

**Thought for the Day – Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2021**  
**The Presentation of Christ in the Temple Candlemas**  
**– Revd John Marshall**

I like the Nunc Dimittis I chime into the familiar words

Now let thy servant go in peace

For my eyes have seen your salvation

Which you have prepared in the sight of all people

A light for the revelation to the Gentiles

And for glory to your people Israel

Luke 2: 21 – 40

Joseph and Mary brought Jesus when he was 40 days old back to the Temple and they meet Simeon and Anna the elders, the prophets, the Wise Men and kind.

Simeon takes the child and praises and blesses the parents – and speaks to Mary of sadness “And a sword will pierce your own soul too!

Anna gives thanks to God and talks about the child to all who were looking forward to the redemption of Jerusalem.

The church has celebrated this Feast on 2<sup>nd</sup> February and because of the reminder of Christ as a light – it becomes a time for the blessing of candles and lights – Candlemas

We are so often reminded that Jesus is the Light of the World.

Let us give thanks for

The wisdom of the Elders

And the joy of babies

And may we be like Anna

Speak of what we know of Jesus

An extract from Mark Frank’s sermon 1612 – 64 on Candlemas

“Take then and take him; the candle of faith will there show you him and the candle of charity will light him down into your arms that you may embrace him. We embrace thee. We love, we take into our arms whom we love; so that love Jesus and embrace Jesus –

love Jesus and take Jesus – love Jesus and take him into our hands, and into our arms,  
and into our mouths, and into our hearts”

Quoted in All the Company of Heaven

Kenneth Stevenson