

PEW SHEET

Presentation of Christ in the Temple (Candlemas)

2nd February 2025

Welcome to Saint John's Finch Street at the heart of the East Malvern community. This iconic sandstone church is home to a welcoming and hospitable community committed to the worship of God in beauty and holiness in the classical Anglican tradition as well as loving and joyful outreach as disciples of Jesus Christ.

You can find out more about us at www.saintjohns.org.au

The Anglican Parish of Saint John & Saint Agnes

5 Finch Street East Malvern VIC 3145
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secretary@saintjohns.org.au

REGULAR SERVICES

Sunday

8:00am: Eucharist (Saint John's)
9:30am: Choral Eucharist (Saint John's)
9:30am: Sung Eucharist (Saint Agnes')
6:00pm: Choral Evensong
(Saint John's, First Sunday)
6:00pm: Congregational Evensong
(Saint John's, Third Sunday)

Weekday Eucharists

10:00am: Tuesday (Saint Agnes')
10:15am: Friday (Saint John's)

Vicar

Fr. Alex Ross
0431 308 703
vicar@saintjohns.org.au
(Day-Off: Monday)

Associate Clergy

Fr. Ken Hewlett
Bp. Brad Billings
Fr. Mick Potter
Adn. Colleen O'Reilly
Fr Luke Hopkins

Churchwardens

John Hooper 0416 185 005
Anne Kerin 0411 587 180
Robert Buckmaster 0437 014 090

Director of Music

Rowan Swarbrick 0401 268 269

We acknowledge and respect the traditional custodians of this place and their stewardship of the land that now sustains us all and on which we worship the God of all Reconciliation and Hope

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

Text marked with  is sung together by both congregation and choir at 9:30am. The Mass Setting this morning is by William Mathias. Please stand when the bells are rung. The Ministers and Choir enter while the Opening Hymn is sung.

OPENING HYMN

1. Christ, whose glory fills the skies,
Christ the true, the only light,
sun of righteousness, arise,
triumph over shades of night;
dayspring from on high, be near;
day-star, in my heart appear.

2. Dark and cheerless is the morn
if you seem not close to me;
joyless is the day's return,
till your mercy's beams I see,
till they inward light impart,
glad my eyes, and warm my heart.

3. Visit then this soul of mine;
pierce the gloom of sin and grief;
fill me, radiance divine;
scatter all my unbelief;
more and more yourself display,
shining to the perfect day.

*Charles Wesley 1707-88 alt
TIS 212*

✠ In the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Let us pray.

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 Christ our Lord. Amen.

‘Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind and with all your strength.’ Jesus said ‘This is the great and first commandment. And the second is like it: you shall love your neighbour as yourself.’

Christ the Son of God has been revealed as a light to the nations. Let us bring our darkness to his light, confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

Merciful God, our maker and our judge, we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, and in what we have failed to do: we have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves; we repent, and are sorry for all our sins. Father, forgive us. Strengthen us to love and obey you in newness of life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

♪ Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.**

Almighty God, who has promised forgiveness to all who turn to him in faith: ✕ pardon you and set you free from all your sins, strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE GLORIA

♪ **Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God’s people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the ✠ glory of God the Father. Amen.

THE COLLECT

Almighty and ever-living God, we humbly pray that, as your only Son was presented in the temple in accordance with the law, so we may be dedicated to you with pure and clean hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Please sit. Before the Liturgy of the Word all children and their parents are invited to come forward to receive a prayer and blessing

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

A reading from the Prophet Malachi.

[3.1-4]

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.

For the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM

[24]

The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it:
the compass of the world and those who dwell therein.

**For he has founded it upon the seas:
and established it upon the waters.**

Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord:
or who shall stand in his holy place?

**Those who have clean hands and a pure heart:
who have not set their soul upon idols,
nor sworn their oath to a lie.**

They shall receive blessing from the Lord:
and recompense from the God of their salvation.

**Of such a kind as this are those who seek him:
those who seek your face, O God of Jacob.**

Lift up your heads, O you gates,
and be lifted up, you everlasting doors:
and the King of glory shall come in.

**Who is the King of glory?:
the Lord, strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle.**

Lift up your heads, O you gates,
and be lifted up, you everlasting doors:
and the King of glory shall come in.

**Who is the King of glory?:
the Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory.**

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

[2.14-18]

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, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. 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. Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand and turn to face the Book of the Gospels.

GOSPEL

Alleluia, **alleluia,**

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. **Alleluia.**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke.

[2.22-40]

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

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 turtle-doves 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 for 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.

For the Gospel of the Lord,
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

THE SERMON

The Sermon is followed by a time of reflection

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Let us together stand to affirm the faith of the Church.

**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,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father;**

through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge
the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son
is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the ✠ resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Let us pray for the world and for the Church.

Please kneel

Father, your Christ is acclaimed as the glory of Israel: Look in mercy on your Church, sharing his light. Encourage and nurture the mission and ministry of this parish, and of all churches in our Diocese of Melbourne.
Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

Father, your Christ in his temple brings judgement on the world. Look in mercy on the nations, who long for his justice. Bring peace and justice to

places of war and violence, as we continue to pray for the peace of the Holy Land and peace in Ukraine.

Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

Father, your Christ is revealed as the one destined to be rejected. Look in mercy on us who now turn towards his passion. Lift up and restore all those who are rejected in our society, those made outcasts, the forgotten and neglected.

Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

Father, your Christ, who was rich, for our sakes became poor. Look in mercy on the needy, suffering with him. Particularly we hold before you those who have asked for our prayers: Ali, Andrew, Alan, Liz, and Cam.

Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

Father, your Christ is the one in whom faithful servants find their peace. Look in mercy on the departed, that they may see your salvation. We commend to you this morning all who have recently died, particularly Merl Johnson, and those whose anniversary of death occurs at this time: Thomas Peter John King, Alice Louise Cherry, James Leslie Diggle.

Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord: **and let light perpetual shine upon them.**

The prayers of intercession may conclude with a final prayer, after which all stand

GREETING OF PEACE

We are the body of Christ.

His Spirit is with us.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

We greet each other with a sign of Christ's peace.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

A collection is taken to support the life and mission of the parish.

OFFERTORY HYMN

1. Praise to the Holiest in the height,
and in the depth be praise;
in all his words most wonderful,
most sure in all his ways.
2. O loving wisdom of our God,
when all was sin and shame,
a second Adam to the fight
and to the rescue came.
3. O wisest love, that flesh and blood,
which did in Adam fail,
should strive afresh against the foe,
should strive and should prevail.
4. and that a higher gift than grace
should flesh and blood refine,
God's presence and his very self,
and essence all-divine.
5. O generous love, that he who smote
in Man for man the foe,
the double agony in Man
for man should undergo,
6. and in the garden secretly,
and on the cross on high,
should teach his friends, and thus inspire
to suffer and to die.
7. Praise to the Holiest in the height,
and in the depth be praise:
in all his words most wonderful,
most sure in all his ways.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND CONSECRATION

♪ The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

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

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

The priest continues in thanksgiving...

Therefore with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
for ever praising you and saying:

♪ Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
♪ Blessed ☩ is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

The priest continues with the prayer of consecration...

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

♪ Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

The Eucharistic Prayer continues...

... we worship you, Father,
in songs of never-ending praise:

♪ Blessing and honour and glory and power
are yours for ever and ever. Amen.

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are confident to pray:

✠ Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND COMMUNION

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

We who are many are one body:
For we all share in the one bread.

The priest breaks the bread while the Agnus Dei is sung

✠ Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us your peace.

Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.
Happy are those who are called to his supper.
**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

All baptised Christians who seek Christ in this sacrament are invited to receive Holy Communion. Anyone is welcome to receive a blessing instead. During Communion the Parish Choir sing the Motet, 'Nunc Dimittis' by Tomás Luis de Victoria.

BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

Notices may be given here.

The priest prays the post-communion prayer, followed by

Father, we offer ourselves to you as a living sacrifice through Jesus Christ our Lord. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory.

The priest pronounces this blessing:

May Christ the Son of God be manifest to you, that your lives may be a light to the world; and the blessing of God almighty, ✠ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

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

CLOSING HYMN

1. Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us
o'er the world's tempestuous sea;
guard us, guide us, keep us, feed us,
for we have no help but thee;
yet possessing every blessing
if your God our Father be.

2. Saviour, breathe forgiveness o'er us;
all our weakness thou dost know;
thou didst tread this earth before us,
thou didst feel its keenest woe:
lone and dreary, faint and weary,
through the desert thou didst go.

3. Spirit of our God, descending,
fill our hearts with heavenly joy,
love with every passion blending,
pleasure that can never cloy:
thus provided, pardoned, guided,
nothing can our peace destroy.

James Edmeston 1791-1867
TIS 580

The organist plays the Postlude

Please join us for Morning Tea.

NEWS & NOTICES

CHORAL EVENSONG TONIGHT 6PM

Join us tonight at 6pm for the return of Choral Evensong, sung by our wonderful Parish Choir. Music includes Responses according to the Durham Use, Canticles by Stanford in C, the Introit 'Thou Knowest Lord' by Henry Purcell and the Anthem 'How Beauteous are their feet' also by Charles Villiers Stanford. Followed by wine and cheese – all are welcome, bring a friend!

EVENSONG CHEESE ROSTER

Please consider putting your name down to donate and serve cheese after one of our services of Evensong in 2025 – either Choral Evensong on the first Sunday of the month or the smaller service of Congregational Evensong on the third Sunday of each month. Wine is provided by the parish – and with enough volunteers we aim for nobody to need to put their name down more than once or twice in the year. A sign-up sheet is at the back of the church. Thank you!

CARITAS: MONDAY 3 FEBRUARY AT 8PM

All are welcome to join for the first meeting of Caritas for 2025 on Monday 3rd February at 8pm. It will be a Home Eucharist and Planning meeting to be held at the home of Margaret Joseph. Everyone is most welcome to attend. For information ring Rosemary 0417 532 118.

FUNERAL FOR MERL JOHNSON WEDNESDAY 5 FEB 10AM

All are invited to attend the funeral service for long-standing parishioner Merl Johnson who died last week at age 98. The service will be held at Saint John's Finch Street at 10am on Wednesday 5 February, followed by refreshments in the Parish Hall. Please keep Merl and her extended family in your prayers.

CHORAL EVENSONG

A service of music, prayer and Scripture led
by our outstanding Parish Choir, followed by
wine and cheese

FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH, 6PM



ROSTER	This Week 2 February 2025	Next Week 9 February 2025
8.00am Eucharist		
Welcomer	TBA	Bev Kocsis
Server	Greg Thompson	Sue McMahon
Readers	Joel Ringrose David Richards	Jim Morse John Jobling
9:30am Eucharist		
Welcomers	Rosemary Wickett Nikki Morshedi	John Stuckey Lesley Stonehouse
Sub-Deacon	Tim Clarke	Jane Fisher
Crucifer	Sebastian Harvey	Satoshi Okita
Acolytes	Manny & William	Manny & William
Thurifer	TBA	NA
Readers	David Reece Daniel Morshedi	Anne Kerin/Elizabeth Buckmaster Jenny Thomson
Intercessor	Jane Fyfield	Robin Richards
Organist	David Brennan	Yi-Shuen Chan
Post-Service Hospitality	Betty Ladbury Marg Garing	Caroline l'Huillier Chris Martin
6.00pm		
Welcomers	John Jobling	--
Readers	John Jobling Roxane Hislop	--
Organist	Yi-Shuen Chan	--
Post Service Hospitality	David & Gayle Arden	--
Weekly Duties		
Flowers (for the Sunday)	Robin Richards	Gayle Arden & Ingrid Hogan
Bins (for the week after Sunday)	Chris Martin <i>Garden & Garbage</i>	Jim Morse <i>Recycling & Garbage</i>



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