



All Saints'
Newtown Linford



The Presentation of Christ in the Temple

2 February 2025

10am

Holy Communion

The Revd Canon Stuart Burns

Malachi 3.1-5

Luke 2.22-40

*When possible, services are streamed online at
www.facebook.com/allsaintsnewtownlinford/live*

A warm welcome to all to worship today, whether onsite or online. Please use this sheet to help you during the service and then take it away as a reminder of the notices and as a guide to prayer.



There is a loop system for those with hearing aids

For more information contact:

Revd Richard Trethewey (Rector)

0116 287 1604

richard@allsaintsnewtownlinford.org.uk

Hayley Moore (Church Administrator)

0116 239 3768

office@bradgatechurches.org.uk

www.allsaintsnewtownlinford.org.uk

News and forthcoming events

Shaped by God Together: Journey to Minster Communities

We have joined the conversation around the formation of Minster Communities in the south and west of the diocese (what is known as Area 5). This morning, led by Stuart Burns, we will be looking at how we can all be involved in the discernment process and contribute to it through our feedback on the Conversation Prompts.

Alpha

We are looking at running Alpha online on Zoom on a midweek evening, starting soon. Please speak to Richard if you're interested in joining this course, an opportunity to explore the basics of Christian faith. There may also be the chance to be confirmed at a deanery service later this term – attending the first few sessions of Alpha will be part of the preparation for this. Do talk to Richard about this.

Jolly Tots

Jolly Tots, the weekly stay-and-play group for toddlers which usually meets in church is currently meeting at the Village Hall on Wednesdays during the cold weather, running 9-10.45am.

Art Exhibition

Coming in March and April, an exhibition by the local Art Group in church, focussing on farming, food production, landscape, people working on the land, building, machinery, biodiversity etc in and around the area. Keep your eyes open.

Please pray

For the family of Alan Smith, former choir member, whose funeral is in church on Thursday 13 February at 11am.

Giving

If you would like to give to support All Saints', please use our online donation page, <https://bit.ly/asnl-donate>. A basket and contactless giving system are available at the back of church or you can scan this QR code. If you would like to give regularly, please speak to Rebecca Hale about the Parish Giving Scheme.



If you pay tax, filling out a Gift Aid declaration will enable the church to reclaim the tax you have already paid on your gift, making each £1 you give worth £1.25 to us. This can make a truly substantial difference to the church – please consider whether you can do this, declaration forms are available at the back of church.

Prayer

Race Equality Week is an annual, UK-wide initiative that encourages organisations to address race inequality and accelerate change.

This is a significant period within our calendars, as it sets aside time for us to consider and address the inequalities faced by the least represented, as well as the most vulnerable and marginalised within our spheres.

This inequality may not always be what we envision. However, this week gives us a unique opportunity to reflect on how and where people are impacted. For example:

- Are there limited opportunities or a lack of progression for certain people within our workplace and congregations?
- Do we include and acknowledge a variety of viewpoints and experiences when making decisions in our Diocese?
- Do our congregations reflect the racial demographics of our local areas?

These are not questions to create feelings of censor, guilt or shame. Instead, they are opportunities for us to reach our God-given mandate of unity, fellowship and justice, to start conversations, identify areas of change and create relationships that empower us all.

Jesus was often the champion of those who were ostracised, voiceless or denied justice. Whether it was people from other nations, women or the poor, Christ showed us that where we have power, positions or the ability to perceive inequality – we also have a duty to be part of the solution.

While race equality cannot be achieved during this week, we can utilise our mustard seed faith to pray for the knowledge and skills that will enable the work. Therefore let us pray this week with the prayer prompts given over the coming days:

- Monday: for God to impart his desire for greater unity within our hearts
- Tuesday: wisdom to understand God's will for racial equity within our congregations
- Wednesday: curiosity and a commitment to learn and listen to experiences that differ from our own
- Thursday: compassion for the inequalities faced by others
- Friday: courage and humility to admit our naivety, complicity or lack of awareness
- Saturday: forgiveness towards ourselves and others
- Sunday: guidance on how we can collectively be part of the solution
- Monday: dedication to action over the next year

Sophie Holder, Director of Racial Equity, Diocese of Leicester

Collects

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.

Post Communion: 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.

Additional 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.

Measures for everyone's safety

Ventilation: we continue to have windows open whenever we meet.

Space: pick up a card from the table as you enter to place next to you to indicate you wish increased space.

Hygiene: sanitizer is provided in key locations – at the entrance, where books can be collected and where communion is distributed.

Communion is available with the bread dipped in the wine.

We would prefer you not attend services if you are testing positive for COVID-19. Please join the service online.