

St. Martin's Pilgrim

SARUM ST. MARTIN

FEBRUARY 2024



Calendar for February 2024

date	feast day	intention
01st	feria	Fathers
02nd	feria	Fire Fighters
03rd	Our Lady on Saturday	Mothers
04th	PRESENTATION OF THE LORD	
05th	feria	Hospital Doctors
06th	feria	Council Workers
07th	feria	See of Oswestry
08th	feria	Hospital Ancilliaries
09th	feria	T.S. Salisbury
10th	St. Scholastica, V	Religious Women
11th	6th SUNDAY OF THE YEAR	The Church
12th	feria	Parliament
13th	feria	Paramedics
14th	ASH WEDNESDAY	
15th	Lenten feria	Hospital Ancilliaries
16th	Lenten feria	Bishops of the CofE
17th	Lenten feria	The Lenten Fast
18th	LENT I	The Church
19th	Lenten feria	The Police
20th	Lenten feria	Faithfulness
21st	Lenten feria-Ember Day	See of Oswestry
22nd	Lenten feria	Salisbury Cathedral
23rd	St. Polycarp, B&Mr Ember Day	Persecuted Christians

date	feast day	intention
24th	Lenten feria-Ember Day	Lenten Disciple
25th	LENT 2	The Church
26th	Lenten feria	Bishop Stephen
27th	Lenten feria	Nurses
28th	Lenten feria	See of Oswestry
29th	Lenten feria	Fire Fighters
MARCH		
01st	St. David of Wales, Bp	People of Wales
02nd	Lenten feria	GP's



Keep this Calendar in your Bible or Prayer Book and pray the daily intention, which will be remembered at the altar

**‘The Angel of the Lord
brought tidings to Mary’
Luke: I: 26-38**

CANDLEMAS, THE PRESENTATION OF CHRIST IN THE TEMPLE



In bygone centuries, Christians said their last farewells to the Christmas season on Candlemas, 2nd February. This is exactly 40 days after Christmas Day itself.

In New Testament times 40 days old was an important age for a baby boy: it was when they made their first 'public appearance'. Mary, like all good Jewish mothers,

went to the Temple with Jesus, her first male child - to 'present Him to the Lord'. At the same time, she, as a new mother, was 'purified'. Thus, we have the Festival of the Presentation of Christ in the Temple.

So, where does the name Candlemas come in?

Jesus is described in the New Testament as the Light of the World, and early Christians developed the tradition of lighting many candles



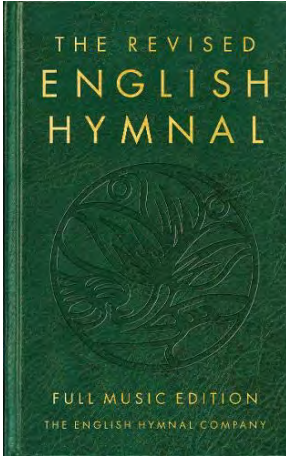
in celebration of this day, and processing with them around the churches.

The Church also fell into the custom of blessing the year's supply of candles for the church on this day - hence the name, Candlemas.

The story of how Candlemas began can be found in the Holy Gospel of St. Luke 2:22-40. Simeon's great declaration of faith and recognition of who Jesus was is of course found in the Nunc Dimittis, which is embedded in the Office of Evening Prayer in the West. But in medieval times, the Nunc Dimittis was mostly used just on this day, during the distribution of candles before the Eucharist. Only gradually did it win a place in the daily prayer life of the Church.



THE REVISED ENGLISH HYMNAL

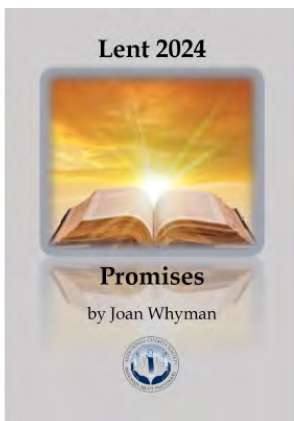


Very soon we will all be getting used to seeing this new deep green hymn book at St. Martin's and we will all be getting used to singing hymns from it as we have decided to take the opportunity of its publication to renew and replace our existing New English Hymnal books. So what is it and why?

The Revised English Hymnal is the latest edition of a series of hymn books that began in 1906 and have given life through music to the liturgy of the Church ever since. To get an understanding of the importance of this new hymnal Search the Revised English Hymnal - You Tube and follow the links to Fr. Martin Draper, the Chairman of the English Hymnal Company, speaking about the importance of hymnody in the formation of Christian Spirituality. In this short video Fr. Draper suggests that we should all have our own hymnal and use it in prayer and worship. If after watching the video you wish to buy your own, speak to Fr. David



During Lent this year we will be using the ACS Lent Course 'Promises' by Joan Whyman. Each day of Lent has a Scripture reading, a thought and a meditation. Please make sure that you take copy home for your use. Each copy is free, however, if you wish to make a donation please put it in the Donation Box.



WALSINGHAM
PILGRIMAGE 2024

A watery sun rises over the Shrine Church at Walsingham in the late summer of 2023 when St. Martin's was on Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham.



dates: Monday 2nd Sept
to Thursday 5th Sept.

cost: £244.50 - Full
Board

transport:
to be arranged



We will again be on Pilgrimage in the late summer of this year. Please make contact with Andrew Robson to secure your place.



MARY'S TITLES -
BIBLICAL
REFLECTIONS ON THE
TITLES OF MARY IN
THE LITANY OF
LORETO.



Written by Elizabeth Bryson, a Licensed Lay Minister in the Diocese of Canterbury, who is the daughter of June Doran for whom we pray in the Housebound list, this book encourages deep

reflection and active response exploring the Biblical meaning of the 50 title of Mary in the Litany of Loreto; discovering their symbolic meaning and relevance in our lives, so we may grow closer to God. Each chapter explores:

- ***What does the Bible tell us about this?***
- ***How can Mary be described as that title?***
- ***What does this mean for us?***

Elizabeth's journey of Biblical study, research, reading and reflection is now contained within this book, which is highly recommended.

ISBN:978-1-6642-6004-7

CELEBRATING THE NOW AND FUTURE CREATION

I find that watching buds swelling on trees and plants during the winter months gives me a tremendous sense of hope. After creation's winter shutdown, the sight of tiny flowers poking out of brown earth may be more important than ever.

Getting outdoors during daylight hours, enjoying green spaces and getting some fresh air and exercise are great ways to keep ourselves healthy at any time of year. A psychologist colleague wrote, *“Attending to the details of nature can also inspire awe, which has been linked to positive mood and increased life*

satisfaction.” I expect it is this sense of awe that makes it easier for many of us to connect with God outdoors.

Helping ourselves and others to thrive is a good start to 2024, but it is also vital to have hope for the future. In the face of climate change, we urgently need to care for all of Creation, both human and everything else, with God's help.

Our ultimate hope is in God's promise that He will bring about a new heaven and a new earth. We can look forward to the day when Creation will be fully redeemed and liberated from evil. The Greek word used to describe the new creation is the same as that used to describe someone who becomes a

HUNDREDS OF CHRISTIANS ARRESTED UNDER INDIA'S ANTI- CONVERSION LAWS

The recent anti-conversion laws in India have led to the arrests of hundreds of Christians, according to church sources.

UK-based Release International, which raises the voice of persecuted Christians worldwide, warns: "The persecution of Christians and other religious minorities in India increases dramatically with each passing month."

Twelve of India's 28 states have now passed anti-conversion laws, and momentum is building to

impose a national law across the whole of India. This would limit the freedom of religious minorities, including Christians, Muslims, Buddhists, and Sikhs, from sharing their faith.

Police are arresting Christians under a law that is intended to prevent conversion by force, but in practise prevents any Christians from sharing their faith – even though their right to do so is enshrined in the Indian constitution.

UCA news report that nearly 400 Christians have been arrested in the state of Uttar Pradesh since the law was passed three years ago. They say most of the 398 Christians arrested are Protestant pastors and church members.

Uttar Pradesh is India's most populous state. It has long been a hotbed of 'Hindutva' – 'Hindu-ness' – which is championed by extreme Hindu nationalists who claim that to be Indian is to be Hindu. Observers warn that Hindutva religious nationalism is on the rise across the country.

India is set to hold national elections in 2024, raising the possibility of further gains for the Hindu nationalist BJP.

“Given the prevailing trend, the persecution of Christians in India is likely to increase,” warns Release International CEO Paul Robinson.

Last year in Manipur, ethnic/religious rioters

killed about 175 people, burned down 300 churches, and drove some 60,000 people from their homes.

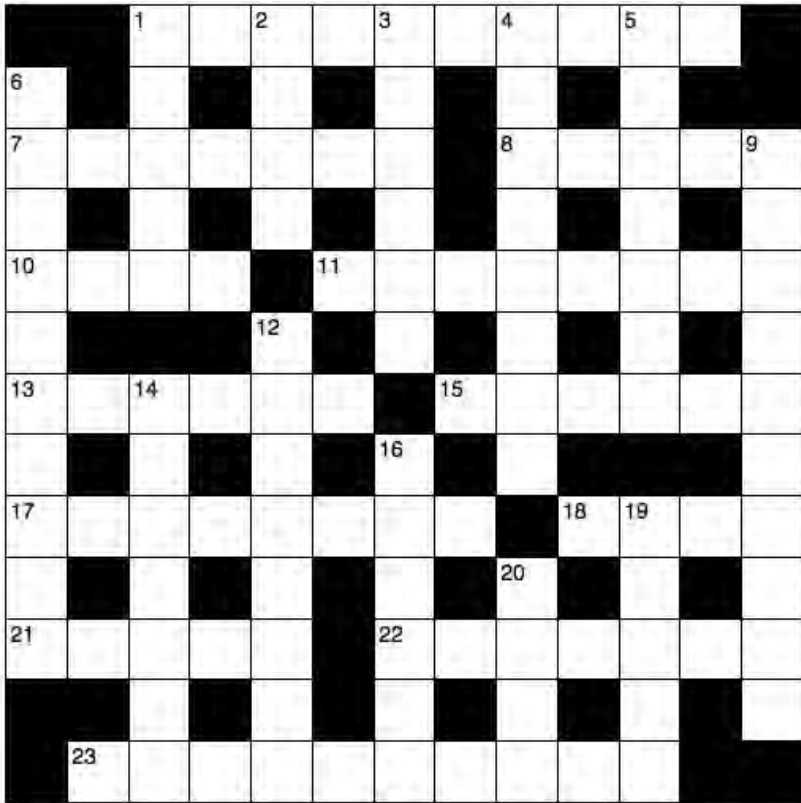
Release International has launched an appeal to help Christians in India. For more details go to: [https://
releaseinternational.org/
campaign/thumleima/](https://releaseinternational.org/campaign/thumleima/)



"Next Sunday I think I'll do a new take on the Parable of the Virgins and the Oil."

CROSSWORD

10 Look at (Psalm 48:13)



Across

- 1** Success or wealth (Deuteronomy 28:11) (10)
- 7** Forbidden fruit for Nazirites (Numbers 6:3) (7)
- 8** Concede (Job 27:5) (5)

- (4)
- 11** Much in evidence after weddings (8)
- 13** Condense (Job 36:27) (6)
- 15** Breakwater (6)
- 17** Give a tan (anag.) (8)

18 More usually now called Pentecost, — Sunday (4)

21 After living for 365 years, it was said of him that 'he walked with God' (Genesis 5:23–24) (5)

22 Trampled (Judges 9:27) (7)

23 For example, Miriam, Deborah (Exodus 15:20; Judges 4:4) (10)

Down

1 Arrogance (Proverbs 8:13) (5)

2 Roman poet from first century BC (4)

3 So rapt (anag.) (6)

4 Declare again (2 Corinthians 2:8) (8)

5 Paul's 'fellow worker', to whom he sent two epistles (Romans 16:21) (7)

6 God's foreseeing care and protection (Job 10:12) (10)

9 Traditional form of Roman Catholic Mass (10)

12 'The Lord... has given the — of Israel to David and his descendants for

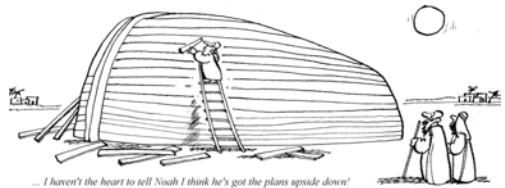
ever' (2 Chronicles 13:5) (8)

14 'My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my — ' (Luke 1:46–47) (7)

16 The central element in Nebuchadnezzar's dream, identified and interpreted by Daniel (Daniel 2:31) (6)

19 'On this rock I will build my church, and the gates of — will not overcome it' (Matthew 16:18) (5)

20 City where Paul was under house arrest for two years (Acts 28:16) (4)



THE WAR IN GAZA-
ISRAEL –
BISHOPS URGE
PEOPLE TO PRAY
AND ACT

“The first thing Christians can do in response to war is to pray for peace and for those affected.” That is the message of the Archbishops of Canterbury and York.

The Archbishops are praying for “those mourning, those injured, and all those fearing for their safety,” and for “restraint on all sides, and renewed efforts towards a just peace for all.”

The Archbishops and Bishops are also encouraging Christians throughout the UK to join them in prayer, and

to consider practical action, by supporting organisations “working to promote peace and human flourishing in the Middle East.”

The following is posted on the Church of England website:

Christian Aid is the official ecumenical arm of Churches in Britain and Ireland and has been working with the poorest and most vulnerable people in the Middle East since the early 1950s, when it provided humanitarian relief to Palestinian refugees.

The Church Mission Society is a historic Anglican mission society which supports mission partners across the region.

The Council of Christians and Jews is a leading interfaith charity which works to help Jews and Christians to meet, to understand each other better and to create meaningful engagement between the communities.

Embrace the Middle East is an ecumenical Christian charity working to help marginalised and vulnerable communities in the Middle East.

Friends of the Holy Land is a non-political Christian Charity whose mission it is to secure a

resilient and enduring Christian community in the West Bank, Gaza, Israel and Jordan - the part of the world that Christians call the Holy Land.

The Jerusalem Middle East Church Association has supported the life and work of the Anglican Church across Jerusalem, the Middle East and North Africa for more than 120 years and other many ways for individuals to get involved in supporting the Church in the Holy Land.

FRA ANGELICO, PATRON OF ARTISTS

If you enjoy drawing or painting, Fra Angelico is the patron saint for you. This devout Dominican priest of the Early Renaissance (1387-1455) used his superlative talent to the glory of God to such an extent that even six centuries later we are inspired and blessed by his art. For while you may not be familiar with his name, but you'll know his work: Fra Angelico's *The Annunciation* or *Adoration of the Magi* has adorned many classical Christmas cards. He is reckoned to be one of the greatest Italian painters of the 15th century.

Fra Angelico was born at Vicchio near Florence, and as a young friar

worked at illuminating manuscripts such as the *Dominican Diurnal*. Ordained priest at Fiesole in 1418, he continued painting, spending the 1430s decorating the interior of the friary of San Marco, Florence with his masterpieces. Work at the Vatican followed, especially his paintings of St. Stephen and St. Laurence in the chapel of the artistic pope Nicholas V.

Fra Angelico's work is sublime, revealing a marvellous command of colour, light and perspective. It radiates spiritual serenity, and a dedication to God that is matched by few others. He has been described by experts as having "a rare and perfect talent", and that "it is impossible

to bestow too much praise on this holy father, who was so humble and modest in all that he did and said, and whose pictures were painted with such facility and piety.”

From 1449 to 1452 Fra Angelico was prior of Fiesole. Then he moved to Rome, where three years later he died. He was beatified in 1960 and declared patron of artists in 1984. Pope John Paul II described his paintings as ‘miracles’.



St. Stephen Preaching and giving Alms

FINAL PAGE

ACROSS: 1, Prosperity. 7, Raisins. 8, Admit. 10, View. 11, Confetti. 13, Distil. 15, Groyne. 17, Navigate. 18, Whit. 21, Enoch. 22, Trodden. 23, Prophetess.

DOWN: 1, Pride. 2, Ovid. 3, Pastor. 4, Reaffirm. 5, Timothy. 6, Providence. 9, Tridentine. 12, Kingship. 14, Saviour. 16, Statue. 19, Hades. 20, Rome.

CELEBRATING THE NOW AND FUTURE CREATION CONT'D

Christian, whose humanity is restored and renewed. There will be continuity between the old and new earth as it is cleansed and purified, surpassing and perfecting what has gone before. There will also be some discontinuity, as there will be no more suffering or death.

So, one source of hope for 2024 is that we can enjoy both caring for and meeting God in Creation. But the parts of Creation that we find most beautiful, giving us a sense of awe and helping us to worship, are also a reminder that there is something much better to come.

By Ruth Bancewicz, Church Engagement Director, The Faraday Institute for Science and Religion, Cambridge

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01722 320033

[Times of Worship](#)

Morning and Evening Prayer 9:00am and 5:00pm

Sunday [The Parish Eucharist 10:30am](#)

[The Holy Mass](#)

Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday - 10:00am

Thursday - 12:30pm

Saturday - 9:30 am

[The Sacrament of Reconciliation](#)

Confession & Absolution

Wednesday after Evening Prayer or by arrangement

