

PARISH OF ST GEORGE

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR: FATHER THADDEUS OPARA

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www.https://saintgeorgeswhitchurch.org.uk



4th Sunday in ordinary time, 02 February, 2025

Gospel: Luke 2: 22-40

The Presentation of the Lord



The context: Today's Gospel presents the head of the Holy Family, Joseph, faithfully obeying God's law given through Moses concerning the purification of the mother and the redeeming of the child, by presenting Mary and the Baby Jesus in the Temple.

The feast: This is a combined feast, commemorating the Jewish practice of the purification of the mother after childbirth and the presentation of the child in the Temple. Pope Benedict XVI affirms that "Jesus enters the ancient temple; he who is the new Temple of God." In 1997, Pope John Paul II designated the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord as the Annual World Day of Consecrated Life.

This Feast Day is known under four names:

- 1) The Feast of the Presentation of the Lord.
- 2) The Feast of the Purification of Mary (by the offering two pigeons in the Temple).
- 3) The Feast of Encounter (because the New Testament, represented by the Baby Jesus, encountered the Old Testament, represented by the Holy Spirit's aged, holy witnesses, Simeon and Anna).

4) The Feast of Candlemas. This feast is also known as Candlemas because of the tradition of blessing and distributing candles and holding a candlelight procession on this day. These practices are drawn from Simeon's words in the gospel for this feast, in which he prophesies that the child Jesus will become "a light for revelation to the Gentiles."

Redemption and Post-childbirth Purification ceremonies: The Mosaic Law taught that, since every Jewish male child belonged to Yahweh, the parents had to "buy back" the child ("redeem" him), with the payment of "five shekels (=15 Denarius= wage for 15 days of work) to a member of the priestly family" (Nm 3:47-48; NAB Note on Lk 2:22). In addition, (Nm 18:15) every mother had to be purified after childbirth by prayers and the sacrifice of an lamb (or two turtledoves for the poor) in the Temple. Joseph kept these laws as an act of obedience to God.

LIFE MESSAGE

Every Holy Mass in which we participate is our presentation. Although we were officially presented to God on the day of our Baptism, we present ourselves and our dear ones on the altar before God our Father through our Savior Jesus Christ at every Holy Mass. Hence, we need to live our daily lives with the awareness, both that we are dedicated people consecrated to God, and that we are obliged to lead holy lives. Let us also remember and pray for our godparents who presented us to the Lord on the day of our Baptism.

Say your daily rosary for peace in the world



Anima Christi:

Soul of Christ, sanctify me.
 Body of Christ, save me.
 Blood of Christ, embolden me.
 Water from the side of Christ, Wash me.
 Passion of Christ, Strengthen me.
 O Good Jesus, hear me.
 Within your wounds hide me.

Permit me not to be separated from you.
 From the wicked foe, defend me.
 At the hour of my death, call me and bid
 me come to you.
 That with your saints I may praise you
 For ever and ever.
 Amen



Mass Times

Saturday 01 Feb.	Barbara Young RIP	6:30pm
Sunday 02 Feb.	Mary Williams Sandra Jones	9:30 am 11:00pm 6:00pm-- MALPAS
Monday 03 Feb. St. Werburgh, V	Departed Members & in-laws of Banareool Family	10:00am
Tuesday 04 Feb.	J C	10:00am
Wednesday 05 Feb. St. Agatha, V.M	Private intentions	Sacristy
Thursday 06 Feb St. Paul Miki & Companions.	Sanctification of Priests	10:00am
Friday 07 Feb.	Vocations	6:00pm
Saturday 08 Feb. St Jerome Emiliani St. Josephine Bakhita.	Souls in Purgatory	6:30pm
Sunday 02 February	Parishioners	9:30am 11am

The Holy Family Prayer

JESUS, Son of God and Son of Mary, bless our family. Graciously inspire in us the unity, peace, and mutual love that you found in your own family in the little town of Nazareth.

MARY, Mother of Jesus and Our Mother, nourish our family with your faith and your love. Keep us close to your Son, Jesus, in all our sorrows and joys.

JOSEPH, Foster-father to Jesus, guardian and spouse of Mary, keep our family safe from harm. Help us in all times of discouragement or anxiety.
 Amen

N/B : The month of February is dedicated to the Holy Family.

Sat 6:30pm	Sun. 9:30am	Sun. 11:00am
Hazel Spencer	Guy Churton	Roma Ajit

Mass Offering for 19th January ---£377.54

Standing orders-----£118.25

Confession is before and after mass or at any convenient time you want. Arrange with the Parish Priest

Our Parish Safeguarding representative is Helen Clarke