

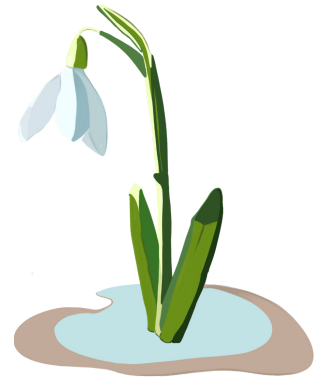


# February

## NEWSLETTER

### AND ACTIVITY

Snowdrops! we are fortunate to live by Dartmoor through which the tea-coloured River Dart runs. Along its banks grow Hawthorne trees, mighty oaks, elms, weeping willows, daffodils, primroses, sedges, balsam,



and at this time of the year, snowdrops. At one point on the Dart, serving the villages of Hexworthy and Huccaby, is our little Victorian Chapel of St Raphael.

In earlyish February, snowdrops surround the chapel and the sight is amazing! These pure white spotless flowers pierce the hard winter ground, to be an expression of the Father's love. They pop up before spring has reached us. They are the shape of little bells ringing the joy that Jesus is the Light of the World.

Right now, Candlemas has just been celebrated in the Christian tradition. We used to say, "Candlemas, candle-less". As spring approaches, not so many candles are needed. Now we have electric lights!



### Fun fact!

In German snowdrops are called 'milk-flowers' and in French they are 'snow piercers'.





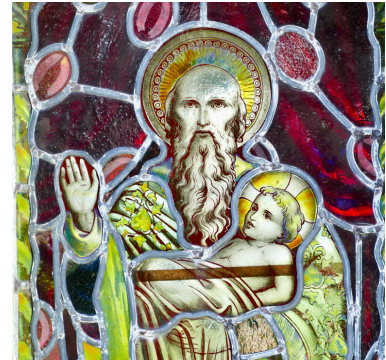
THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND



Ashburton  
**MCOC**  
Methodist  
Church &  
Community

Candlemas actually celebrates the presentation of the baby Christ in the temple to the devoted Simeon. After Jesus was born, he was taken to the temple. A Godly man named Simeon, held the baby and spoke to God,

*"My eyes have seen the Saviour!  
Now, Lord let me go in peace,  
He is a light to the Nations".*



presentation of the Lord's window at St Mary's in Bickington

He told Mary how His life would be and that it would be difficult for her too.

SCAN ME



watch this beautiful video Simeon's Canticle (Hangad)

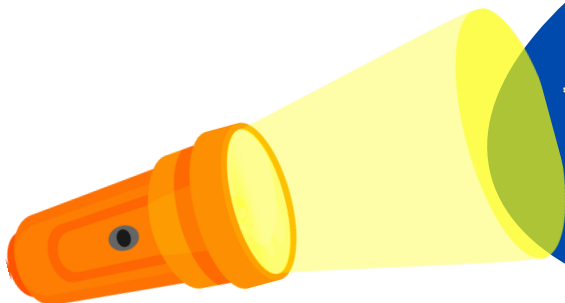
As God's children we reflect this light Jesus gave to us. And what difference does this make to us? We have the mission of reflecting Jesus' light to those who are in need of help and friendship and the message of the Gospel.



SCAN ME


You might enjoy this song. "This Little Light Of Mine"

- Our craft for prayer shines Jesus' light into the darkness. Shine a torch on your decorated CD. Practice reflecting the light around to light the room and the dark corners.



### PRAYER:

We pray that this light of Christ that shines straight into our hearts, reflects brightly around us to all the community.

Valentine's Day is also in February! St Valentine walked in the footsteps of Jesus, and he would perform marriages for the soldiers of the time. They were not allowed to marry. People still celebrate February 14th as a day of love. 

- Find the coloured piece of A4 card included in your envelope. At the top in big and bold letters write "I thank God for....." and below this draw a big heart almost filling the card, but with a little space to write at the bottom. Either you or a parent/older sibling can cut out the heart. Again in bold letters write AMEN. Now have a think together... who/what do we thank God for? That is your thankyou prayer. Hold this up to a window and the heart lights up!
- If you manage to go for a walk, see if you can make a heart with some sticks/stones that you've collected.
- Here are directions to St Raphael's, in Huccaby.

Directions : (Sat Nav. PL20 6SB)

1. travelling from Ashburton on B3357 towards Princetown and Tavistock- 8 miles (25 minutes) just past Pixies Holt and Pixie Land - turn left - 0.5 miles on left. Car park available.

2. travelling from Tavistock on B3357 towards Princetown and Ashburton -10 miles (20 minutes) past Two Bridges Hotel further 2 miles (5 minutes) turn right - signposted Venford Reservoir - 0.5 miles on left. Car park available.

I am including in your envelope a postcard of St Raphael's Chapel from Tony and Gillian, the Churchwardens. St Raphael is the Angel of Healing. Find a chocolate angel in your envelope. Watch this video Tony has made about the snowdrops & chapel

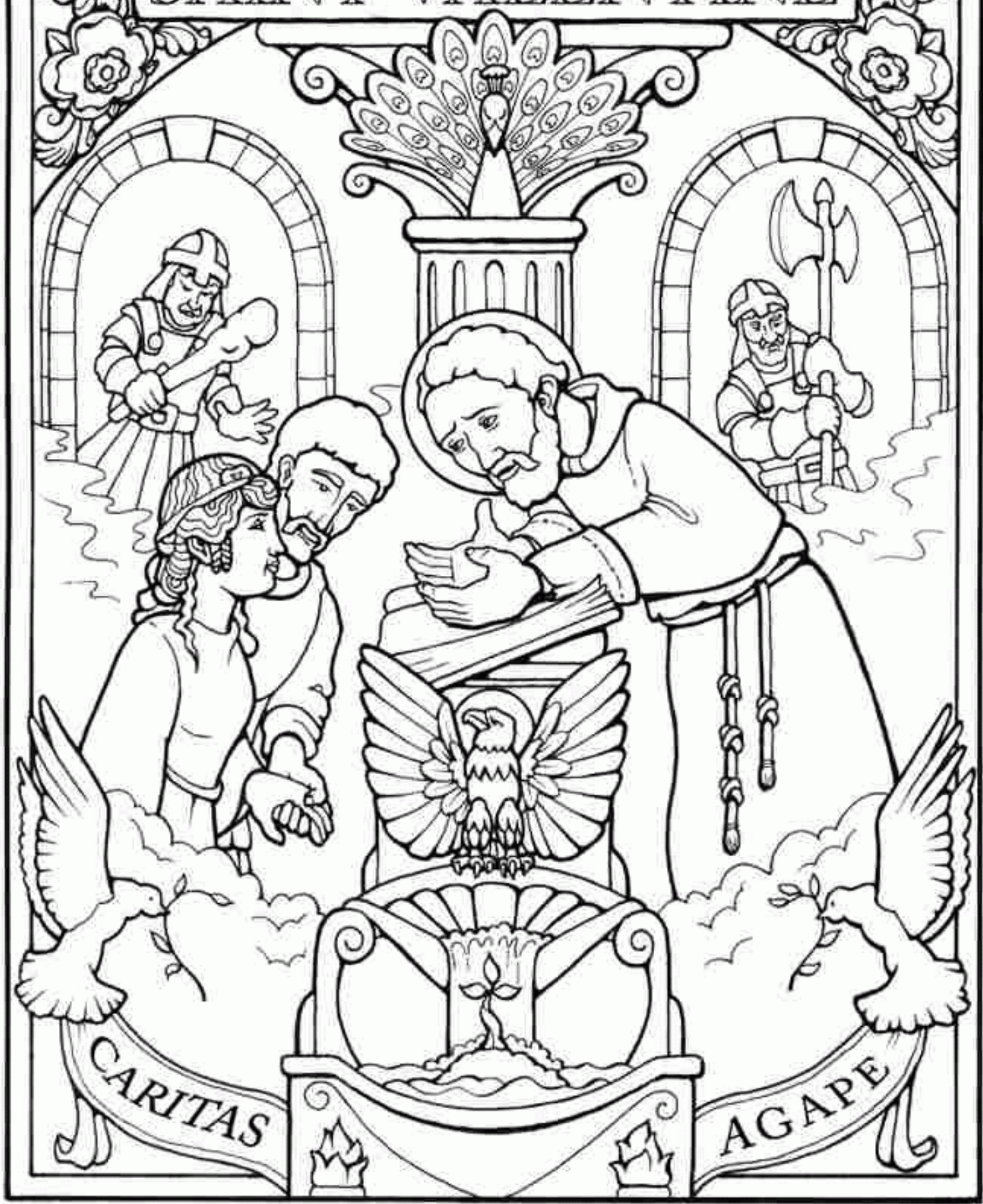
God Bless and Have fun, Denise xxx



SCAN ME



# SAINT VALENTINE



CARITAS

AGAPE