



**The Anglican Parish of
S. STEPHEN**

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This Week

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday

Mass at 7.30am;

Wednesday 5.30pm, Saturday 8.00am

Monday 29th

Lord, rise up and save me.

Tuesday 30th

Listen, Lord, and answer me.

Wednesday 31st

S. John Bosco, Priest

Lord, forgive the wrong I have done.

Thursday 1st

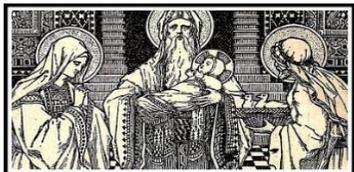
Blessed be God my salvation!

10am Healing Mass

@ S. Peter's Hamilton

Friday 2nd

THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD



Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord!

7pm Intallation & Commissioning

of Bishop Peter Stuart

@ Christ Church Cathedral

Saturday 3rd

S. Ansgar, Bishop

& S. Blaise, Bishop, Martyr

Alleluia!

8am Walsingham Cell

Next Sunday:

4th February 2018AD

ORDINARY SUNDAY 5

9.00 am Sung Mass

5.30 pm Mass

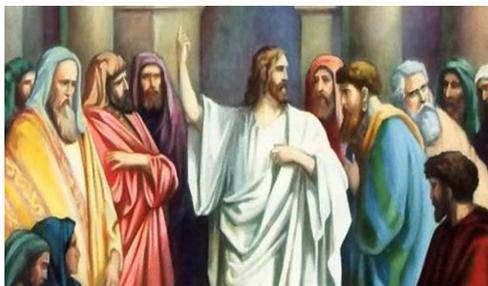
We gather around the table of the Lord, to hear the inspired word and to break bread. We pray that we may be open to God, and give ourselves generously for the sake of the Gospel.

Entrance Hymn

**A man there lived in Galilee,
unlike all men before,
for he alone from first to last
our flesh unsullied wore;
a perfect life of perfect deeds
once to the world was shown,
that all mankind might mark his steps
and in them place their own.**

**A man there died on Calvary,
above all others brave;
his fellow men he saved & blessed,
himself he scorned to save;
no thought can gauge the weight of woe
on him, the sinless, laid;
we only know that with his death
our ransom price was paid.**

**A man there stands at God's right hand
divine, yet human still;
that grand, heroic, peerless soul
death sought in vain to kill.
All power is his: supreme he rules
all realms of time and space;
yet still our human cares & needs
find in his heart a place.**



PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

Friday we celebrate Jesus' presentation in the Temple. He is the light of the nations and the, glory of his people. As we remember our call to bring light into the world, let us glory in the presence of God amongst us.

Last week, Jesus announced the kingdom of God is at hand. This week, in mighty words and deeds, He exercises His dominion - asserting royal authority over the ruler of this world, Satan (*John 12:31*). Notice that today's events take place on the Sabbath. The Sabbath was to be an everlasting sign - both of God's covenant love for His creation (*Exodus 20:8-11; 31:12-17*), and His deliverance of his covenant people, Israel, from slavery (*Deuteronomy 6:12-15*).

On this Sabbath, Jesus signals a new creation - that the Holy One has come to purify His people and deliver the world from evil. "With an unclean spirit" is biblical language for a man possessed by a demon, Satan being the prince of demons (*Mark 3:22*). The demons' question: "What have you to do with us?" is often used in Old Testament scenes of combat and judgment. And as God by His word "rebuked" the forces of chaos in creating the world (*Psalms 104:7; Job 26:10-12*), and again rebuked the Red Sea so the Israelites could make their exodus (*Psalms 106:9*), Mark uses the same word to describe Jesus rebuking the demons.

Jesus is the prophet foretold by Moses in today's First Reading. Though He has authority over heaven and earth (*Daniel 7:14, 27; Revelation 12:10*), He becomes one of our own kinsmen. He comes to rebuke the forces of evil and chaos - not only in the world, but in our lives. He wants to make us holy in body and spirit, as Paul says in today's second reading.

In this liturgy, we hear His voice and "see" His works, as we sing in today's Psalm. And as Moses tells us today, we should listen to Him.

A TEACHING

WITH AUTHORITY BEHIND IT.

Power and authority usually go together and are often confused. If Jesus exercised authority it was not in the oppressive fashion of many earthly rulers but in service of the poor. His power was directed towards liberating people from unjust laws, evil spirits, debilitating illnesses and the slavery of sin. It is this power that is at work in us.

REVELATION & FREEDOM

Capernaum is the centre of Jesus' activity in Galilee. Accompanied by His disciples, He announces the coming of God's reigning. He chooses the time and place of His preaching - on the Sabbath and in the synagogue. Jesus wanted us to be free to devote ourselves to what is asked of us: to take part in the coming of God's reigning! In S. Paul's words, we are to be, 'free to love'!

BISHOP PETER STUART

will be Installed and Commissioned as the 14th Bishop of Newcastle this **Friday 2nd February 2018** (Feast of the Presentation of the Lord) at 7pm in Christ Church Cathedral, Newcastle.

MID-WEEK MASS

resumes this week.



HEALING MASS

Thursday at 10am
at S. Peter's Hamilton.

WALSINGHAM CELL

Our Cell meets this Saturday
for Mass & breakfast at 8am.
All welcome.



FLOWERS TODAY

are given to God's glory by
Mavis Randle in loving memory of

JOHN RANDLE

(obit 27th January 1999AD)

May he + rest in peace.

Lord's Prayer

At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching we dare to say:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us, and 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 Bread

We who are many are one body in Christ
For we all share in the one bread.

**Lamb of God you take away the sins of the world: Have mercy on us.
Lamb of God you take away the sins of the world: Have mercy on us.
Lamb of God you take away the sins of the world: Grant us your Peace.**

Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those who are called to the supper of the Lamb.

Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

HOLY COMMUNION

Communion: Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven. Blessed are the meek, for they shall possess the land.
Prayer: Nourished by these redeeming gifts, we pray, O Lord, that through this help to eternal salvation true faith may ever increase. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Father, we offer ourselves to you as a living sacrifice through Jesus Christ our Lord. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.

Final Hymn

**Love divine, all loves excelling,
joy of heaven, to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown:
Jesus, thou art all compassion,
pure unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation,
enter every trembling heart.
Come, almighty to deliver,
let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return, and never,
never more thy temples leave:
thee we would be always,
serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee, without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.
Finish then thy new creation,
pure and spotless let us be,
let us see thy great salvation,
perfectly restored in thee:
changed from glory into glory,
till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love and praise.**

The Blessing

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

May the God of majesty and glory empower your lives with his Spirit that you may worship in truth, serve in holiness and love with sincerity of heart.

And may the blessing of almighty God, the Father, and the Son, + and the Holy Spirit, come down on you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

Go in peace glorifying the Lord by your life.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

Entrance: Save us, O Lord our God! And gather us from the nations, to give thanks to your holy name, and make it our glory to praise you.

+ In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Penitential Rite

The Lord has power over evil. May he deliver us from sin.

You are the Holy One of God.

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

You free us from sin.

Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Your bless us with your Spirit.

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

+ Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins and bring us to everlasting life. **Amen.**

Gloria in Excelsis

Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you,

**we give you thanks for your great glory
Lord God, heavenly King,**

O God, almighty Father. *Glory to God...*

**Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God,**

**Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us. *Glory to God ...***

**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.**

Glory to God ... Amen.

Collect

Grant us, Lord our God, that we may honour you with all our mind, and love everyone in truth of heart. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Today's Readings

First Reading Deuteronomy 18:15-20

Moses informs the people of Israel that one day God will provide them with a prophet like himself from among them.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 7:32-35

S.Paul writes of the virtues of the unmarried state in order to persuade the people of Corinth to give their undivided attention to the Lord.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

A people in darkness have seen a great light: a radiant dawn shines on those lost in death.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

The Holy Gospel

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to *S.Mark 1:21-28*

+ **Glory to you + Lord Jesus Christ +**

Jesus heals a man possessed of an unclean spirit and astonishes the people present by his exercise of what they term new teaching with authority behind it.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.



Nicene Creed

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: by the power of the Holy Spirit He became incarnate from 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. With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified. He 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.

Prayer of the Faithful

+ We give thanks for the life and love we share in the Church: may we all grow in grace and be faithful in living the Gospel. Lord, hear us: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

+ We give thanks for the privilege of living in this country and pray that we may be respectful and truthful in our dealings with each other.

+ We give thanks for all who give their lives in service of others. May we too be generous in serving each other and the Lord.

+ We give thanks for the gift of health. May those amongst us who are sick know God's healing power, especially: **Stephanie Bower Moira Oliver, Jamie Stow, John Russell, Anabelle Morrow, Reece & Karen Evans, John & Norma McLeod, Colin Lee, John & Frances Moules, Dianne Taylor, Sheila & Derek Cahoon, Peter Williams, Lani Fear, Jocelyn Caddies, Jack Ryan, Ruth Jones, Geoffrey Lowe, Linda Frost, Pam Platts, Geoff Borham, Brenda Daish, Alan Joass, Barbara Winter, June Wood, John & Dorothy Davidson, Joyce Searl, Tom Blunden, Robyn Roach,**

+ We give thanks for those who have died, for: **David Choon,** those whose memorials adorn our church and all whose anniversary occurs at this time: **John Randle, Kerry North, Val Goulder, Joan Kelson,** May they rest **+** in peace.

+ We offer in silence our own needs and thanksgivings as we commend ourselves and all people to the prayers of the Blessed Virgin Mary, S.Stephen and all the Saints.

Loving God, we offer you all our prayers, trusting in your power, your mercy and your love; through the same Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit one God for ever and ever. Amen.

Greeting of Peace

We are the Body of Christ.
His Spirit is with us.
The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

Offertory Hymn

All praise to thee, for thou, O King divine, didst yield the glory that of right was thine, that in our darkened hearts thy grace might shine.
Alleluia!
Thou cam'st to us in lowliness of thought; by thee the outcast and the poor were sought; and by thy death was God's salvation wrought.
Alleluia!
Let this mind be in us which was in thee, who wast a servant that we might be free, humbling thyself to death on Calvary.
Alleluia!
Wherefore, by God's eternal purpose, thou art high exalted o'er all creatures now, and given the name to which all knees shall bow.
Alleluia!
Let every tongue confess with one accord, in heaven and earth, that Jesus Christ is Lord, and God the Father be by all adored.
Alleluia!

Prayer over the Gifts

Pray my brothers and sisters that our sacrifice may be acceptable to God, the Almighty Father.
May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good, and the good of all his holy Church.
Lord, we bring to your altar these offerings of our service: be pleased to receive them, we pray, and transform them into the Sacrament of our redemption.
Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**
Liturgy of the Eucharist
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 him thanks and praise.

The Preface is sung, after which all sing
Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts, Heaven and earth are full of your glory Hosanna in the Highest. Blest is he who comes In the Name of the Lord. Hosanna in the Highest.

The Eucharistic prayer continues
The mystery of faith:
Christ has Died: Christ is Risen: Christ will come again.
The Prayer concludes:
in songs of never ending praise:
Blessing & honour & glory & power are yours forever and ever. Amen.



February 3
S. Ansgar 801-865



The "apostle of the north" (Scandinavia) had enough frustrations to become a saint - and he did. He became a Benedictine at Corbie, France, where he had been educated. Three years later, when the king of Denmark became a convert, Ansgar went to that country for three years of missionary work, without noticeable success. Sweden asked for Christian missionaries, and he went there, suffering capture by pirates and other hardships on the way. Less than two years later he was recalled, to become abbot of New Corvey and bishop of Hamburg. He was made legate for the Scandinavian missions. Funds for the northern apostolate stopped with Emperor Louis's death. After 13 years' work in Hamburg, Ansgar saw it burned to the ground by invading Northmen; Sweden and Denmark returned to paganism.

He directed new apostolic activities in the North, travelling to Denmark and being instrumental in the conversion of another king.

By the strange device of casting lots, the king of Sweden allowed the Christian missionaries to return.

Ansgar's biographers remark that he was an extraordinary preacher, a humble and ascetical priest.

He was devoted to the poor and the sick, imitating the Lord in washing their feet and waiting on them at table.

He died peacefully at Bremen, Germany, without achieving his wish to be a martyr.

Sweden became pagan again after his death, and remained so until the coming of missionaries two centuries later.

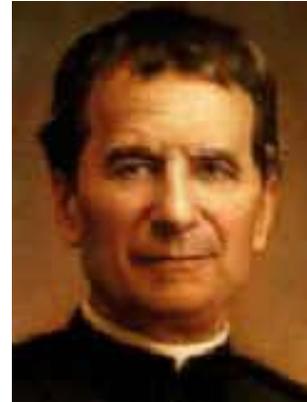
History records what people do, rather than what they are. Yet the courage and perseverance of men and women like Ansgar can only come from a solid base of union with the original courageous and persevering Missionary. Ansgar's life is another reminder that God writes straight with crooked lines. Christ takes care of the effects of the apostolate in his own way; he is first concerned about the purity of the apostles themselves.

In the Hebrew Scriptures, a prophet is not primarily a person who predicts the future. Rather the heart of their role is that he or she speaks the word of God for today. Many of the great prophets took on their role with great reluctance. What drove them on was the power of the word of the Lord which they had been urged to proclaim. In many cases also it meant adopting an unpopular stance, particularly at a time when things were going well. In times of crisis, however, it frequently involved giving the people a word of consolation.

This Weeks Holy Days

January 31

S. John Bosco 1815-1888



John Bosco's theory of education could well be used in today's schools. It was a preventive system, rejecting corporal punishment and placing students in surroundings removed from the likelihood of committing sin. He advocated frequent reception of the sacraments of Penance and Holy Communion. He combined catechetical training and fatherly guidance, seeking to unite the spiritual life with one's work, study and play.

Encouraged during his youth to become a priest so he could work with young boys, John was ordained in 1841. His service to young people started when he met a poor orphan and instructed him in preparation for receiving Holy Communion. He then gathered young apprentices and taught them the catechism.

After serving as chaplain in a hospice for working girls, John opened the Oratory of S. Francis de Sales for boys. Several wealthy and powerful patrons contributed money, enabling him to provide two workshops for the boys, shoemaking and tailoring.

By 1856, the institution had grown to 150 boys and had added a printing press for publication of religious and catechetical pamphlets. His interest in vocational education and publishing justify him as patron of young apprentices and publishers.

John's preaching fame spread and by 1850 he had trained his own helpers because of difficulties in retaining young priests. In 1854 he and his followers informally banded together under Francis de Sales. With his bishop's encouragement, he gathered 17 men and founded the Salesians in 1859. Their activity concentrated on education and mission work. Later, he organized a group of Salesian Sisters to assist girls.

John Bosco educated the whole person — body and soul united. He believed that Christ's love and our faith in that love should pervade everything we do -work, study, play. For John Bosco, being a Christian was a full-time effort, not a once-a-week, Mass-on-Sunday experience. It is searching and finding God and Jesus in everything we do, letting their love lead us. Yet, John realized the importance of job-training and the self-worth and pride that comes with talent and ability so he trained his students in the trade crafts, too. "Every education teaches a philosophy; if not by dogma then by suggestion, by implication, by atmosphere. Every part of that education has a connection with every other part. If it does not all combine to convey some general view of life, it is not education at all" (G.K. Chesterton, *The Common Man*).

February 2
Presentation of the Lord



At the end of the fourth century, a woman named Etheria made a pilgrimage to Jerusalem. Her journal, discovered in 1887, gives an unprecedented glimpse of liturgical life there. Among the celebrations she describes is the Epiphany (January 6), the observance of Christ's birth, and the gala procession in honour of his Presentation in the Temple 40 days later -February 15. Under the Mosaic Law, a woman was ritually "unclean" for 40 days after childbirth, when she was to present herself to the priests and offer sacrifice – her "purification." Contact with anyone who had brushed against mystery – birth or death – excluded a person from Jewish worship. This feast emphasizes Jesus' first appearance in the Temple more than Mary's purification.

The observance spread throughout the Western Church in the fifth and sixth centuries. Because the Church in the West celebrated Jesus' birth on December 25, the Presentation was moved to February 2, 40 days after Christmas.

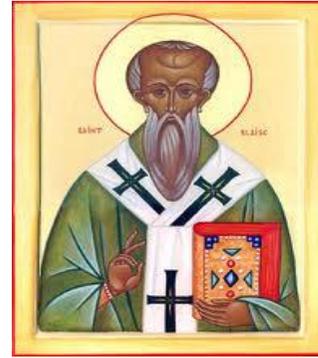
At the beginning of the eighth century, Pope Sergius inaugurated a candlelight procession; at the end of the same century the blessing and distribution of candles which continues to this day became part of the celebration, giving the feast its popular name: Candlemas.

In the temple by two elderly people, Simeon and the widow Anna.

They embody Israel in their patient Luke's account, Jesus was welcomed in expectation; they acknowledge the infant Jesus as the long-awaited Messiah. Early references to the feast dub it the feast of S.Simeon, the old man who burst into a song of joy which the Church still sings at day's end.

"Christ himself says, 'I am the light of the world.' And we are the light, we ourselves, if we receive it from him.... But how do we receive it, how do we make it shine? The candle tells us: by burning, and being consumed in the burning. A spark of fire, a ray of love, an inevitable immolation are celebrated over that pure, straight candle, as, pouring forth its gift of light, it exhausts itself in silent sacrifice" (Paul VI).

February 3
S.Blaise d.316



We know more about the devotion to S.Blaise by Christians around the world than we know about the saint himself. His feast is observed as a holy day in the Eastern Church. The Council of Oxford, in 1222, prohibited servile labour in England on Blaise's feast day. The Germans and Slavs hold him in special honour and for decades many United States Catholics have sought the annual S.Blaise blessing for their throats!

We know that Bishop Blaise was martyred in his episcopal city of Sebastea, Armenia, in 316. The legendary Acts of S.Blaise were written 400 years later. According to them Blaise was a good bishop, working hard to encourage the spiritual and physical health of his people. Although the Edict of Toleration (311), granting freedom of worship in the Roman Empire, was already five years old, persecution still raged in Armenia. Blaise was apparently forced to flee to the back country. There he lived as a hermit in solitude and prayer, but made friends with the wild animals.

One day a group of hunters seeking wild animals for the amphitheatre stumbled upon Blaise's cave. They were first surprised and then frightened. The bishop was kneeling in prayer surrounded by patiently waiting wolves, lions and bears.

As the hunters hauled Blaise off to prison, the legend has it, a mother came with her young son who had a fish bone lodged in his throat. At Blaise's command the child was able to cough up the bone.

Agricolaus, governor of Cappadocia, tried to persuade Blaise to sacrifice to pagan idols. The first time Blaise refused, he was beaten. The next time he was suspended from a tree and his flesh torn with iron combs or rakes. (English wool combers, who used similar iron combs, took Blaise as their patron. They could easily appreciate the agony the saint underwent.) Finally he was beheaded.

Four centuries give ample opportunity for fiction to creep in with fact. Who can be sure how accurate Blaise's biographer was? But biographical details are not essential. Blaise is seen as one more example of the power those who have who give themselves entirely to Jesus. As Jesus told his apostles at the Last Supper, "If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask for whatever you want and it will be done for you" (John 15:7). With faith we can follow the lead of the Church in asking for Blaise's protection.

"Through the intercession of S.Blaise, bishop and martyr, may God deliver you from ailments of the throat and from every other evil. In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit" (from an early English ritual.)