First Reading at Service Reading from the New Testament Hebrews 2: verses 14 to 18 Exaltation through Abasement

Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. Therefore, he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

This is the word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading at Service Gospel Reading Luke 2: verses 22 to 40 Jesus Is Presented in the Temple

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 turtle-doves 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 for seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eightyfour. She never left the temple but worshipped 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. The Return to Nazareth

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.

This is the word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

Reading from the Old Testament Malachi 3: verses 1 to 5 The Coming Messenger

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 judgement; 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. All: Thanks be to God.

Notices

Refreshments - everyone welcome to join us after the service for a cuppa and biscuit. Please do sign up on the rota if you can help with refreshments in February and March.

Altar Flowers– can you help with altar flowers? There is a rota for 2025 on the noticeboard at the back of church to offer help. If you wish to make a donation rather than arranging the flowers this may be given to Elaine Clarke. Any queries please speak to Elaine.

St Michael's Electoral Roll 2025 - An entirely new electoral roll for St Michael's is to be prepared in 2025. All persons wishing to have their names entered on the new Roll, whether their names are entered on the present Roll or not, will be requested to apply for enrolment from Sunday 2 February 2025. Application forms will be available on the table at the rear of Church from today. Completed forms should be returned to Susan Radford (Electoral Roll Officer) no later than Sunday 30 March.

Telephone Prayer – If you would like to join others praying for any needs within the parish, please contact Fay with your mobile/ Whats App number. This confidential prayer line is anonymous, and the information will only be passed on to others within the group who will pray specifically for your request.

Dates for the Diary

- 9th February 4th Before Lent Morning Prayer – 9.30am
- 16th February 3rd Before Lent Holy Communion – 9.30am
- 23rd February 2nd Before Lent Morning Prayer – 9.30am

Contacts



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For more information please visit our website: <u>www.klmm-parishes.org.uk</u> or follow us on Facebook: <u>www.facebook.com/klmmparishes</u> If you would like to include a notice in the pew sheet, please contact Emma Jones.

WELCOME TO ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH KIRK LANGLEY

Sunday 2nd February 2025 The Presentation of Christ



The service today is Holy Communion

If you have a prayer request, please pass to the Church Warden

Please take this leaflet home with you for reference.