

*Thought for the week:*

Our lighted candles are a sign of the divine glory of the one who comes to dispel the dark shadows of evil and to make the whole universe radiant with the brightness of his eternal light.

Sophronius,  
7th century Bishop of Jerusalem

Today is also our Christingle service when we discover the significance of an orange, some sweets on sticks, a red ribbon and a candle. Many thanks to the faithful few who assembled the Christingles all ready for us on Friday afternoon.

The Flower Fairies are in need of our assistance once more. If you can make any donation, large or small, that would be lovely! Please speak to Gill or Val, who really deserve our thanks and praise for all their hard work.

The Social Committee would welcome new members, and anyone's great ideas to plan events for the coming year. If you are interested in this rewarding work, please speak to Val or anyone on the committee.

Our very own Sandra Harnisch-Lacey is helping lead a 'Self-Compassion Morning' on Saturday, March 15th, between 9am and 1pm in the Cathedral School in Llandaff. Tickets are free but you need to register for the event if you are interested. There is a poster in the Hall with more information and Sandra would be more than willing to answer any questions. Incidentally, did you see her in the video on Facebook about the marvellous work entitled 'Above & Beyond' with young people in Penrhys? Search for 'National Dance Company Wales'.

If you would like to order a copy of John Morgans' new book *Penrhys: A Village on a Hill*, there is a list to sign with more information in the church hall. Copies are £10 each.

**ST. MICHAEL'S, CATHAYS**

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*Please contact Rev'd Caroline to arrange baptisms, marriages, banns, and Holy Communion for the sick and housebound. Please let Caroline know if anyone wishes to be prayed for, is ill or in hospital or would welcome a visit.*

The Affinity Female Choir (of which Jodie is a member) will be holding a Coffee Morning in church on Saturday, February 15th, between 10am and midday. Tickets are £5. All welcome!

If you are interested in our lunch for those with more life experience on February 8th, please give your name to Caroline, Mike or David, and let us know of any special dietary requirements.

There is a list in the hall for you to add names to for people in need of our prayers. Please also record your own name so we can follow up.

*Readings for next Sunday, 4th Sunday before Lent, are:  
Isaiah 6:1-8; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11; Psalm 138; Luke 5:1-11*



**THE CHURCH  
OF  
ST. MICHAEL &  
ALL ANGELS,  
CATHAYS**

**February 2nd  
2025  
Candlemas  
Year C**

*All, all, all are offered a warm welcome to the church of St. Michael & All Angels in the Roath & Cathays Ministry Area. If you are new to the church please make yourself known to Caroline, our Vicar, or Gerry, our Warden, or any member of the congregation. Children are cared for at our Sunday morning service. Please join us for tea, coffee and biscuits after the service - we often have cake too!*

**THIS WEEK IN ST. MICHAEL'S**

**Sunday**

10am Holy Eucharist  
5pm Zoom Service

**Thursday**

2pm Holy Eucharist

For more detailed information on all our activities, please visit our website:

[www.parishofcathays.org](http://www.parishofcathays.org)



*Collect of the day:*

Almighty and ever-living God, clothed in majesty, whose beloved Son was this day presented in the Temple, in the substance of our mortal nature: may we 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. **AMEN.**

The reader says: A reading from the Book of the Prophet Malachi

**Malachi 3: 1-5**

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. Then I will draw near to you for judgement; I will be swift to bear witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired workers in their wages, the widow and the orphan, against those who thrust aside the alien, and do not fear me, says the Lord of hosts.

Silence

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

Response: **Thanks be to God.**

The Epistle.

SIT

The reader says: A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews

**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.

Silence

Reader: This is the word of the Lord

Response: **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalms 24**

STAND

The earth is the Lord’s and / all that / fills it: the compass of the world and / all who / dwell there- / in.

For he has founded it up- / on the / seas: and set it firm upon the / rivers / of the / deep.

‘Who shall ascend the / hill • of the / Lord: or who can rise / up • in his / holy / place?’

‘Those who have clean hands and a / pure / heart: who have not lifted up their soul to an idol, \* nor / sworn an / oath • to a / lie;

‘They shall receive a blessing / from the / Lord: a just reward from the / God of / their sal- / vation.’

Such is the company of / those who / seek him: of those who seek your / face, O / God of / Jacob.

Lift up your heads, O gates; \* be lifted up, you ever- / lasting / doors: and the King of / glory / shall come / in.

‘Who is the / King of / glory?’: ‘The Lord, strong and mighty, \* the / Lord • who is / mighty in / battle.’

Lift up your heads, O gates; \* be lifted up, you ever- / lasting / doors: and the King of / glory / shall come / in.

‘Who is this / King of / glory?’: ‘The Lord of hosts, \* / he • is the / King of / glory.’

The Gospel.

STAND

Priest: Listen to the Gospel of Christ according to Saint Luke

Response: **Glory to you, O Lord**

**Luke 2: 22-40**

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 worshipped 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 favour of God was upon him.

After the Gospel:

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Response:

**Praise to you, O Christ.**