



ST. PETER &
ST. PAUL
BROMLEY



PARISH EUCHARIST

CANDLEMAS

Welcome to Ss. Peter and Paul, Bromley

The words printed in **bold** are usually said or sung by all. Please stand or sit during the service as you feel comfortable. If you are unsure about what to do or where to be during the service, please ask someone.

Children – We have an area with toys and games at the back of the church for our younger worshippers. Feel free to use these at any time.

Hearing loop – our hearing loop works most effectively in the main body of the church. Please select the ‘T’ position.

Toilets – can be found through the doors at the back of the church.

Refreshments – after the service, we share refreshments together. You are warmly invited to have a drink and a chat - but if you’d rather slip away, that’s OK too.

A prayer before coming to the eucharist:

We do not presume
to come to this your table, merciful Lord, trusting in
our own righteousness,
but in your manifold and great mercies. We are not
worthy
so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you
are the same Lord
whose nature is always to have mercy. Grant us
therefore, gracious Lord,
so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ and to
drink his blood,
that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body and our
souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we
may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

Candlemas

The Feast of Candlemas, also known as The Presentation of Christ in the Temple, marks the end of the church's season of celebration that began at Christmas and has continued through the recent successive Sundays of Epiphany-tide.

The festival is known as Candlemas because traditionally it was the day that all the Church's candles for the year were blessed. In years past, on Candlemas night, many people placed lighted candles in their windows at home.

Today's celebration is a reminder that Jesus was recognised as light of the world by the Magi after his birth. In the gospel reading set for today, we hear, in the encounter between Simeon and Anna, that Jesus is 'a light to lighten the Gentiles' (Gentiles being the non-Jewish people of the world) also recognized as 'the glory of God's people Israel', when he is presented in the Temple according to the ancient custom of the day.

But the Christian faith teaches us that the redemption which Christ will bring comes through suffering and the cross of Good Friday; thus it is that on this day in the church calendar our attention now moves away from the celebration of Christmas and Epiphany and looks towards the mysteries of Easter, through Simeon's final words to Mary: 'a sword will pierce your own soul too.'

At the end of the service we leave the Church to go out and be the light of Christ in the world. We leave our candles behind since we ourselves are to be the light.

THE GATHERING

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

All **Amen.**

The Greeting

The Lord be with you

All **and also with you.**

Dear friends, forty days ago we celebrated the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. Now we recall the day on which he was presented in the Temple, when he was offered to the Father and shown to his people. As a sign of his coming among us, his mother was purified, as we now come to him for cleansing. In their old age Simeon and Anna recognized him as their Lord, as we today sing of his glory. In this eucharist, we celebrate both the joy of his coming and his searching judgement, looking back to the day of his birth and forward to the coming days of his passion.

*As you are able please remain standing for the **First Hymn** during which our candles are lit*

The Candlemas Blessing of Candles

Everyone remains standing with candles alight. Standing at the Crib, in use for the last time this season, the president says

May the light and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

All **And also with you.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is right to give thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the universe.
You make our darkness to be light.
For with you is the well of life
and in your light shall we see light.

All Blessed be God for ever.

*The Nunc Dimittis may be sung.
Then the candles are blessed*

Lord God, the springing source of everlasting light,
pour into the hearts of your faithful people
the brilliance of your eternal splendour,
that we, who by these candles and kindling flames
light up this temple to your glory,
may have the darkness of our souls dispelled,
and so be counted worthy to stand before you
in that eternal city of light where you live and reign,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

All Amen.

*We remain standing with candles lit for the **Prayers of Penitence***

Hear the words of our Saviour Jesus Christ:
'I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me shall never
walk in darkness but shall have the light of life.'
Let us therefore bring our sins into his light and confess them
in penitence and faith.

cf. John 8:12

**All Father eternal, giver of light and grace,
we have sinned against you and against our neighbour,**

**in what we have thought,
in what we have said and done,
through ignorance, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We have wounded your love,
and marred your image in us.
We are sorry and ashamed,
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 lead us out from darkness
to walk as children of light.
Amen.**

Almighty God,
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, light of the world,
guide and enlighten you,
bring you pardon and peace,
and keep you in life eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Gloria in Excelsis

All **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

After a period of silent prayer, the prayer for the day is said.

Let us pray.

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.

All **Amen**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Please sit with candles lit for the Bible Readings

At the end of each the reader may say

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

As we are able, we stand for a Hymn

Gospel Reading

The Gospel is processed into the centre of the church, please turn to face it.

The Lord be with you

All **And also with you**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to *N.*

All **Glory to you, O Lord.**

The Gospel is read, at the end the following is said :

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please extinguish your candles and sit for **The Sermon**

The Creed

All **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

We are led in prayer for the world. After each petition we may respond

Lord, in your mercy,

All **heard our prayer.**

And at the end, we may say

Merciful Father,

All **accept these prayers**

for the sake of your Son,

our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

The Peace

In the tender mercy of our God, the dayspring from on high has broken upon us, to give light to those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

All The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

We exchange a sign of peace with one another.

*We remain standing for a **Hymn***

Eucharistic Prayer A

The Lord is here.
All **His Spirit is with us.**

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

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

It is indeed right and good,
always and everywhere to give you thanks and praise
through Jesus Christ,
who is one with you from all eternity.
For on this day he appeared in the Temple
in substance of our flesh
to come near to us in judgement.
He searches the hearts of all your people
and brings to light the image of your splendour.

Your servant Simeon acclaimed him
as the light to lighten the nations
while Anna spoke of him to all
who looked for your redemption.
Destined for the falling and rising of many,
he was lifted high upon the cross
and a sword of sorrow pierced his mother's heart
when by his sacrifice he made our peace with you.

And now we rejoice and glorify your name
that we, too, have seen your salvation
and join with angels and archangels
in their unending hymn of praise

All **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.**

Accept our praises, heavenly Father,
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,
and as we follow his example and obey his command,
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit

these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us his body and his blood;

who in the same night that he was betrayed,
took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying:
Drink this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Great is the mystery of faith:

All

Christ has died:

Christ is risen:

Christ will come again.

Therefore, heavenly Father,
we remember now his offering of himself
made once for all upon the cross;
we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension;
and as we look for the coming of his kingdom,
we make with this bread and this cup
the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Accept through him, our great high priest,
this our sacrifice of thanks and praise,
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts
in the presence of your divine majesty,

renew us by your Holy Spirit
and nourish us with the body and blood of Christ,
that we may grow into his likeness
and become a living temple to your glory.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord,
by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven
we worship you, Father almighty,
in songs of everlasting praise:

**All Blessing and honour and glory and power
be yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

Please sit or kneel

The Lord's Prayer

Believing the promises of God, let us pray with confidence as our
Saviour has taught us:

**All Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name;
your kingdom come; your will be done;
on earth as it is 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 forever.
Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread

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

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

Agnus Dei

All **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.

Giving of Communion

God's holy gifts
for God's holy people.

All **Jesus Christ is holy, Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.**

All are invited to come to receive Holy Communion. Gluten free wafers and non-alcoholic communion wine are available, just ask the President as you come forward. If you would prefer a blessing, come forward with your hands by your side. During the distribution of Holy Communion hymns or anthems are usually sung.

Prayer after 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.

All **Amen.**

All **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 for the week are given

We stand for a Hymn

The Blessing

Christ, whose glory fills the skies,
fill you with radiance
and scatter the darkness from your path.

All **Amen.**

Christ, the Sun of Righteousness,
gladden your eyes and warm your heart.

All **Amen.**

Christ, the Dayspring from on high,
draw near to guide your feet into the way of peace.

All **Amen.**

And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All **Amen**

Go in the light and peace of Christ

All **Thanks be to God.**

THE LORD WILL BE YOUR EVERLASTING
LIGHT AND YOUR GOD WILL BE YOUR
GLORY.

ISAIAH 60.19