



Candlemas

***The Presentation of the Lord
to the Temple***

School Mass

AN ORDER FOR THE CELEBRATION OF A SCHOOL MASS

also called

the Eucharist

and

Holy Communion

A warm welcome to Mass!

About the Feast of Candlemas

The Feast of Candlemas celebrates the day in which the child Jesus was presented to the Temple at Jerusalem by Mary and Joseph to be consecrated to God. Here Jesus was greeted as the Light of all the nations, the Saviour who came to redeem us, and the Lord himself entering his Temple.

The name “Candlemas” comes from “the Mass of Candles”, because traditionally people receive blessed and lighted candles at this Mass, and carry them in procession signing joyful hymns of praise.

We will not light the candles at this Mass, simply out of safety concerns (there would be a lot of flames if we all carried one!) but you will still receive a blessed candle at the end of Mass for your to take home, as a reminder that Jesus is our Light.

If you want to light it, please ask an adult member of your family to do it for you, and remember: never leave a burning candle unattended!

When we celebrate an event in the life of the Our Lord Jesus Christ the liturgical colour we use is **white (or gold)** - colours which represent joy, happiness, and the blessings we receive through the Lord.

INTRODUCTION

WE GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

*We **STAND** for the beginning of Mass and we sing a song.*

**I am a city on a hill,
I am a light in the darkness.
Jesus living in me can change the world.
We are a city on a hill,
We are a light in the darkness.
Jesus living in us can change the world.**

**Let my light shine, let my light shine,
Let my light shine.
Let it shine.**

**Let my light shine, let my light shine,
Let my light shine.**

**If God is for me, who can stand against me?
Let my light shine, let my light shine,
Let my light shine.**

**If God is for me, who can stand against me?
Let my light shine, let my light shine,
Let my light shine.**

**Let your light shine, let your light shine,
Let your light shine.**

Let it shine.

**Let your light shine, let your light shine,
Let your light shine.**

If God is for us, who can stand against us?

**Let your light shine, let your light shine,
Let your light shine.**

If God is for us, who can stand against us?

**Let your light shine, let your light shine,
Let your light shine.**

*We **REMAIN STANDING**. The Priest says,*

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

All: Amen.

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

All: and also with you.

PRAYERS OF PENITENCE

WE SAY SORRY TO GOD

The Priest invites us to confession.

Silence is kept for a time of personal reflection, then we say,

**All: Most merciful God,
we confess to you,
before the whole company of heaven
and one another,
that we have sinned in thought,
word and deed,
and in what we have failed to do.
Forgive us our sins,
heal us by your Spirit
and raise us to new life in Christ.
Amen.**

The Priest pronounces the Absolution saying,

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon you, pardon ✠ and deliver you
from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in life eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

The Priest introduces a period of silent prayer with the words 'Let us pray'.

The Collect is said,

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.

We SIT.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

WE LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

We SIT for the reading.

A reading from the gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Luke *(Luke 2:22-40)*

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

When the day came for them to be purified as laid down by the Law of Moses, the parents of Jesus took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord, – observing what stands written in the Law of the Lord: Every first-born male must be consecrated to the Lord – and also to offer in sacrifice, in accordance with what is said in the Law of the Lord, a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.

Now in Jerusalem there was a man named Simeon. He was an upright and devout man; he looked forward to Israel's comforting and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death until he had set eyes on the Christ of the Lord.

Prompted by the Spirit he came to the Temple and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the Law required, he took him into his arms and blessed God; and he said:

‘Now, Master, you can let your servant go in peace, just as you promised; because my eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared for all the nations to see, a light to enlighten the pagans and the glory of your people Israel.’

As the child’s father and mother stood there wondering at the things that were being said about him, Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, ‘You see this child: he is destined for the fall and for the rising of many in Israel, destined to be a sign that is rejected – and a sword will pierce your own soul too – so that the secret thoughts of many may be laid bare.’

There was a prophetess also, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was well on in years. Her days of girlhood over, she had been married for seven years before becoming a widow. She was now eighty-four years old and never left the Temple, serving God night and day with fasting and prayer. She came by just at that moment and began to praise God; and she spoke of the child to all who looked forward to the deliverance of Jerusalem.

When they had done everything the Law of the Lord required, they went back to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. Meanwhile the child grew to maturity, and he was filled with wisdom; and God’s favour was with him.

This is the gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

BLESSING OF CANDLES

*We **REMAIN SITTING** for the blessing of candles.*

O God, source and origin of all light,
who on this day showed to Simeon and Anna
your Son Jesus as the Light for revelation to the Gentiles,
we humbly ask that, in answer to your people's prayers,
you may be pleased to sanctify
with your blessing ✠ these candles,
so that, guided by the light of Jesus
and following the path of virtue,
we may reach that light which never fails.
Through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

WE PRAY FOR OUR WORLD

After each prayer we say,

Lord, in your mercy

All: hear our prayer.

The priest concludes the Intercession is a prayer and all respond

Be with us, Lord, in all our prayers,
and direct our way towards you,
that among the changes and chances of our lives,
we may always be defended by your gracious help;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

SIGN OF PEACE

WE SHARE GOD'S PEACE WITH OTHERS

The Priest introduces it with these or other words saying,

We are fellow-citizens with the Saints and of the household of God, through Christ our Lord, who came and preached peace to those who were far off and those who were near. .

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All: And also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

We are invited to share a sign of peace, normally a handshake, with those around us.

LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD

*After this, we **REMAIN STANDING** to sing a song as the altar is prepared.*

**These are the values of life,
That we need to know in our hearts,
So our hearts can beat together.
These are the values of life,
That we need to live and to breathe
So we all can live a brighter day.**

**Love and understanding,
Peace and unity
Tolerance and patience
And respect for you and me.**

**Truth and independence,
Hope and honesty
All cooperating
Living life with quality.
These are the values of life,
That we need to know in our hearts,
So our hearts can beat together.
These are the values of life,
That we need to live and to breathe
So we all can live a brighter day.**

**Thoughtfulness and courage
Responsibility.
Happiness and freedom
And a growing self esteem.**

**Friendship for each other,
Showing that we care.
These are the values
That we daily need to share.**

**These are the values of life,
That we need to know in our hearts,
So our hearts can beat together.
These are the values of life,
That we need to live and to breathe
So we all can live a brighter day.**

Once the altar is prepared, the Priest says,

Pray, my brothers and sisters,
that our sacrifice may be acceptable
to God, the almighty Father.

**All: 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 Church.**

A prayer is said over the gifts by the Priest and all respond,

May the offering made with exultation by your Church
be pleasing to you, O Lord, we pray,
for you willed that your Only Begotten Son
be offered to you for the life of the world
as the Lamb without blemish.

Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

The Eucharistic Prayer follows.

The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

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 him thanks and praise.

Lord of all life,
you created the universe,
where all living things reflect your glory.
You give us this great and beautiful earth,
to discover and to cherish.
You give us your love, even when things go wrong.
You sent to us your Son Jesus,
who in being presented to the Temple
was revealed as the Light to enlighten all people.
You made us all, each wonderfully different,
to join with the angels and the saints
in singing your praise:

♪ **All: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord
God of pow'r and God of might.
Heaven and earth,
heaven and earth are full of your glory,
your pow'r and might.
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest heav'ns;
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest heav'ns.
Blessed, blessed, is he who comes,
Blessed, blessed, is he who comes,
Blessed, is he, blessed is he
who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest heav'ns;
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest heav'ns.**

We **REMAIN STANDING** for the second part of the Eucharistic Prayer.

We praise and bless you, loving Father,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;
and as we obey his command,
send your Holy Spirit,
that broken bread and wine outpoured
may become the Body and Blood of your dear Son.
On the night before he died he had supper with his friends
and, taking bread, he praised you.
He broke the bread, gave it to them saying:

TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND EAT OF IT,
FOR THIS IS MY BODY,
WHICH WILL BE GIVEN UP FOR YOU.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.
Again he praised you, gave it to them, saying:

TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND DRINK FROM IT,
FOR THIS IS THE CHALICE OF MY BLOOD,
THE BLOOD OF THE NEW AND ETERNAL COVENANT,
WHICH WILL BE Poured OUT
FOR YOU AND FOR MANY
FOR THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS.
DO THIS IN MEMORY OF ME.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice
made once for all upon the cross,
bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,
we proclaim his death and resurrection
until he comes in glory.

Great is the mystery of faith.

**All: Christ has died,
Christ is risen,
Christ will come again!**

Lord of all life,
help us to work together for that day
when your kingdom comes
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.

Look with favour on your people,
gather us in your loving arms
and bring us with the Blessed Virgin Mary,
St Joseph, St Alban, all the saints

to feast at your table in heaven.
Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,
for ever and ever.

♪ **All: Amen.**

After the Eucharistic Prayer, we keep few moments of silence.

COMMUNION RITE

WE RECEIVE THE LORD JESUS

The Priest introduces the Lord's Prayer; we say,

**All: 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 thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Agnus Dei is sung,

**♪ 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.**

The Priest invites the people to receive Holy Communion,

This is the Lamb of God

who takes away the sin of the world.

Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

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

The Priest reads the Communion Antiphon and then proceeds with the distribution of the Sacrament. While communicating people the priest and the ministers will say,

The Body of Christ

and

The Blood of Christ

*We reply **Amen** to these words before receiving the Sacrament.*

A note about receiving Holy Communion

Every Baptised and Confirmed person is invited to receive Holy Communion at this point.

If you receive Holy Communion in another church or Christian denomination, you are very welcome to receive the Sacrament here.

Should you require a gluten-free wafer, please say so to the Priest.

If do not wish to receive Communion, you are invited to approach the altar to receive an individual blessing.

Please indicate this by carrying this order of service with you.

We SIT after receiving Communion.

CONCLUDING RITES

WE RECEIVE GOD'S BLESSING

The Post-Communion Prayer is said and all respond,
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.

Then we say,
All: Almighty God,
we thank you for feeding us
with the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.
Through him we offer you
our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out in the power of your Spirit
to live and work to your praise and glory.
Amen.

*After this, we **STAND** for the final Blessing.*

The Lord be with you

All: and also with you.

May God's holy angels protect you, and keep you;

May Simeon and Anna, St Alban, St Thomas,

and Our Blessed Lady Mary pray for you;

and the blessing of God almighty,

the Father, ✠ the Son, and the Holy Spirit,

be among you and remain with you always.

All: Amen.

The Mass is ended. Go in the peace of Christ.

All: Thanks be to God.

We remain standing for the final song.

I. Lord, the light of your love is shining,

in the midst of the darkness, shining;

Jesus, light of the world, shine upon us;

set us free by the truth you now bring us.

Shine on me, shine on me.

Shine, Jesus, shine,

fill this land with the Father's glory!

Blaze, Spirit, blaze,

set our hearts on fire!

Flow, river, flow,

flood the nations with grace and mercy;

send forth your word,

Lord, and let there be light!

**2. Lord, I come to your awesome presence,
From the shadows into your radiance;
By the blood I may enter your brightness,
Search me, try me, consume all my darkness.
Shine on me, shine on me.**

Shine, Jesus, shine...

**3. As we gaze on your kingly brightness
so our faces display your likeness.
ever changing from glory to glory,
mirrored here may our lives tell your story.
Shine on me, shine on me.**

***Shine, Jesus, shine,
fill this land with the Father's glory!
Blaze, Spirit, blaze,
set our hearts on fire!
Flow, river, flow,
flood the nations with grace and mercy;
send forth your word,
Lord, and let there be light!***

Please take this booklet home with you!



allsaintshr.co.uk
@allsaintshr