

# CANDLEMAS

*The Presentation of our Lord Jesus Christ*

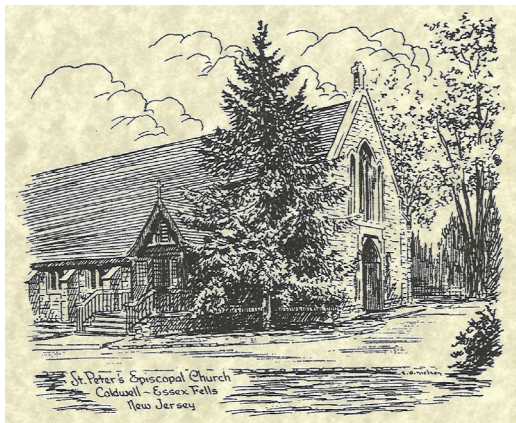
*February 2, 2025 at 10 o'clock in the morning*

**ST PETER'S CHURCH IN ESSEX FELLS**

A PARISH OF THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF NEWARK

271 Roseland Avenue, Essex Fells, NJ 07021

973.226.6500 • [stpetersef.org](http://stpetersef.org)



## **Welcome to St. Peter's Church**

We are glad you are here, and we invite you to enter fully into worship today. No matter where you are on your spiritual journey, you are welcome here. We are a church rooted in Christian tradition, and open to new ideas, committed to service in community and world as part of the world-wide Anglican Communion and the Episcopal Diocese of Newark. The work of worship is shared by all, and we invite you to participate in the spoken and sung responses and hymns as you are able. Help us to make this a place where God's grace is freely shared by everyone.

All are welcome to make a gift and offering in thanksgiving to God for the many blessings we have received. To take advantage of our electronic giving options, please follow the QR code with your capable electronic device.



## **Candlemas**

'Candlemas' is the ancient name for the Feast of the Presentation of Our Lord in the Temple observed on February 2, forty days after Christmas. It is one of five moveable feasts of in the Church Year that take precedence over a Sunday. The scriptural root of Candlemas, Luke 2:22-29, is the story of the greeting of the child Jesus by Simeon and Anna. It is a story full of joy and tinged with sorrow: joy in that the Messiah is indeed come among us; sorrow in that "this child is destined for the falling and rising of many," and because of him Mary's destiny is that "a sword will pierce your own soul also." Simeon recognizes Christ as the promised Savior and proclaims the words of the *Nunc dimittis*: "Lord, now let your servant depart in peace."

# HOLY EUCHARIST

Voluntary

*Preludes for Worship*

*Richard Proulx*  
*St. Peter's Handbell Choir*

*Please stand and face the Narthex doors as the Presider says*

*Presider* Light and peace in Jesus Christ our Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

*Presider* Dear friends, forty days have passed since we celebrated the joyful feast of the Nativity of our Lord. Today is the blessed day when Jesus was presented in the Temple by Mary and Joseph. Fulfilling the law of Moses, and at the same time going to meet his believing people. Led by the Holy Spirit, Simeon and Anna came to the Temple, recognized Jesus as their Lord, and proclaimed him with joy. United by the Spirit, may we proclaim our joy as we recognize the true Light, our Savior Jesus Christ, in the breaking of the bread and in the prayers until he comes again in glory.

At the Procession

*Cantor; then All*

A light to en - light - en the na - tions,  
and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

*Cantors* Lord, you now have set your servant free \*  
to go in peace as you have promised.

*ALL* **A Light to enlighten the nations,  
and the glory of your people, Israel.**

*Cantors* For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, \*  
whom you have prepared for all the world to see.

*ALL* **A Light to enlighten the nations,  
and the glory of your people, Israel.**

*Cantors* Glory to the Father, and to the Son, \*  
and to the Holy Spirit.

*ALL* **A Light to enlighten the nations,  
and the glory of your people, Israel.**

Collect of the Day

*Presider* God be with you.

*People* And also with you.

*Presider* Let us pray. Almighty and everliving God, we humbly pray that, as your only-begotten Son was this day presented in the temple, so we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts by your Son Jesus Christ our Savior; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

THE LESSONS

First Reading

*Malachi 3:1-4*

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.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 84 *Quam dilecta!*

*Robert Knox Kennedy*



- 1 How dear to me is your dwelling, O LORD of *hosts!* \*  
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living *God.*
- 2 The sparrow has found her a house  
and the swallow a nest where she may lay her *young;* \*  
by the side of your altars, O LORD of hosts, my King and my *God.*
- 3 Happy are they who dwell in your *house!* \*  
they will be always *praising you.*
- 4 Happy are the people whose strength is *in you!* \*  
whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' *way.*

- 5 Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of *springs*, \*  
 for the early rains have covered it with pools of *water*.
- 6 They will climb from height to *height*, \*  
 and the God of gods will reveal himself in *Zion*.
- 7 LORD God of hosts, hear my *prayer*; \*  
 hearken, O God of *Jacob*.
- 8 Behold our defender, O *God*; \*  
 and look upon the face of your *Anointed*.

Second Reading

*Hebrews 2:14-18*

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.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn 257 *Hymnal 1982*

EDMONTON

Gospel Reading

*Luke 2:22-40*

*Deacon* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they 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 turtledoves 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 seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped 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 favor of God was upon him.

*Deacon* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Sermon

*The Rector*

Nicene Creed

*BCP, page 358*

Prayers of the People

*Leader* Let us pray to the Father through Christ who is our light and life.

Father, your Christ is acclaimed as the glory of Israel:

look in mercy on your Church, sharing his light. We pray for Sean, our Presiding Bishop; Carlye, our Bishop; For \_\_\_\_ in the Anglican Communion; and for the people of \_\_\_\_ in the Diocese of Newark.

Lord, have mercy.

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

*Leader* Father, your Christ in his temple brings judgment on the world:

look in mercy on the nations, who long for his justice. We pray for all leaders of this and every nation. Lord, have mercy.

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

*Leader* Father, your Christ, who was rich, for our sake became poor: look in

mercy on the needy, suffering with him. We remember before you  
\_\_\_\_, and all who are in need of help and healing. Lord, have mercy.

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

*Leader* Father, you have taught us in your holy word to give thanks at all times: We give thanks for the many blessings we receive, and we rejoice with \_\_\_\_\_, and all who celebrate birthdays and anniversaries this week. Lord, have mercy.

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

*Leader* Father, your Christ is the one in whom faithful servants find their peace: look in mercy on the departed, that they may see your salvation. We remember before you all who have died in the faith of Christ, and those whose faith is known to you alone. Lord, have mercy.

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

*After a period of silence, the Presider says*

*Presider* Lord God, you kept faith with Simeon and Anna, and showed them the infant King. Give us grace to put all our trust in your promises, and the patience to wait for their fulfilment; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*People* **Amen.**

Confession of Sin and the Peace

*BCP, page 360*

Welcome and Announcements

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory

*A. Herbert Brewer*

*Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace,  
according to thy word;  
For mine eyes have seen thy salvation,  
which thou hast prepared before the face of all people,  
To be a light to lighten the Gentiles,  
and to be the glory of thy people Israel.  
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Ghost:  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen.*

*—Luke 2:29-32s*

*Please stand*

*Presider* God be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Presider* Lift up your hearts.

*People* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Presider* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People* **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

*Sanctus*

*Hymnal 1982, S 129*

Lord's Prayer

*BCP, page 364*

Breaking the Bread

*BCP, page 364*

*Christ our Passover*

*Hymnal 1982, S 154*

Invitation

*Presider* The gifts of God for the People of God.

*All baptized Christians are welcome to receive the Bread and Cup to be in communion with God and each other. You may receive only the bread by placing your hands together flat in front of you (Gluten-free wafers are available upon request). Afterwards you may drink wine from the chalice. If you would rather have the bread intincted (dipped) in the wine, you may hand the bread to the person administering the chalice and they will intinct and hand it back to you. If you (or your child) would rather not receive the Sacrament, you may come to the altar rail during Communion and cross your arms on your chest for a blessing.*

Motet

*Felix Mendelssohn*

*Yea, the Lord is mindful of His own,*

*He remembers His children.*

*Bow down before Him, ye mighty,  
for the Lord is near us.*

*—Psalm 115:12; 2 Timothy 2:19*

Postcommunion Prayer *Please stand and say together*

**Pour your grace, O Lord, into the hearts of those who have received these holy gifts: and as you fulfilled your promise to Simeon that he would not see death until he had seen the Christ, grant that we, going forth from this table, may meet the Lord face to face and enter into the fullness of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Hymn 537 *Hymnal 1982*

MOSCOW



Blessing and Dismissal

*People*      **Thanks be to God.**

Organ Voluntary and Procession

### *This Week's Parish Notices*

#### STEWARDSHIP 2025

This year's theme is *Walk in Love*, taken from the Letter to the Ephesians: "Walk in love as Christ has loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God" (Ephesians 5:2). Make your pledge online at <https://stpetersef.org/donate/pledge-form>. Contact a member of the Vestry or Father Nate to find out more about how you can *Walk in Love* at St. Peter's.

#### ADULT FORUM, SUNDAYS AT 9 AM

Join us from 9-9:45 in the Acolyte Room (upstairs in the main church) on Sundays for a challenging, enriching, in-depth, exegetical (analyzing verse-by-verse) study of Paul's "letters" to the Philippians. Reach out to Jonathan Lace ([jdlace@icloud.com](mailto:jdlace@icloud.com)) for more information.

#### EVENSONG THIS AFTERNOON AT 4 PM

Choirs from St. Peter's, Essex Fells; Holy Innocents, West Orange; and the Choir Schools of Grace Church in Newark and St. Paul's in Englewood will present Evensong for the Feast of Candlemas on Sunday, February 2 at 4 pm. A reception will follow. Everyone is welcome—invite a friend to this festive community event. *Holy Eucharist at 4 pm will resume next week.*

#### THANK YOU, HANDBELL CHOIR

Thanks to our Handbell Choir for the Opening Voluntary (pre-service prelude) this morning. The Handbell Choir meets on Wednesdays at 7 pm in the South Transept of the Church—Handbells are fun, and we are always looking to welcome new members. Reach out to Mark Trautman ([trautman@stpetersef.org](mailto:trautman@stpetersef.org)) to find out more!

#### STREET FAIR PLANNING

There will be an informational meeting on Sunday, February 2 at coffee hour, and a Zoom meeting on February 4 at 7 pm for those that can't make it Sunday. Reach out to Mary Shearin (973-590-1678 or [shearchaos38@gmail.com](mailto:shearchaos38@gmail.com)) to receive Zoom credentials and to find out more about how you can be a part of this exciting ministry.

#### ST. PETER'S YOUTH (SPY) NEWS

We will have a Chili-Super Bowl Fundraiser on Sunday, February 9, pick-up from 8:30 am-11:30 am: \$20 for 1 quart/cornbread/cookies, Vegetarian or Beef Chili available, order must be placed by Thursday, February 6. Contact Christina Doyle at 301-802-7878; proceeds to benefit the Youth Program and Mission Trip. Other dates in the spring include *February 8*, SPY chili making; *March 4*, Pancake Supper. Reach out to Father Nate ([darville@stpetersef.org](mailto:darville@stpetersef.org)) to find out how your children can be a part of this exciting ministry.

## FAMILY EUCHARIST

Family Eucharist, a time when youth take leadership roles in the liturgy, takes place one Sunday every month; upcoming dates are February 9 and March 16. Youths serve as *lay readers* (reading the lessons), *ushers*, and *oblationers* (bringing the elements forward at the offertory). This ministry is a vital part of our worship on Sunday, and a wonderful opportunity for our youth. Readings are always available ahead of time online at <https://www.lectionarypage.net> and service bulletins may be found on our website at <https://stpetersef.org/sermons/>. Reach out to Father Nate ([darville@stpetersef.org](mailto:darville@stpetersef.org)) to find out how your children can be a part of this exciting ministry.

## ACOLYTES

We are recruiting persons young and old who would like to serve at the Altar as acolytes. We are looking for both children and adults to join in this wonderful ministry to serve as an acolyte. An acolyte may assist in worship by carrying a torch, a processional cross, a banner, lighting and extinguishing candles, and assisting the Presider at mass. Confirmation is not a requirement to be an acolyte, but it is something an acolyte should strive for in the very near future. Training is offered on an on-going basis; contact Christine DiGiovanni ([adigio1562@aol.com](mailto:adigio1562@aol.com)) and Father Nate ([darville@stpetersef.org](mailto:darville@stpetersef.org)).

## A NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION—ALTAR GUILD WELCOMES YOU!

Looking for a way to serve St. Peter's that is do-able and rewarding and doesn't take a lot of time? How about considering Altar Guild? Altar Guild is a quiet ministry of the church, but this quiet ministry offers a big contribution. Consider this:

- Membership in Altar Guild offers flexibility in time commitment;
- Membership in Altar Guild can be done as a couple or even a family;
- Membership in Altar Guild is an avenue to introduce people to stewardship here;
- Membership in Altar Guild can be your introduction to church ministry.

For more information, contact Alice Samuels ([inkyretired@aol.com](mailto:inkyretired@aol.com)) or Karen Mosher ([looker-mosher@msn.com](mailto:looker-mosher@msn.com)), or the Parish Office at [info@stpetersef.org](mailto:info@stpetersef.org).

## CALENDARS FOR THE NEW YEAR

Thanks to the generosity of the Shook-Farmer Funeral Home, 2025 Episcopal Calendars are available. Please take one home—they are available in the narthex of the church and on the back table of All Saints' Chapel.

## NEW FLOWER CHART IN THE NARTHEX

Beautiful flowers adorn our church weekly. Flowers may be given at any time in thanksgiving or in memory of a loved one, or any other occasion of thankfulness for God's creation. A check for \$50 may be made to St. Peter's—put 'altar flowers' in the memo. To reserve a date,

use the sign-up sheet in the narthex, or email Alice Samuels ([inkyretired@aol.com](mailto:inkyretired@aol.com)) or the Parish Office ([info@stpetersef.org](mailto:info@stpetersef.org)). *There are many openings in February.*

#### COFFEE HOUR HOSTS

Help make St. Peter's a welcoming place by signing up to be a coffee hour host! Coffee hour is an important time for us to connect with one another and meet our guests and visitors. Please either sign up on the sheet posted in the upper room or contact Reach out to Mary Shearin (973-590-1678 or [shearchaos38@gmail.com](mailto:shearchaos38@gmail.com)) to let us know the date you prefer. Feel free to sign up with a friend!

*Upcoming schedule for coffee hours: February 2: Copeland; February 9: Host needed; February 16: Irwin; February 23: Host needed.*

#### LENT 2025

ASH WEDNESDAY: THE FIRST DAY OF LENT, MARCH 5

*Ashes and Holy Eucharist at 7 am, 4 pm, 7 pm*

THE FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT, MARCH 9

*The Great Litany and Holy Eucharist at 8 am and 4 pm*

*The Great Litany in Procession and Choral Eucharist at 10 am*

THE SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT, MARCH 16

*Holy Eucharist at 8 am and 4 pm*

*Family Eucharist, 10 am*

#### PRAYER LIST

Laurie Alcott, Stanley Au, Amye Becker, Duffy Bell, Grace Bishop, Nancy Bivona, Murriel Bowness, Kathy Calfe, Martha Capel, Adele Corcoran, Gabriel Cowell, Wayne Hill, Bunny Jenkins, Tania Jenkins, Sheila & Norman Johnson, Eddie K., Jeffrey Kamel, Katherine Kamen, Ed Kamper, Colin Kelley, Katie King, Lauren L., Laurieann, Sally L., Mark Lewis, Marino Family, Tom Marriott, Mike, Nicholas Nunno, Lisa & Gary Pyne, Richardson & Dickhaus families, Craig Roper, Ruth Ann, Sarah, Jean Whiting Smith, Kathy Stanton, Marge Vere, Frank Zupa.

MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

<i>Altar Guild</i>	Alice Samuels, Carolyn Wescott, Debra Chance
<i>Ushers</i>	Evan McLaughlin, Ken Carr
<i>Acolytes</i>	Colin Mulcahy, Clare Mulcahy
<i>Readers</i>	Conor Mulcahy, Nancy Connor
<i>Eucharistic Minister</i>	
<i>Cantor</i>	Michael Barretti, Kevin Johnson, Giulia Utz
<i>Director of Music</i>	Mark A. Trautman
<i>Presiding</i>	The Reverend Nathaniel Darville



THE VESTRY OF ST. PETER'S CHURCH

Jim Irwin and Mary Shearin, *Wardens*

Christine Albano, David Cowell, Barbara Gargiulo, Erika Grothues,  
Sarah Latson, Kurt Vonderahe, *Vestry Members*

STAFF

The Rev. Nathaniel K.M. Darville, *Rector*

*darville@stpetersef.org*

Mark A. Trautman, *Director of Music and Administrator*

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