

**Collect for the Presentation of Christ**

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. **Amen**

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

**PRAYER POINTS:**

- For the Princes Centre.
- For those in Government involved in the Brexit negotiations.
- For all the starving children of Yemen.
- For the people of Venezuela, suffering from extreme hardship, many of whom are fleeing the country.
- For the homeless, rough sleepers and charities that support them.
- For all doctors, nurses and medical staff.
- For our clergy, Churchwardens and PCC.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR ALL THOSE IN IMMEDIATE NEED OF HEALING AND PEACE:**

Stephen Upton, Janet Rand, Sue List, Tony Eccleston, Alan and Iris Austin, Oliver Baillie, Gladys Page, Suzie Aries, Michael Hopkins, Kelly May, Gordon & Kathleen Plumridge, Joyce Bapty, Richard Heaney, Alex Lake, Hazel Sullivan, Philip and Sally Jones, Shirley and Eric Watts and Barbara Higgins.

**WE HAVE ALSO BEEN ASKED TO PRAY FOR:**

Peter Covell, Ashleigh Nichas, Gideon, Mary Jefferies, Keith & Judy Brambleby, Barbara Platts, Tony Mead, Hazel Boon, Jorge, Peter Braithwaite, Michael George and Helena Oecken.

**WE REMEMBER WITH THANKSGIVING THE LIVES OF:**

Brian Panter, Roger Pierce and Ethelwyn Gregory.

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Open: Mon & Tues: 9:30am -1.30pm, Weds & Thurs 9:30am -5.00pm

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[www.stmarysrisborough.org.uk](http://www.stmarysrisborough.org.uk)



St Mary's  
with  
St Peter's  
PRINCES RISBOROUGH  
& ILMER

# News

**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2019, Presentation of Christ**

This Sunday is a pivotal day in the church calendar: one last look over the shoulder at Christmas before the serious season of Lent appears on the horizon. Christmas is over: baby Jesus is wrapped up and stored away, the Wise Men and their exotic beasts of burden put into hibernation; the shepherds put in boxes and tucked away for another year. Their journey, like those who travelled at the first Christmas, has come to an end.

The final episode in the Christmas narrative reveals an odd couple. They had not rushed, they had not travelled. Instead Simeon and Anna had learnt how to wait: how to work with, rather than against the seasons. The hope planted in them was real. The day was coming.

Their waiting was not the impatient, grumbling restlessness of the one who waits for the delayed train, or the one who frets whilst waiting to get through to the right person on the automated phone line. Their waiting was attentive, and hope filled. The day would not be hurried, but the day would come. Simeon waited on the Spirit, until the morning he was led to the Temple. Anna continued to praise God, grounding herself in the remembrance of God's goodness and faithfulness.

They are open-hearted people, ready to receive the new whilst awake to what is gift in the present. With those open and hospitable hearts they welcome a young family and a small child.

The story of Simeon and Anna reminds us that although there is a time to journey and look for God in the big blue yonder, there is also a time just to wait in the places of faith and belief – sometimes for a long time. Waiting for God, for the light to come. It will come. The grey skies and darkness of Lent always give way to the radiant light of Easter. For Simeon and Anna, the light came early. For others it comes later. But it always comes. Today we are reminded "Look – open your eyes, wherever you are, whatever you're doing – Jesus is here, now!"

**Rev Michael Hunt**

## NEWS & NOTICES

**HOLIDAY AT HOME:** This will be on Tues Feb 19<sup>th</sup>/Weds Feb 20<sup>th</sup> and will be on a safari theme! More help is needed so if you think you will be able to help with this, please let Gill know on 01844 346145 or [gill.sunfold@googlemail.com](mailto:gill.sunfold@googlemail.com). If you are an older person and would like to come, please contact Gill. It is great fun, there are lots of activities, entertainment, lunch and afternoon tea.

**STUFFED ANIMALS NEEDED:** Large stuffed animals such as lions, tigers, elephants etc. needed for Holiday at Home – see Gill if you can help.

**SPEEN SCHOOL:** are seeking school governors. If you are interested in becoming a school governor at this small infant school please speak to Helen Lidington or Sue Seward for more information or contact the school directly - 01494 488321.

**NEW ELECTORAL ROLL:** Each six years, the Church is required to complete a new Electoral Roll. Therefore, everyone has to fill in a new form. If you wish to be on that roll, please take a form from the stack next to the letter boxes, fill it in and return to the box marked 'Electoral Roll applications'.

**ST MARY'S BOARD GAME NIGHT:** The next one will be on 23<sup>rd</sup> February from 6-8pm.

**CHILDREN'S SOCIETY BOX OPENING:** This will be on Weds 27<sup>th</sup> Feb from 9.30am to 12noon in the Chapter House. Coffee and cake will be served.

**PANCAKE PARTY ADVANCE NOTICE:** This will be on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March at 5pm

**LENT COURSE:** There will be a lent course starting on 19<sup>th</sup> March, see flyer.

**WYCOMBE YOUTH FOR CHRIST:** will be holding a Schools Prayer Evening on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> February at Kingfisher House, HW. HP12 3AB. From 7.45 to 9.30pm. This is an opportunity to come together and pray for schools, staff and students.

**AYLESBURY TOWN CHAPLAINCY:** Would you be interested in helping to run & shape the work of the Chaplaincy? We have a small board who help set the strategy, but we would love it to get bigger. We have a part-time staff team who work hard on the day-to-day 'hands-on' business of the organisation, so the role of Trustee is not incredibly busy, but we do need an effective board to guide us. Please contact the Chaplaincy office or speak to one of the existing trustees if you'd like to know more ([www.aylesburytownchaplaincy.co.uk](http://www.aylesburytownchaplaincy.co.uk))

**BREAKOUT:** This is a CTR children's group for ages 5-7 and 8-11. Held on Friday evenings from 5-6.15pm at Elim Church, the next one is Feb 8<sup>th</sup>. All sorts of fun, songs, bible stories, crafts. More helpers needed and also children. Contact Doline Gadd via the parish office.

**PRINCES RISBOROUGH CHORAL SOCIETY:** The Music Society has now been renamed the Choral Society. New members are always welcome.

## Sunday 3rd February, The Presentation of Christ

**Readings: Malachi 3, 1-5, Luke 2, 22-40.**

- 8.00am** Holy Communion at St Mary's  
**9.30am** Parish Communion followed by coffee  
**11.15am** TGIS  
**3.00pm** Open Door, a Valentine Tea, in the Chapter House  
**3.00pm** Evensong at St Peter's, Ilmer

## What's on in the week beginning Monday 4<sup>th</sup> February

- Weds 6<sup>th</sup>**  
**9.00am** Wednesday Prayers at St Mary's  
**10.30am** Holy Communion followed by coffee  
**2-3.30pm** Church open for prayer and healing  
**3.30pm-4pm** Evensong  
**7.30pm** Alpha Course at St Mary's  
**Thurs 7<sup>th</sup>** **10.30am** Coffee in the Chapter House  
**Fri 8<sup>th</sup>** **2.00pm** Praise and Play in Chapter House  
**7.00pm** Puppet Club in Hall

## Sunday 10th February, Fourth Sunday of Lent

**Readings: Isaiah 6, 1-8, Luke 5, 1-11.**

- 8.00am** Holy Communion at St Mary's  
**9.30am** Parish Communion followed by coffee  
**11.15am** TGIS  
**3.00pm** Service at Icknield Court  
**6.00pm** United Service at St Mary's

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**Rector:** Revd. David Williams 346984

**Associate Minister:** Revd. Michael Hunt 344150;

**Curate:** Revd. Dan Beesley 345521;

**Assistant Clergy:** Revds. David & Nancy Wallace 290670;  
Revds. Steve & Rose Williams 274225; Canon Nick Molony 273895;  
Revd. Jenny Deverill 274269; **LLM:** Averil Stephenson 343649

**Churchwardens:** David Stephenson and Bryan Matthew