

# Welcome to St Margaret's Church Ifield

*Loved as you are*



**Sunday 1st February 2026  
The Presentation of Christ  
Candlemas**



## THE GATHERING

*As we gather before the service, we speak to God.*

*During the service, we let God speak to us.*

*After the service, we speak to each other.*

*We stand and sing at the entrance of the clergy*

### Processional Hymn

Angel-voices ever singing  
round thy throne of light,  
angel-harps for ever ringing,  
rest not day nor night;  
thousands only live to bless thee  
and confess thee  
Lord of might.

Thou who art beyond the farthest  
mortal eye can scan,  
can it be that thou regardest  
songs of sinful man?  
Can we know that thou art near us,  
and wilt hear us?  
Yea, we can.

**Yea, we know that thou rejoicest  
o'er each work of thine;  
thou didst ears and hands and voices  
for thy praise design;  
craftsman's art and music's measure  
for thy pleasure  
all combine.**

**In thy house, great God, we offer  
of thine own to thee;  
and for thine acceptance proffer  
all unworthily  
hearts and minds and hands and voices  
in our choicest  
psalmody.**

**Honour, glory, might, and merit  
thine shall ever be,  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
blessèd Trinity.  
Of the best that thou hast given  
earth and heaven  
render thee.**

*FRANCIS POTT (1832–1909)  
Music ANGEL VOICES EDWIN GEORGE MONK (1819-1900)*

## **THE GREETING**

**In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
Amen.**

**Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be  
with you.  
and also with you.**

## WORDS OF WELCOME

### THE PRAYER OF PREPARATION

**Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden, cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name, through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### PRAYERS OF PENITENCE

*The priest introduces the prayer ending with*

Let us confess our sins.

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have sinned against you and against our neighbour in thought and word and deed, through negligence, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault. We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us, forgive us all that is past and grant that we may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your name. Amen.**

*The priest offers absolution at the end please respond*

**Amen**

### THE GLORIA

**Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,**

**we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen**

#### **THE COLLECT**

*The priest introduces a period of silent prayer with the words, 'Let us pray.' The Collect is said, and all respond, Amen.*

#### **THE LITURGY OF THE WORD**

*Please sit for the readings*

##### **First Reading**

*Malachi 3.1-5*

**This is the word of the Lord.**

**Thanks be to God.**

##### **Second Reading**

*Hebrews 2.14-18*

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God**

*Please stand for the Gospel*

***The Gospel Reading***

*Luke 2.22-40*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*At the end*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please remain standing until the preacher has introduced the Sermon*

## **THE SERMON**

### **THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Let us stand to declare our faith in God

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God, begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

### **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

*Prayers for the Church, the world, and for all human need. After each petition the following response is used:*

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer**

**Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, Our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

## THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

### The Peace

*The priest introduces the Peace*

The peace of the Lord be always with you  
**And also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.  
*All may exchange a sign of peace.*

*Please remain standing to sing the offertory hymn.*

### Light of the world

**You stepped down into darkness  
Opened my eyes, Let me see  
Beauty that made this heart adore you  
Hope of a life spent with you**

*Here I am to worship  
Here I am to bow down  
Here I am to say that you're my God  
You're altogether lovely  
Altogether worthy  
Altogether wonderful to me*

**King of all days  
So highly exalted  
Glorious in heaven above  
Humbly you came to the earth you created  
All for love's sake became poor**

*Here I am to worship  
Here I am to bow down*

*Here I am to say that you're my God  
You're altogether lovely  
Altogether worthy  
Altogether wonderful to me*

**I'll never know how much it cost  
To see my sin upon that cross**

*Here I am to worship  
Here I am to bow down  
Here I am to say that you're my God  
You're altogether lovely  
Altogether worthy  
Altogether wonderful to me*

*Words and Music Tim Hughes (b1977)*

## **The Presentation of the Gifts**

*During the Offertory hymn the bread and wine and the collection are brought to the altar and the altar is prepared.*

**Blessed be God forever**

## **THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**

**The Lord be with you  
And also with you**

**Lift up your hearts.  
We lift them to the Lord.**

**Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
It is right to give thanks and praise.**

*The priest praises God for his mighty acts and at the end we say,*



**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest**

*The priest continues with the prayer which recalls the Last Supper, after the elevation the priest says, 'Great is the mystery of Faith'*

**Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again**

*The prayer continues and concludes with the doxology where we respond,*

**Amen**

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name.  
Your kingdom come.  
Your will be done, on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.**

### ***The Breaking of the Bread***

*The Priest breaks the consecrated bread*

We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

**Though we are many, we are one body,  
because we all share in one bread.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,  
grant us peace.**

### ***The Giving of Communion***

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,  
But only say the word and I shall be healed.**

*The priest invites everyone to come to Communion or for a blessing*

***Please sit and wait to be directed for Communion.***

**During the distribution of Communion music will be played**

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

*The Priest prays the post-communion prayer followed by*

Father of all, we give you thanks and praise, that when we were still far off you met us in your Son and brought us home. Dying and living, he declared your love, gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory. May we who share Christ's Body live his risen life; we who drink his cup bring life to others; we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world. Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us, so we and all your children shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your name, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

## NOTICES

## THE DISMISSAL

*Please stand*

*The priest gives the blessing*

**Amen.**

We go into the world to walk in God's light,  
to rejoice in God's love,  
and to reflect God's glory.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**In the name of Christ. Amen.**

## Hymn

Christ, whose glory fills the skies,  
Christ, the true, the only light,  
Sun of Righteousness, arise,  
triumph o'er the shades of night;  
Dayspring from on high, be near;  
Daystar, in my heart appear.

**Dark and cheerless is the morn  
unaccompanied by thee;  
joyless is the day's return,  
till thy mercy's beams I see,  
till they inward light impart,  
glad my eyes, and warm my heart.**

**Visit then this soul of mine,  
pierce the gloom of sin and grief;  
fill me, radiance divine,  
scatter all my unbelief;  
more and more thyself display,  
shining to the perfect day.**

*CHARLES WESLEY (1707–1788)*

*Music: RATISBON*

*Melody from Werner's Choralbuch Leipzig, 1815 harmonised by WILLIAM HENRY HAVERGAL (1793-1870)  
and WILLIAM HENRY MONK (1823-1889)*

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### **Notices**

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<b>Service next Sunday:</b>	<b>FIISH (9.30)</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday before Lent</b>	<b>Parish Communion (11am)</b>
	<b>and on Facebook and the parish website <a href="http://www.ifieldparish.org">www.ifieldparish.org</a></b>

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