

Intercessions for Sunday February 1st 2026

Candlemas - The Presentation of Christ in the Temple

Heavenly Father, as we celebrate the feast of Candlemas today, we give thanks for your son Jesus who is the Light of the World and for your call to us to share in that light and to guide others to that Light. We pray that our Church may be a light to those who live in the darkness of unbelief and reveal to them His incredible eternal love. As we reflect on Mary and Joseph when they brought Jesus to the Temple and of Simeon and Anna as they recognised the Light of the Christ Child draw us into prayer for the church, for the world and for people's needs.

Lord in your mercy...**Hear our prayer**

As we reflect on Anna, we pray that the whole church might be as dedicated as she was, pure and holy; quick to recognise Christ in the world and proclaim Him in words of hope and deeds of love.

We pray for our churches here in Worthing, for our worship and witness outwards to our communities and to the wider world. We thank you, Lord, for all who lead us both lay and ordained within this parish and within the wider diocese.

Lord in your mercy...**Hear our prayer**

As we reflect on Simeon we pray for the world. Simeon prophesied that you, Christ, came to reveal truth, to challenge assumptions and set ways. We pray for the breaking down of barriers that divide us and for an end to violent conflicts causing untold suffering. Creator God, you gave us this world and made us stewards of it. We are a world family who we should care about, despite our differences of race, colour, creed or gender. All too often we only think of ourselves and so we ask you to forgive our selfishness, widen our vision and help us to be the caring people we ought to be. Dear Lord, guide the leaders of the nations into your truth. Simeon recognised you, Christ, as the light. Our troubled world can often not acknowledge you yet cries out for your light; be present to the world in compassionate love.

Lord in your mercy...**Hear our prayer**

Lord Jesus, you were presented in the temple, taking your place within human life and culture. We thank you for becoming in every respect like us. Having known suffering, you walk with us when the way is hard. We hold to you all whose way is hard for whatever reason at this time.

Lord in your mercy...**Hear our prayer**

Father God, we thank you for all who take risks and make sacrifices for others in their daily work, and especially for the men and women who work in our emergency services. Help us to respect and appreciate our fire-service, police and paramedics and bless them with the support of the communities that depend so heavily on them in times of crisis. Through Mary and Joseph, we pray for all humanity. They went to the temple to present their son to the Lord's service. We pray for parents, families, and all human relationships. We give thanks for Mary and for the costly love she gave, the sword that would pierce her heart. With love, we name in our hearts those families and relationships known to us who especially need our prayer at this time.

Lord in your mercy...**Hear our prayer**

When Simeon had seen the baby Jesus, he knew that the work of his life was done. Let us remember and name in our hearts those who have now passed from this life into your eternal presence. Help those who are saddened by such earthly loss, with the reassurance that one day we too will share the feast with them too

Lord in your mercy...**Hear our prayer**

Gracious God, we thank you for this time together in prayer and as we look forward to the week to come, help us to be an example to others and show us the steps we need to take to develop consistency and integrity in all that we do in our lives

Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen