**Monday 3 February 2020.**

The Feast of the Presentation of Our Lord

Today the Church celebrates the feast of the Presentation of the Lord which occurs forty days after his birth. At the temple Christ is recognised as the Messiah by Simeon and Anna who were dedicated to prayer and fasting and so were able to recognise the Messiah.

On this day, the Church demonstrates its gratitude to all those in the community who dedicate themselves in a privileged way to prayer, to those who have a particular religious vocation to the contemplative life. Jesus’ presentation in the temple, also reminds us that time could not be better spent than in prayer and contemplation as those who pray and offer penance, like Simeon and Anna, are open to the breath of the Spirit. They know how to recognise the Lord .

Almighty ever-living God, we humbly implore your majesty that, just as your Only Begotten Son was presented on this day in the Temple in the substance of our flesh, so, by your grace, we may be presented to you with minds made pure. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen

**Hail Mary….**

**Tuesday 4 February 2020.**

The word “compassion” means to “suffer with” someone, with the sense of coming to the person’s aid. It is an emotion in us caused by some evil or dire condition seen in someone else. The Good Samaritan is a memorable example. Jesus himself suffered for our sins. We remember him in our actions and our thoughts.

Lord, open our eyes

That we may see you in our brothers and sisters. Lord, open our ears that we may hear the cries of the hungry, the cold, the frightened, the oppressed. Lord, open our hearts

that we may love each other as you love us. Renew in us your spirit. Lord, free us and make us one.

Amen

**Wednesday 5 February 2020.**

Reconciliation

We should remember the importance of the Sacrament of Reconciliation. We are encouraged to celebrate this Sacrament on a regular basis because it is through participation in this that we are able **to experience first-hand the mercy of God** as he is prepared to forgive our sins. We ask God to show us **HIs mercy** when we say; *An act of contrition, O my God because you are so good, I am very sorry that I have sinned against you and I will not sin again.*

And now we join together in saying the prayer through which we ask God to give us the strength to forgive others as we’ve just asked him to show us **His mercy and forgive us**.

**Our Father……**

**Thursday 6 February 2020.**

Today we pray for vocations to the priesthood.

Lord Jesus Christ,
you promised always to give your Church shepherds,
in faith we know that you will look after us.
Trusting in the power of the Holy Spirit at work in the Church,
we pray you raise up sacred ministers from your people,
that the sacrifice in which you give your body and blood
may be daily renewed in the world until we come to that kingdom
where you live with the Father and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

In our trust of God, we pray that God will look after us and we say together.

**Our Father...**