

Candlemas Day



Christian Festival of Lights

February 2nd is Candlemas Day

This ancient festival marks the midpoint of winter, halfway between the shortest day of the year and the spring equinox in March.

Candlemas is a traditional Christian festival that commemorates the presentation of Jesus in the Temple, forty days after his birth. This day celebrates the increased strength of the life-giving sun as winter gives way to spring.

This was the day when all the candles that were used in the church during the coming year, were brought into church and a blessing was said over them. Candles were important back then not only because there were no electric lights, but some people thought they gave protection against illness and famine. For Christians, the candles are a reminder of something even more important. Before Jesus came to earth, it was as if everyone was 'in the dark'. People often felt lost and lonely. Afraid. As if they were on their own, with no one to help them. Then came Jesus with his message that he is with his followers always ready to help and comfort them. As if he is a guiding light to them in the darkness. Christians often talk of Jesus as the 'the light of the World' – and candles are lit during church services to remind Christians of this.

Please join us for our Candlemas Service with the blessing of candles on Wednesday, February 2nd at 7 pm. Organized by St. Cuthbert Archdeaconry, and live-streamed at Immanuel Parish. The service will begin streaming 10 – 15 minutes before 7:00 pm and can be found at either the Immanuel Facebook page or the Immanuel YouTube channel.

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