather than give something up...

**MIDWEEK
PRAYER AND CHAT
WEDNESDAY
10.30-11.00
via Zoom**

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8286521453
1?pwd=Z0hoeVNFWXI1TVZMVVI2a3h
5d3Z3Zz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82865214531?pwd=Z0hoeVNFWXI1TVZMVVI2a3h5d3Z3Zz09)

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION by Zoom

Tuesday afternoon—3.30pm—4.10pm

Contact Irene on 087-2755423
irene.reid1052@gmail.com

*This might be something that you
would 'take up' and try for Lent.
The sense of peace and calm is
wonderful.*

Lenten Challenge 5km a day



**Gillian intends to walk 5km
every day of Lent 2021
Wednesday 17th February –
Saturday 3rd April 2021
in aid of:**

**The Irish Cancer Society
Protestant Aid
Parish Funds**

More details to follow.