

The Church of Saint Laurence, Upminster

PORCHTALK



Sunday 2nd February 2025 *Presentation of Christ in the Temple (Candlemas)*

Welcome to Saint Laurence.

Adventurers (groups for children and young people) meet during the 9.30 am Mass. Leaders will normally invite children to join in with these at the appropriate point in the service. Activity packs and children's service books are available from the back of church.

You are warmly invited to stay for refreshments in the Main Hall after the 9.30 Mass.

Today	Holy Communion	8.00 am
2 nd February	Sung Parish Mass	9.30 am
<i>Presentation of Christ in the Temple (Candlemas)</i>	Solemn (Choral) Evensong, Procession and Benediction	6.30 pm
Monday	PCC Meeting, Parish Office	7.30 pm
3 rd February		
Wednesday	Morning Prayer, Lady Chapel	8.45 am
5 th February	Staff Meeting, Parish Office	9.00 am
	Said Mass, Lady Chapel	11.00 am
	Evening Prayer, Lady Chapel	4.15 pm
Thursday	Organ Teaching	2.00 pm
6 th February	Choir Practice	8.00 pm
Friday	Organ Teaching	9.00 am
7 th February	Coffee Morning, Main Hall	10.30 am
Saturday	Wedding with Baptisms	11.00 am
8 th February		
Next Sunday	Holy Communion	8.00 am
9 th February	Sung Parish Mass	9.30 am
<i>Fourth Sunday before Lent</i>	First Communion Meeting, Parish Office	11.00 am
	Evensong on Zoom	6.30 pm

Evensong readings this Sunday: Haggai 2:1-9; John 2:18-22

Mass readings next Sunday: Isaiah 6:1-8; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11; Luke 5:1-11

Evensong readings next Sunday: Wisdom 6:1-21; Colossians 3:1-22

Saturday Pathsweepers: 8th – Masterson and Perchard. **Coffee:** 9th – Sally and Michelle

Please let Revd Susannah or Deborah Masterson know of anyone who is ill or in need of a pastoral visit, or housebound and wanting to receive the sacrament at home – or if you would appreciate a conversation or visit for any reason.

NOTICES

Please could you help to run a new service? Later this year Susannah is hoping to trial a new form of service - to run on a monthly basis in the church hall at 8am on a Sunday, aimed particularly at primary school aged children and their families. This will only be possible with some volunteers to assist. Volunteers would need to complete DBS checks and safeguarding training and be available between 7.30am-9.15am on a Sunday. If you think you may be able to help, please contact Susannah.

There will be a meeting for parents and children, who are in Year 3 and above, who are interested in preparing to receive Holy Communion. This will be held in the parish office at 11am next Sunday, 9th February.

New Electoral Roll - This year, instead of the annual revision of the Electoral Roll, a completely new Roll must be prepared. This means that everyone who wishes to have their name included on the new Roll must re-apply. This will be taking place between Sunday 16th February and Sunday 16th March. If you have any questions please speak to our Electoral Roll Officer, Keith Stewart on 01708 227928.

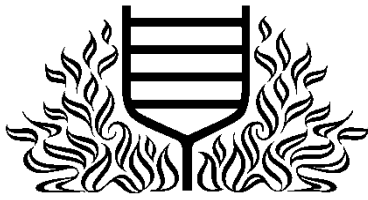
Quinquagesima Lunch, Sunday 2nd March. Meet in the Minor Hall at 12.30pm for a glass of sherry with lunch served at 1pm in the Main Hall. Adults £12.50, under 12s £6. Contact Joan Prudden to book on 01708 223744.

Barking Area Vocations Day - This will take place on Saturday 8th March, 9.45am-12.30pm, at St Margaret's, Barking. Anyone who is interested in knowing more about a range of ordained and lay ministries within the Church of England is welcome to attend. Please see the poster at the back of church for more information and booking details - and please feel free to speak to Susannah, who will be attending in her capacity as a Deanery Vocations Adviser.

Do look at the Notice Board at the back of church. There are two 'Thank you' notes from the charities to whom we give the gifts donated at the Crib services on Christmas Eve. They are always so grateful for anything we give them. Many thanks to you all!

There will be a Repair Café in the Main Hall on Saturday 15th February at 11am-2pm which will include electrical, electronic, textile and bicycle experts to help you fix up your broken items. Repair Cafés are free meeting places where expert volunteers, tools and materials are available to help you repair all manner of things.

Please consult notice boards under the tower and in the porch for other notices and further information



AT THE MASS

Sunday 2nd February 2025

*Presentation of Christ
in the Temple (Candlemas)*

Introit 677 In a world where people walk in darkness

Setting Mass of St Thomas - Thorne

Collect of the Day

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.**

Malachi 3:1-5

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 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

Gradual hymn 396 Faithful vigil ended

Hebrews 2:14-end

Since the children share flesh and blood, Jesus 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.

Alleluia Celtic

Luke 2:22-40

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, Mary and Joseph brought Jesus 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 eighty-four. 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.

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.

Offertory hymn	110 Hail to the Lord who comes
Anthem	All in the Morning (1919) - Music: Arranged by R. Vaughan Williams. Text: English Traditional Carol
Communion hymn	452 Let all mortal flesh keep silence
Anthem	Nunc dimittis
Processional hymn	113 When candles are lighted (omit * verses)
Organ Voluntary	Voluntary I Opus 7 - John Stanley

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Prayer request forms are available at the back of church. Please use them if you wish us to pray for someone.

Sunday: Noel Lyons, Baby Florence, Alan Butcher, Terry Evens, Delyse Maggs, Paul Jackman, Neil Parsons, Mary Ann Madden, Rosalind Manley, Charles Osmond, Simon Pols, Brian Shaw, James Tape, Rosemary Watkins, Glynis Whiting, Sylvia Wilson, Camilla Jackson, Revd Catherine Towner.

Wednesday: Denise Comer, Baby Charles, Bob Bossey, Doreen, Michael Folkes, Mary Greig, Fr Tom Keighley, Stanley Oliver, Alan Jones, Sandra Clarke, Paul Matthews.

Additional Prayers: All those receiving Home Communion. Paul, preparing for baptism.

Recently departed: William Holden, Roger Osmond.

Anniversaries of the departed: William Gunary, Sarah Millington, Ivy Oliver, Eric Pomfrett, Jane Spencer, David Lyus, Lilian Staines, Fred McGuire, Jack Woodroffe, Hilda Goer, Joan Kydd, Daphne Sawyer, Joan Herbert, Jim Menah, Joan Larkin.

CHARITY OF THE MONTH

FEBRUARY: ONWARDS & UPWARDS



Onwards and Upwards is a charity created to directly tackle the cycle of reoffending driven by the barriers to employment faced by those with a criminal record.

They break the cycle of reoffending by starting sustainable businesses which train and employ ex-offenders. These must be organisations that people are proud to work for, provide personal and professional development, operate in high demand sectors, and showcase the talents and potential of ex-offenders as employees to businesses and society.

Their long-term plan is to launch, test, and grow a range of businesses that train, support and employ ex-offenders in positive environments that are part of a community, with aspirational brands and with full support for people to grow and move on with their lives.

Their first commercial venture, XO Bikes, was started in 2021 and their second venture, XO Barbers, will commence early this year.

DONATIONS

A cash collection will be taken during Sunday morning services for church funds, which support our mission and ministry including the upkeep of this historic site. If you do not carry cash, we also have a card machine located by the main door which can be used before or after the service.

If you are a UK taxpayer, please consider Gift Aiding your donation - either via the machine or (for cash) using the envelope available in the pew. This means that your donation will be worth more to the church but at no extra cost to you.

If you would like information about joining our Planned Giving scheme, leaflets are available from the back of church.

Thank you - whatever you feel disposed to give will be thankfully received and faithfully applied.

EASYFUNDRAISING

The church is registered (as St Laurence Church, Upminster) on easyfundraising.org.uk - if you register an account, select the church as a cause and download the web browser extension then every time you spend money on many retail websites and have activated the extension, a percentage of your spend will be donated to St Laurence at no cost to you. The individual amounts are small but every little adds up - please help us via this route if you can.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SPONSORSHIP.....

If you would like to know about sponsorship, please pick up a leaflet from the back of church or speak to Jean and Cheryl (Churchwardens), Susannah (Rector) or Joanne (Parish Administrator).

ST LAURENCE CHURCH CARE OF CREATION



Simple Swap No. 12 - The banking industry's financing activities are available to review on www.bank.green. A great place to check to see if you are content with your bank's practices. Consider subscribing to Ethical Consumer; a convenient way to keep informed.

CONTACTS

Rector The Revd Susannah Brasier

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Assistant Curate The Revd Catherine Towner (*currently on sick leave*)

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Assistant Curate The Revd Neil Barrett (*currently on sabbatical leave*)

revd.neilbarrett@gmail.com

Pastoral Assistant Deborah Masterson

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Churchwardens Jean Keen and Cheryl Hale

parish.office@upminsterparish.co.uk

Parish Safeguarding Officer Akosua Boachie

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Director of Music Nigel Lockwood

07899 876247 metcautdesign@googlemail.com

Parish Office Joanne Chapman

01708 220696/07592 946992 parish.office@upminsterparish.co.uk

Open: Tue. 3.30-6pm, Wed. 9-11am (Staff Meeting), Thur. 9-11.30am.

Hall Bookings Becky Perchard

07341 434798 halls.bookings@upminsterparish.co.uk

Planned Giving treasurer@upminsterparish.co.uk

Website www.upminsterparish.co.uk

Address St Laurence Church, Corbets Tey Road, Upminster, RM14 2BB

Welcome to the Parish Church of Upminster. If we have not met you before, do introduce yourself. If you wish, give these details to one of the officials.

Name

Telephone

**Revd Susannah sends a weekly email about services, news and events.
Please email her if you would like to receive her emails.**