

Parish of Sanderstead and Hamsey Green

Proclaiming Jesus, changing lives, serving our community

All Saints' Church, Sanderstead



“Don’t just count your blessings, but be the blessing others count on”

ALL-AGE EUCHARIST SERVICE

Sunday 30 January 2022 (Candlemas)

Welcome, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to this "All-Age Eucharist". The word "Eucharist" simply means "thanksgiving". Today we are going to give thanks to God for all the blessings that have been showered upon us. We will mark that by celebrating the special meal that Jesus shared with his followers just before he died. So we will share bread and wine as we give thanks to God. Everyone is welcome to take part - whether physically in church, or on our live stream. If you are at home you may like to prepare a table with bread and wine so we can share Communion at the appropriate time.

If you need a gluten-free wafer, please let the stewards know. If you would prefer to receive a blessing rather than receive bread and wine,

As we gather together, let's do so quietly - you may like to read over the words of our opening hymn: "Count your blessings".

If you would like to know more about the Christian faith, do have a chat with me, Revd Jeremy Groombridge. You can contact me on jeremy@sanderstead-parish.org.uk

Welcome and Opening Prayer

We say together:

**Lord, direct our thoughts, teach us to pray,
lift up our hearts to worship you,
in Spirit and in truth,
though Jesus Christ. Amen**



HYMN: Count your blessings

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hb4JBNDWhOA>

Confession

God our heavenly Father,
we come to you in sorrow for our sins.

For turning away from you, and ignoring your will for our lives;
Father, forgive us:
save us and help us.

For behaving just as we wish, without thinking of you;
Father, forgive us:
save us and help us.

For failing you by what we do, and think and say,
Father, forgive us:
save us and help us.

For letting ourselves be drawn away from you by temptations in the world around us;
Father, forgive us:
save us and help us.

May the God of love and power
forgive you and free you from your sins;
heal and strengthen you by his Spirit,
and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Collect for the 4th Sunday of Epiphany / Candlemas

**God of heaven,
you send the gospel to the ends of the earth
and your messengers to every nation,
Send your Holy Spirit to transform us by the good news of
everlasting life,
In Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

BIBLE READINGS



Ephesians 1: 3-10, 17-23 (from *The Message translation*)

The God of Glory

³⁻⁶ How blessed is God! And what a blessing he is! He's the Father of our Master, Jesus Christ, and takes us to the high places of blessing in him. Long before he laid down earth's foundations, he had us in mind, had settled on us as the focus of his love, to be made whole and holy by his love. Long, long ago he decided to adopt us into his family through Jesus Christ. (What pleasure he took in planning this!) He wanted us to enter into the celebration of his lavish gift-giving by the hand of his beloved Son.

⁷⁻¹⁰ Because of the sacrifice of the Messiah, his blood poured out on the altar of the Cross, we're a free people—free of penalties and punishments chalked up by all our misdeeds. And not just barely free, either. *Abundantly* free! He thought of everything, provided for everything we could possibly need, letting us in on the plans he took such delight in making. He set it all out before us in Christ, a long-range plan in which everything would be brought together and summed up in him, everything in deepest heaven, everything on planet earth.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!



Gospel Reading: Luke 2:22-40 (from *The Message translation*)

22-24 Then when the days stipulated by Moses for purification were complete, they took him up to Jerusalem to offer him to God as commanded in God's Law: "Every male who opens the womb shall be a holy offering to God," and also to sacrifice the "pair of doves or two young pigeons" prescribed in God's Law.

25-32 In Jerusalem at the time, there was a man, Simeon by name, a good man, a man who lived in the prayerful expectancy of help for Israel. And the Holy Spirit was on him. The Holy Spirit had shown him that he would see the Messiah of God before he died. Led by the Spirit, he entered the Temple. As the parents of the child Jesus brought him in to carry out the rituals of the Law, Simeon took him into his arms and blessed God:

God, you can now release your servant;
release me in peace as you promised.
With my own eyes I've seen your salvation;
it's now out in the open for everyone to see:
A God-revealing light to the non-Jewish nations,
and of glory for your people Israel.

33-35 Jesus' father and mother were speechless with surprise at these words. Simeon went on to bless them, and said to Mary his mother,

This child marks both the failure and the recovery of many in Israel,
A figure misunderstood and contradicted—
the pain of a sword-thrust through you—
But the rejection will force honesty, as God reveals who they really are.

36-38 Anna the prophetess was also there, a daughter of Phanuel from the tribe of Asher. She was by now a very old woman. She had been married seven years and a widow for eighty-four. She never left the Temple area, worshiping night and day with her fastings and prayers. At the very time Simeon was praying, she showed up, broke into an anthem of praise to God, and talked about the child to all who were waiting expectantly for the freeing of Jerusalem.

39-40 When they finished everything required by God in the Law, they returned to Galilee and their own town, Nazareth. There the child grew strong in body and wise in spirit. And the grace of God was on him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, O Christ!

SPECIAL MOMENTS FROM THE PAST YEAR



HYMN: From the Breaking of the Dawn (Every Promise)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kMuq5z1uaMo>

MAKING A DIFFERENCE: BLESSING OUR COMMUNITY



TALK:

Revd Jeremy Groombridge

AFFIRMING OUR FAITH

Let us declare our faith in God.

**We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family in
heaven and on earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts
through faith and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us with power from on high.**

**We believe in one God;
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

PRAYERS

We pray for the needs of the world and our community. If you would like to pray for someone or something specifically there will be an opportunity to call out a name.

Merciful Father

**Accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.**

THE PEACE

We share a sign of God's Peace



The peace of the Lord
be always with you!

And also with you.

HYMN: Great is thy faithfulness

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r4ox4es1jo8>

We prepare to share the bread and wine of the Lord's Supper

The Lord is here

His Spirit is with us

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

Why is it right to give thanks and praise? Listen, and we will hear.

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 sun and moon and star-lit sky,
everything that gives us light,
light for our eyes, our hearts, our minds.

**You give us your love,
even when things go wrong.
Jesus knew hurt and pain.**

Through him you wipe away our tears,
and fill us with your peace.

You give us happy times and things to celebrate.
In these we taste your kingdom,
a feast for all your children.
You made us all, each wonderfully different,
to join with the angels and sing your praise:

**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.**

We thank you, loving Father,
because, when we turned away,
you sent Jesus, your Son.
He gave his life for us on the cross
and shows us the way to live.

Send your Holy Spirit
that these gifts of bread and wine
may be for us Christ's body and his blood.

Why do we share this bread and wine? Listen, and we will hear.

On the night before he died,
when darkness had fallen,
Jesus took bread.
He gave thanks,
broke it,
and shared it with his disciples, saying:
'This is my body,
given for you.
Do this to remember me.'

After they had eaten,
he took the cup of wine,
gave thanks,
and shared it with his disciples, saying:
'This is my blood,
poured out for you and for many,
for the forgiveness of sins.'

So Father, with this bread and this cup
we celebrate his love, his death, his risen life.
As you feed us with these gifts,
send your Holy Spirit,
and change us more and more
to be like Jesus our Saviour.

How do we follow Jesus Christ? Listen and we will hear.

**Help us, Father, to love one another,
as we look forward to that day
when suffering is ended,
and all creation is gathered
in your loving arms.**

And now with all your saints
we give you glory,
through Jesus Christ,
in the strength of the Spirit,
today and for ever.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer



As Jesus taught us, so we pray

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as 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 for ever. Amen.**

The priest breaks the consecrated bread

We break the bread of life, and that life is the light of the world.
**God here among us, light in the midst of us, bring us to light
and life.**

God's holy gifts for God's holy people.
**Jesus Christ is holy,
Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the Glory of God the Father.**

The Holy Communion is distributed.

*Everyone is invited. All who receive Holy Communion in their own
churches are welcome. The stewards will guide you.*

*If you would prefer to partake in just one form - a wafer - please
indicate by saying "one" to the Priest. If you would like both bread
and wine please say "both" and the Priest will then dip your wafer in
the wine and place it in your hands. When receiving communion, it
is customary to say 'Amen' as you receive the elements.*

*If you do not wish to receive Communion, please come up to the
altar and bow your head for a prayer of blessing.*

After a time of Quiet, we say together:

**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.**

Any notices and announcements.

THE BLESSING

May Christ the Son of God, born of Mary,
fill you with his grace to trust his promises and obey his will;

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

CLOSING HYMN: Ten thousand reasons



<https://youtu.be/rDQn9cWC4Yc>

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord
In the name of Christ. Amen!

NOTICES for Sunday 30th January 2022

CHURCH AWAY DAY - Saturday 5 March

We have booked the Church of the Good Shepherd, Carshalton on Saturday 5th March, 10am – 4pm for our Church Away Day. Save the date.

SOME THANK YOUS...

Thank you so much for contributing to Martin & Emma's leaving present. People were very generous. And thank you to Mike & Sue for organising the Farewell Tea – everybody seemed to enjoy it.

Our dear friend Myrtle Bourne has written: "Thank-you to all our wonderful friends at All Saints for their love and friendship over the past eleven years. A very special thank you to all those who so kindly came to support us at Michael's Thanksgiving Service, which helped to make it a very memorable occasion. At the end of August, Jeremy came to give us communion, but little did we know that it was to be our last one together, which made 2021 a significant year for me."

Myrtle

CHRISTMAS PLATE COLLECTIONS

We collected £500 which we split equally between CRDC and Growbaby...

From Croydon Refugee Day Centre... "Thank you to Everyone at All Saints Sanderstead for your generous gift to Croydon Refugee Day Centre. It is much appreciated, as you can imagine we have been extremely busy just to provide the basics. We use donations to buy new underwear, footwear and other items not received as donations. Thank you."

Sandra from CRDC

From Growbaby... "It is with hearts overflowing with deep joy at your kindness and generosity that we say thank you thank you thank you. We so appreciate, not just the wonderful gift, but your love and support for our ministry to these vulnerable families. We so miss Sandra and her incredible input as she served our clients and helped us keep our stock in apple pie order. We are in need of lightweight buggies as these families are often in temporary accommodation or in tiny rooms and up long flights of stairs, making it really difficult to carry and store the big travel systems we are so kindly donated. These lightweight buggies go from birth to 3

years and fold easily and can be carried in one hand. We will certainly be able to purchase some with your kind donation. Please thank the people who gave so generously, and we pray that God will bless them richly. Once again, many thanks.”
God bless from Gill and the Growbaby team xx



“Count your blessings name them one by one
And it will surprise you what the Lord has done.”