

## Notices

### **Christingle & Crib Services**

We had good attendances at services over Christmas. Here is a breakdown of the money received, which will be donated to charities. The Christingle service raised £171 which will go to support the work of the Children's Society. Carols by Candlelight and the Crib Service raised £268.46 which will be shared between the Bible Society and St George's. The Christmas card donations amounted to £52, which has been donated to the BigGive and will be doubled to £104. Thanks to everyone who gave.

### **In the Steps of Jesus**

Brian Fisher is organising a tour to Israel May 8th– 15th 2017, visiting many places around Jerusalem and exploring this amazing land, culture through guided tours. Pick up a leaflet from WER if you are interested.

**Beetle Drive and Pancakes** - Tuesday 28th February at 7pm in WER  
The tickets cost £5 for adults and £3 for children.

### **Lent Course**

Lent begins this year with the Ash Wednesday service at 7.30pm on 1st March. As in previous years, we would like to set up a number of courses during Lent. It would be good to have a variety of days and times; morning, afternoon, evening, in different homes. Would you be prepared to host a course for 5 sessions during Lent? You won't be required to lead unless you would like to, as there are people who can do this. Please let Margaret or Max know if you could host a course.

### **Services next Sunday 5 February– 4th Sunday before Lent**

8.00am Prayer Book Eucharist  
10.30am Eucharist

This Bulletin is on-line at: [st-george.org.uk/docs/index.php/news/weekly-bulletin](http://st-george.org.uk/docs/index.php/news/weekly-bulletin)

**Please send any notices or information by Thursday morning next week to:**  
Margaret: 792221, [magz.stgeorges@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:magz.stgeorges@hotmail.co.uk)



## **The Parish of St George Pontesbury**

Rector: The Revd Margaret Jones  
01743 792221  
Curate: The Revd Max Lambourne  
01743 790848  
Families Worker: Mark Hackney  
07980 951890

## **Welcome to Worship Sunday 29th January—Candlemass**

A warm welcome to everyone joining us for worship today  
Refreshments are served after the 10.30am service.

### **Services Today**

8.00am Eucharist  
10.30am All Age Celebration Service  
5.30pm Healing Eucharist

Baptised and communicant members of all churches or Christian traditions  
are invited to receive the Sacrament from the chancel step.

If you wish to receive a blessing, please come forward carrying this sheet.

### **The Week Ahead**

|           |         |  |
|-----------|---------|--|
| Tues 31st | 10.00am | Little Dragons   |
|           | 7.30pm  | Deanery meeting to plan for<br>Minsterley Show - Hanwood Extension |
| Wed 1st   | 9.00am  | Morning Prayer   |
|           | 3.30pm  | Messy Church   |
|           | 7.30pm  | Deanery Synod Standing Committee                                   |
| Fri 3rd   | 10.00am | Coffee   |
|           | 6.30pm  | Friday Club  |

## Today's Collect

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. **Amen.**

## First Reading (Malachi 3: 1-5)

*A reading from the book of the prophet Malachi.*

Thus says the Lord God: 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.

Then I will draw near to you for judgment; 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.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## The Gospel (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 (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 turtledoves 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 seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped 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.

## 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.**

## Please pray for:

The leaders and children who come to Friday Club.

## Healing:

Jean Gwilliam, Judi & Mick Turner, Pat Tucker, Zack, Margaret Jeffs, Richard Lewis.

## Departed:

George Leslie Price