

Sunday 1 February 2026

Welcome!

We celebrate the presentation of Jesus at the Temple – ‘Candlemas’



Join us in church or online

www.youtube.com/@stmatthiaschurchtorquay6827/streams

Sun 1 Feb <i>With Archdeacon Douglas Dettmer</i>	8am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)	
	9.30am Explore Together with breakfast from 9.15am	
	11am Holy Communion followed by tea/coffee https://tinyurl.com/mt8fvxec or use the QR code	
Mon 2 Feb	9-9.30am Morning Prayer in church on this occasion	
Tues 3 Feb	9-9.30am Morning Prayer on zoom – details below	
	9-11.30am Toddlers	
	12-1.30pm St Matts Knits	
Wed 4 Feb	9am Holy Communion	
	12-2pm Welcome Space – coffee, soup and chat! All welcome	
	7.15-9pm St Matts Gospel Singers	
Fri 6 Feb	9-11.30am Mummy & Me	
	6.30-8pm Youth Club ‘Lego Masters’	
Sun 8 Feb	8am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)	
	9.30am Explore Together	
	11am Morning Worship followed by tea/coffee	
	5.30pm Prayer Meeting	

Collect

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**



For Morning Prayer online, we use the Church of England ‘Daily Prayer’ app and meet on ZOOM using this link:

tinyurl.com/2t56wex5

You are welcome to join us!

The words we use can be found here,

with an audio version: tinyurl.com/2djd3t7f



Readings

Hebrews 2: 14-18

¹⁴ Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might break the power of him who holds the power of death – that is, the devil – ¹⁵ and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death. ¹⁶ For surely it is not angels he helps, but Abraham’s descendants. ¹⁷ For this reason he had to be made like them, fully human in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people. ¹⁸ Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

Luke 2: 22-40

Jesus Presented in the Temple

²² When the time came for the purification rites required by the Law of Moses, Joseph and Mary took him to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³ (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, “Every firstborn male is to be consecrated to the Lord”^[a]), ²⁴ and to offer a sacrifice in keeping with what is said in the Law of the Lord: “a pair of doves or two young pigeons.”^[b] ²⁵ Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was on him. ²⁶ It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah. ²⁷ Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required, ²⁸ Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying:

²⁹ “Sovereign Lord, as you have promised,
you may now dismiss^[c] your servant in peace.

³⁰ For my eyes have seen your salvation,

³¹ which you have prepared in the sight of all nations:

³² a light for revelation to the Gentiles,
and the glory of your people Israel.”

³³ The child’s father and mother marveled at what was said about him. ³⁴ Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother: “This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, ³⁵ so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too.”

³⁶ There was also a prophet, Anna, the daughter of Penuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was very old; she had lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, ³⁷ and then was a widow until she was eighty-four.^[d] She never left the temple but worshipped night and day, fasting and praying. ³⁸ Coming up to them at that very moment, she gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were looking forward to the redemption of Jerusalem.

³⁹ When Joseph and Mary had done everything required by the Law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰ And the child grew and became strong; he was filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was on him.

Footnotes

[a] Exodus 13:2,12

[b] Lev. 12:8

[c] Or *promised, / now dismiss*

[d] Or *then had been a widow for eighty-four years.*

News

The total given for the **Christmas Collection** for Christian Aid's Appeal to help families fleeing conflict in the Democratic Republic of Congo was **£1036.39! Thank you!**

School news: This week Monica Rook will be telling the children at Warberry and Ilsham all about the feast of Candlemas and the presentation of Jesus in the temple. Please pray for Sue Davies and Helen this week as they attend important meetings for the Ethos Committee.



Alpha is a space to unpack the basics of the Christian faith together.

You can find out more here <https://alpha.org.uk/>

We plan to run an 8 week course after Easter – please have a word with one of the clergy to find out more.



Torquay Community Larder is very grateful for all the donations made over the past years. Demand for our service has increased recently and stocks are running low. Any tinned or packet items are appreciated - even pasta and beans! Thank you once again for your support. (Please leave donations in the box in the Linkway.)

Dates for your diary

Last orders please! Thursday 5th February The Friends of St Matthias' New Year meal will be held at **Amici restaurant** in Torwood Street at 7 for 7.30pm. Open to all - members and non - members. Last chance to book. Nick Hewlitt, Chairman 07749 595599



Missions Action and Girls Allowed will be co-hosting an evening for everyone on Thursday 26th Feb (not 22nd!), starting at 6.30pm for coffee and dessert, followed by a talk by Linda Townsend. Please book with Judi at judithstannard@outlook.com Suggested cash donation of £3 on the night.

Saturday 28th Feb @ 7.30pm

Jonathan Veira **'Not Dead Yet'** and only £10 per ticket! An uplifting musical celebration full of life, love and laughter. You'll laugh and cry... and go home with a song in your heart! QR code for more information. Hope Church, Dawlish 01626 923365



Wednesday 25th March @ 7pm at Upton Vale Church

Worship and prayer for the nation in Torbay Join CARE along with special guest **Graham Kendrick** for an uplifting evening of worship and prayer for our nation. 7-9.30pm with refreshments from 6.30pm. To book or for more information: events@care.org.uk or by phone on 0207 233 0455 or book via Eventbrite (tickets are free): <https://tinyurl.com/4drfwhh8>

Nicci Maxwell's latest newsletter is here: <https://tinyurl.com/yk9vhnk4>

Daily Reflections from the Bible Society *for those who want to read the whole Bible in one year* - Have a look here <https://tinyurl.com/2z88t2as>

PCC POINTS OF PRAYER

The PCC held a meeting on Monday, 12 January and prayer is requested for:

1. **Pray** that God will guide those involved with the process of appointing our new Rector, giving them both wisdom and discernment.
2. **Pray** for the many opportunities we have to share the love of Jesus with our community; for the amazing volunteers who sacrifice their time to put on the different events.
3. **Pray** for the financial situation of the church – that people will feel led by God to give generously, to enable us to continue to use the building for worship and to serve our community.

The minutes of our previous PCC meeting dated 10 November 2025 can be found on the notice board in the Hall.

Ecoaction for February - Fair Trade shopping - maybe adding one Fair Trade item to your shopping each week and/or signing up to the Fair Trade Foundation newsletter at [Fairtrade Foundation](#)

Prayers for the week

Monday Continue to pray for the appointment of our new rector and for those making that appointment.

Tuesday Pray for the many people who have been affected by the floods and winds recently.

Wednesday Pray for our Health Service under so much pressure. We should praise God that we do have a national health service in times of need.

Thursday Pray for the world situation, so many wars and threats of war from a number of countries. Pray for our politicians that they may never put their own interests first but that of the people they serve.

Friday Pray for all those who are lonely. Help us to befriend particularly those in our church family and our neighbours who are alone. Help us to have discernment to spot people who need help.

Saturday Pray for the recently bereaved who are known to us and those suffering with their health.

Sunday Praise God that we can go and worship Our Lord together.

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