



2nd February 2025
Candlemass

Welcome

Welcome to Bolton Priory in the heart of the Yorkshire Dales. We are a Christian community, seeking to live well with God, gathered around Jesus Christ in prayer, witness and worship.

Who we are

Bolton Priory is an Anglican Church, in the Diocese of Leeds, where there has been continuous worship since 1154. When the Priory was dissolved in 1539, permission was granted for the parish to continue worshipping in the nave which is now the Priory Church. The Reformation is a daily backdrop to our lives and, fittingly, worship is centred around the Book of Common Prayer 1662 which, in the Spirit of Pentecost, is used and understood across the world-wide Anglican communion. Bolton Priory is committed, to reflecting the glory and majesty of God in its worship and proclaiming the Gospel, particularly by seeking social justice and stewardship of God's creation.

Services Today

8.00 am	Holy Communion
9.15 am	Liquid Worship
10.30 am	Sung Communion
Reader	Keith Nightingale
Hymns	487,360,94,516
Introit	Nunc Dimittis - Peregrinus
Anthem	Christ be our light - Farrell

Please Pray For: Anne Clarke, Colin Richards, John Ward, Margaret Pratt

Anniversary of death: Joanne Alton (2023) and Keith Feather (2024)

THE COLLECT

Almighty and everlasting God, we humbly beseech thy Majesty, that, as thy only begotten Son was this day presented in the temple in substance of our flesh, so may we be presented unto thee with pure and clean hearts, by the same the Son Jesus Christ our Lord

THE OLD TESTAMENT

Malachi 3:1-5 KJV

Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me: and the LORD, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the LORD of hosts. But who may abide the day of his coming? and who shall stand when he appeareth? for he is like a refiner's fire, and like fullers' soap: And he shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver: and he shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the LORD an offering in righteousness. Then shall the offering of Judah and Jerusalem be pleasant unto the LORD, as in the days of old, and as in former years. And I will come near to you to judgment; and I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, and against the adulterers, and against false swearers, and against those that oppress the hireling in his wages, the widow, and the fatherless, and that turn aside the stranger from his right, and fear not me, saith the LORD of hosts.

THE GOSPEL

Luke 2:22-40 KJV

And when the days of her purification according to the law of Moses were accomplished, they brought him to Jerusalem, to present him to the Lord; (As it is written in the law of the LORD, Every male that openeth the womb shall be called holy to the Lord;) And to offer a

sacrifice according to that which is said in the law of the Lord, A pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons. And, behold, there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon; and the same man was just and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel: and the Holy Ghost was upon him. And it was revealed unto him by the Holy Ghost, that he should not see death, before he had seen the Lord's Christ. And he came by the Spirit into the temple: and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him after the custom of the law, Then took he him up in his arms, and blessed God, and said, Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word: For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, Which thou hast prepared before the face of all people; A light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel. And Joseph and his mother marvelled at those things which were spoken of him. And Simeon blessed them, and said unto Mary his mother, Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising again of many in Israel; and for a sign which shall be spoken against; (Yea, a sword shall pierce through thy own soul also,) that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed. And there was one Anna, a prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Aser: she was of a great age, and had lived with an husband seven years from her virginity; And she was a widow of about fourscore and four years, which departed not from the temple, but served God with fastings and prayers night and day. And she coming in that instant gave thanks likewise unto the Lord, and spake of him to all them that looked for redemption in Jerusalem. And when they had performed all things according to the law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own city Nazareth. And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom: and the grace of God was upon him.

Rector's message

This Sunday we celebrate the Feast of Candlemas. It is called the Feast of Candlemas because there used to be a candlelit procession before the main service of Holy Communion. The reason for the candles is because on this feast day we remember Jesus being presented in the

Temple where he is described as the “Light to lighten the Gentiles”. In the midst of the all the darkness in the world at this time we need to keep the light of Christ alive and remind ourselves that the light of Christ can shine in all our lives. Above all however, we need to reflect this light to all men and women, whatever their faith and whatever their troubles.

Streaming of Services

Bolton Priory live stream various services for those who are unable to attend our worship. By attending services, you consent to being filmed for the purposes of live streaming only. This consent also extends to any minors under your care and control. If you wish to sit in a film free part of the Church, please ask a sidesman. Please be aware that these premises are also protected by CCTV.

Contactless Collection Plate

We have contactless collection plates at the Priory. This means that you can pay by card or donate cash in the usual fashion. If you wish to pay by card, the amount is set at £5 but this can be adjusted manually if you would like to pay more or less. Please note, that if you want to gift aid your donation you can only do this by using a yellow envelope which can be provided by the sidesmen.

February Eco Tip

Go green for Lent. The weeks leading up to Easter are a time for self-reflection, repentance and emulating Jesus’ obedience to the Father. Is there something you’d like to give up or take up during Lent that will enable you to reflect on God, contribute to our planet’s well-being and enhance others’ lives through sustainable, ecofriendly living? Explore some of these changes at arocha.org.uk/go-green-for-lent/

Lent retreat, Boarbank Hall (17th – 19th March)

There will be a Lent retreat at Boarbank Hall, Lancashire led by Sister Margaret Atkins OSA who was previously a senior lecturer in theology at Leeds Trinity University and a research fellow at Blackfriars, Oxford. It will be an Eco-retreat, run by the Canonesses of St Augustine, focussing on the ethics of the environment and asking how God might be speaking to us through creation? A full programme, with costs, is now available and if you are interested in attending, please contact the Rector.

Recycled Used Candles

We collect used candles for recycling, any residue wax will be used to make new candles. Please help us by bringing any spent candles from home and put them in the container in the vestry. The company we send the candles to no longer accept spent candles in glass containers.

Stamp Collection

We are collecting stamps for the RNIB (Institute for the Blind). There is a box out on the table in the tower to put used stamps in. When collecting your stamps please don't include the envelope please cut round the stamps.

Diary for the week ahead

Wednesday 5th February

10.00 am Holy Communion

4.00 pm Choir Practice

Saturday 8th February

9.00am Wedding meeting (Boyle Room)

Services Sunday 9th February

8.00 am Holy Communion

10.30 am Sung Eucharist

SCHISM AND SOLITUDE, PLAGUE AND POLITICS...

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by Holy Island's lowliest scribe

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faith, war and politics.
I enjoyed it enormously
and recommend it
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'Whyte brings an era
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