



## Welcome to Worship!

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2026

The Presentation of Christ in the Temple  
(‘Candlemas’), transferred from the 2<sup>nd</sup>

8 a.m.	Eucharist (BCP)	St Neots Parish Church
9.30 a.m.	Sung Eucharist <i>President &amp; Preacher – The Rector</i>	St Neots Parish Church <b>Rawsthorne</b>
<b>Hymns:</b>	<b>610; 110; 101; Anthem + 692; Booklet (Of the Father + Nunc)</b>	
11 a.m.	Sung Eucharist	Eynesbury
<b>Hymns:</b>	<b>610; 110; 101; Booklet (Of the Father + Nunc)</b>	<b>Thorne</b>

## Services & Events this week

Monday	12 noon	Funeral of the Revd Tim Robb at St Mary’s Eaton Socon
Wednesday	09.30	Eucharist SNPC
	11.00	Eucharist at Poppyfields
Thursday	09.30	Eucharist Eynesbury
Friday	09.30	Eucharist SNPC
	11.00	Funeral at Keysoe Woodland Burial Ground (Marvell)

## Services for next Sunday, 8<sup>th</sup> February 2026 (2<sup>nd</sup> before Lent):

8 a.m.	Eucharist (BCP)	St Neots Parish Church
9.30 a.m.	Sung Eucharist	St Neots Parish Church
11 a.m.	Sung Eucharist	Eynesbury
3.30 p.m.	‘All Aboard’	St Neots Parish Church

### Giving for the work of the Church

We do not pass a collection plate around the congregation during the service, but we always welcome donations from those who attend worship, either in cash or by using the card reader near the door at SNPC before or after the service.

Please Gift Aid that donation if you can do so (envelopes are available).

We also encourage regular givers to become members of the Parish Giving Scheme (which is how many Church members make their donations).

Please ask at the door, or via the Office, if you want more information about this.

## **Collect for The Presentation of Christ in the Temple**

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.

## **Alternative Collect for The Presentation in the Temple**

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.

## **Reading from the Hebrew Scriptures (first in service): Malachi 3.1-5**

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.

<sup>2</sup>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; <sup>3</sup>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.<sup>4</sup>Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years. <sup>5</sup>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.

## **Gospel Reading: Luke 2.22-40**

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.

### **New Testament Reading (not used): Hebrews 2.14-end**

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 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.

### **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; he is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

### **Collect for during the week**

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.

### **Post-Communion Prayer during the week**

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.

## Further Ahead

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> 7.30 p.m. Eucharist with Prayer for Healing

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> 10.30 a.m. Communion for Henbrook House residents

*This has been moved from the first Friday to the second until further notice.*

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> Ash Wednesday: Eucharists at 9.30am (SNPC) and 7.30pm (Ey)

## Other News

This has been a busy week for bishops called Sarah.

Last Wednesday, the Confirmation of Election of Sarah Mullally as Archbishop of Canterbury took place in St Paul's Cathedral, so she is now legally Archbishop.

The day before, it was announced that the next Bishop of Ely will be Sarah Clark, who has been Bishop of Jarrow (in Durham Diocese) since 2019, and Acting Bishop of Durham (just as +Dagmar has been acting here) since 2024. There are no dates yet set for the procedural steps, but we can probably expect her to be fully in post before Pentecost (late June). We look forward to her arrival.

As in recent years, Rosemary Darrington will be leading a Lent Group in Eynesbury Church Room on two days. This year it's a Lent Course written by Nick Fawcett, called 'Spot the Difference', looking at different ways that a Christian can be recognised. There are some separate sheets that go with the activity and help to relax people in the group.

Week One - A love that shows

Week Two - An allegiance that shows

Week Three - A Joy that shows

Week Four - A concern that shows

Week Five - A faith that shows


These will be on Thursday and Friday afternoons, and there may be spaces on both. Do contact Rosemary in church or on [rgdarrington@btinternet.com](mailto:rgdarrington@btinternet.com) if you are interested in joining.

Robin Walters has published a new book. If people would like to buy a copy, Robin expects to be in SNPC this morning, or they can contact him on the details below.

He will deliver locally.

01480 385522 / 07842 133453

/ [r.walters4@gmail.com](mailto:r.walters4@gmail.com)

	<p><b>Just released!</b></p> <p><b>St Neots author</b></p> <p><b>£9.99</b></p> <p><b><a href="mailto:r.walters4@gmail.com">r.walters4@gmail.com</a></b></p> <p><b>Local delivery</b></p> <hr/> <p>The year is 1912, and the Everton supporting star of a music hall telepathic act meets a down-at-heel young Austrian, who has come for a prolonged visit to his brother in Liverpool.</p> <p>At this stage, nobody is aware of the fact that this rather unpleasant young Austrian will become probably the most evil dictator this world has yet had the misfortune to encounter.</p> <p>Will Joseph Deacon be able to use his acquaintanceship with Adolf Hitler and harness his telepathic powers to influence the course of the Second World War?</p> <p>Can he prove to be a dagger in Hitler's mind?</p>
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