

FIRST READING

Corinthians 13: 1-13

Reader: This is the word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

THE GOSPEL READING

Luke 2: 22-40

All: Glory to Christ our Saviour

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, 'Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord'), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, 'a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons.'

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon;* this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah.* Guided by the Spirit, Simeon* came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon* took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

'Master, now you are dismissing your servant* in peace,
according to your word;
for my eyes have seen your salvation,
which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,
a light for revelation to the Gentiles
and for glory to your people Israel.'

And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon* blessed them and said to his mother Mary, 'This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.'

There was also a prophet, Anna* the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband for seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child* to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him.

Reader: This is the Gospel of Christ

All: Praise to Christ our Lord

INTERCESSION

Please continue to pray for all who are sick and in our hearts especially:

Jackie Morley, Logan Matthews, Sheila Gilbert, Louise Osborne, Mark West, Peggy O'Neill, Dawn Tavener, Shirley Foster, Sue Vaness, Iris White, Chris McGrath, Gregory Thomas, Valerie Pratt, Cathy Cox, Alan Gaywood, Betty Hunt, Peggy James

Please pray for these church members at home: Gwen Wells, Joyce Dyson, Joan Jackson, Joan Hopkins, Chloe Attwell, Betty Horniblew, Eileen Pidgeon

We remember before God those who have died:

Terence Haestier, June Clark, Mollie Walker, Valerie Langouroux-Fay, Doris Whinnett Mildred Toole, Erica Swallow, Mary Johnson, Tony Foster, Gwen Lewis, Gwen Harris, Eileen Abrahams, Mabel Darbin

THE WEEK AHEAD

Sunday	31 st January	8.00am	BCP Communion
Epiphany 4		9.30am	Parish Communion
		11.15am	Parish Centre Service
		6.30pm	Youth Club Scrap Heap Challenge
Tuesday	2 nd February	10.15am	Buggy Group
Wednesday	3 rd February	10.15am 11.30am	Parish Centre Communion Talking Elephants
Thursday	4 th February	10.00am	Coffee morning –Parish Centre
Saturday	6 th February	7.00pm	Pancake Party
Sunday	7 th February	9.30am	Parish Communion
Next before		11.15am	Family service in church
Easter		6.30pm	Youth Club Karaoke

NOTICES

Church Coffee during January, February and March 2016 will support the local Happy days out Childrens charity providing respite breaks, residential trips, days out, and theatre trips for some of the most vulnerable children

Future dates for your diary -

6th February 2016 – 7.00pm Pancake Party – Parish Centre Adults £7
Children £3.50 under 3 free. Tickets from Committee members.

Lent Courses begin week commencing the 15th February – see the leaflet.

Vicar – Steve Wood 01525 876197 Mob 07704922984 (Day off Monday)

Website – www.stmargaret-streatley.org.uk

See us on St Margaret's Church Facebook



Welcome to St Margaret's Church, Streatley

Epiphany 4

31st January

Leader Steve Wood

Preacher Paul Ingram

We extend a very warm welcome to all visitors and those new to the Church. Please make yourselves known to the vicar Steve Wood, reader Teresa Dales or our Churchwardens John Weedon and John Farrent. After the service we serve coffee and we invite you to join us. We welcome all ages and for the very young there is also a children's area.



There is a loop system and large print hymn books are available from the sidesmen.

You are all invited to come to the altar at the time of the Communion. Members of other churches who would receive at their own church are welcome to take the bread and wine with us. If you do not receive communion, please come up to receive a blessing keeping your hands down. If you would like communion brought to you please tell one of the sidesmen.

Hymns Old & New 170 – 184 – 118 – 448 – 500

Organ Voluntary

Before - 'Winter' from the Four Season's – Vivaldi

After – Rondo (From the Horn Concerto) - Mozart

COLLECT

**God our creator,
who in the beginning
commanded the light to shine out of darkness;
we pray that the light of the glorious gospel of Christ
may dispel the darkness of ignorance and unbelief,
shine into the hearts of all your people,
and reveal the knowledge of your glory
in the face of Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen**