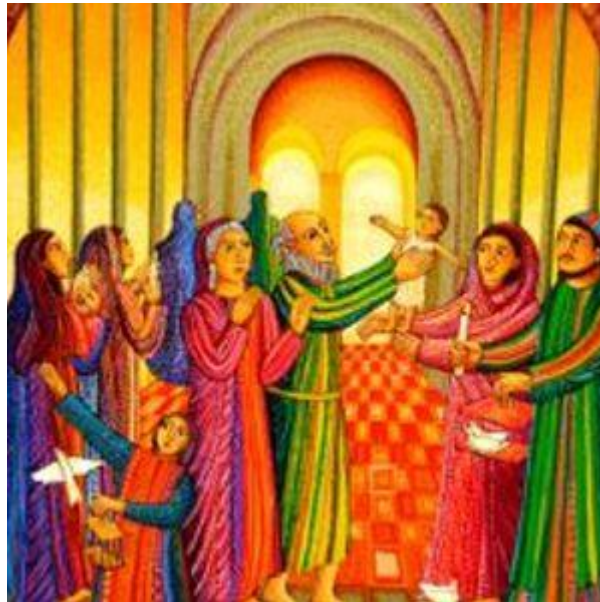


**Come and celebrate Candlemas with us at
our All Age Eucharist this coming Sunday,
2nd February at 10am!**



Candlemas is when we commemorate the presentation of the 40 day old Jesus at the Temple. It is when we meet Simeon and Anna and learn of their devotion to the Lord and their attentiveness to the voice of the Holy Spirit.

Our junior choir, Harmonic Minors, will also be singing in the service. There will be three solo pieces:

*Let us light a candle
Lord now lettest thou thy servant/Nunc Dimittis
Light of the world at the Communion*

This Year we will often be exploring the theme of 'Grace' that is also being followed in the

worship at St Mary's school. We will open our hearts and minds to the surprise of what God is calling us to receive and do.



For those of you with children attending St Mary's School, we will ask the children to share some of the things they have learnt at school about Grace, so please chat with your children before Sunday, it would be lovely to hear from as many of them – and you - as possible.

We look forward to seeing you all there!

Until then, we invite you to pray the words of Pádraig Ó Tuama's Morning Prayer with the Corrymeela Community* ...

We begin our day alone,
honouring this life, with all its potentials and possibilities.

We begin our day with trust,
knowing we are created for loving encounter.

We begin our day with hope,
knowing the day can hold
love, kindness,
forgiveness and justice.

We recall our day yesterday,
May we learn, may we love,
may we live on.

We make room for the unexpected,
May we find wisdom and life
in the unexpected.

Help us to embrace possibility,
respond graciously to disappointment
and hold tenderly those we encounter.
Help us to be fully present to the day.

Short silence

We pray for all whose day will be difficult,
May we support, may we listen,

may we change.

We resolve to live life in its fullness:
We will welcome the people who'll be part of this day.
We will greet God in ordinary and extraordinary moments.
We will live the life we are living.

Short silence

May we find the wisdom we need,
God be with us.

May we hear the needs of those we meet,
God be with us.

May we love the life we are given,
God be with us

Amen.

* Ó Tuama, Pádraig, 2019, *Daily Prayer with the Corrymeela Community*, Norwich, Canterbury Press