



St Botolph's Church, Colchester

5th February 2021

Dear Friends,

Last Tuesday 2nd February, was the celebration of Christ's presentation at the Temple in Jerusalem, where Simeon pronounced those words that we know as the Nunc Dimittis or Song of Simeon, Luke 2 vv 29 – 32. This child is to be our guide and salvation.

This Sunday, the second before Lent, not only tells us that the year is advancing so fast, but also that the time is coming when we reflect on Christ's temptation and suffering. Whilst we are not able to meet at present, we will open the Church for worship as soon as we are advised that it is safe to do so. We can confirm that, if permitted, we plan to have Good Friday and Easter Day services.

During the next few weeks we will include short linked readings and bible passages from a booklet 'Tranquil Moments' by Naomi Corke published in 1975. Today's is linked to Psalm 36 verse 5.

"In the same way as the weather is not all sunshine and not all clouds, so in our lives we have cloud and sunshine. We all know what it is to have clouds across our life. Sometimes it is a cloud of doubt through which we cannot see the sunshine of God's love. It could well be a cloud of despair because of seeming hardness of the way. Our God is a God of faithfulness, and nothing can alter this fact. He is the faithful God and it is thus He has been known through every generation, but what a word to our hearts to know that His 'faithfulness reacheth into the clouds' – yes even all our clouds!"

Last week we thought that Anne and Jack were heading up to Yorkshire, but they will remain in Colchester for a few more days due to conveyancing delays.

Thanks to the hard work of Ann, the spring edition of 'St Botolph's News' is currently ready for print and will be sent as a PDF file to all who receive this weekly mailing. Those who receive this letter by post will receive their copy by post. A big thankyou to Ann for lifting our spirits.

Cannon Paul Norrington has invited us to log into the on-line worship at Christchurch. A range of options are available, please have a look at [Colchester Christ Church](#)

Castle Methodist Church online worship is at <https://www.youtube.com/Colchestermethodists>

Collect for the 2nd Sunday before Lent.

Almighty God, you have created the heavens and the earth and made us in your own image:
teach us to discern your hand in all your works and your likeness in all your children;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who with you and the Holy Spirit reigns supreme over all things,
now and for ever.

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