

# The Parish of Saint John the Divine

301 Main St. E, North Bay, ON, P1B 1B3

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## Solemn Evensong for Candlemas

Thursday, February 2, 2012 ✕ 7:00 p.m.

### *The Presentation of Christ in the Temple*

This Holy-day is commonly called 'The Purification of Saint Mary the Virgin' (Book of Common Prayer, p. 266). According to the Law of the Jews, every first-born son was called 'holy to the Lord,' and as such was solemnly dedicated to God in the Temple in Jerusalem. The ceremony also included the 'purification' of the mother of the child, and required an offering, which varied according to the means of the offerer. This feast is also known as 'Candlemas' because of Simeon's naming of Jesus 'a light to lighten the Gentiles,' and its keeping is often accompanied by the blessing and distribution of candles.

- *Common Prayer*, vol. 2. Charlottetown: St. Peter Publications, 1986

### *We welcome you tonight*

As we continue with our community-university partnership with the Near North Voices Chamber Choir and Nipissing University, St. John's Church welcomes you to this service of Solemn Evensong. A reception in the Parish Hall will follow the service this evening—all are welcome to attend.

A freewill offering will be collected during the "Offering Hymn." Half of tonight's non-designated offerings will be given to the Near North Voices Chamber Choir, and the other half will be given to St. John's Church to assist with our operating costs. Your kind generosity is received with gratitude.

### *Saturday: The Ottawa Celtic Choir*

St. John's Church and Near North Voices are pleased to welcome the Ottawa Celtic Choir for a shared concert with the newly formed Near North Voices Chamber Choir **this Saturday, February 4 at 7:30 p.m. at St. John's Church, 301 Main Street East.** Admission is free. A freewill offering will be accepted following the performance.

Formed in 2008 by conductor Ellen Maclsaac, the Ottawa Celtic Choir is a not-for-profit, non-auditioned community chamber choir whose focus is the music of the Celtic nations and the Celtic diaspora. Its goal is to provide an opportunity for members of the community to learn and sing Celtic music, and to encourage singing in general.

## SOLEMN EVENSONG

*The Book of Common Prayer*

*Officiant:* The Rev. Fr. A. E. Nussey, Parish Priest & Rector

*Guest Choir Director:* Dr. Adam Adler

*Organist:* Margaret Butler

*Choir:* Near North Voices Chamber Choir

*Responses:* Ferial

*Psalms:* Anglican Chant (Ps. 84, E. Edwards; Ps. 85, F. A. G. Ouseley)

*Canticles:* Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in Bb Major  
by Sir Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924)

*Anthem:* "Behold, the Tabernacle of God" by Healey Willan (1880-1968)

### *Entrance Rite*

- Kneel Blessing of the candles
- Stand Distribution of candles during *Nunc Dimittis*
- Stand **Processional Hymn: "Praise to the Holiest in the height"**

### *Evensong*

Stand	<i>Preces, etc.</i> .....	page	20
Sit	Psalms 84 & 85.....		437
Sit	First Lesson: Haggai 2. 1-9		
Stand	<i>Magnificat</i> .....	page	21
Sit	Second Lesson: St. Luke 2. 22-40		
Stand	<i>Nunc Dimittis</i> .....	page	22
Stand	Apostles' Creed, etc. ....		22
Kneel	Collect of the Day.....		266
Kneel	Collects for Peace and for Aid against all Perils.....		23
Sit	<b>Anthem: "Behold, the Tabernacle of God"</b>		
Sit	Sermon		
Stand	<b>Offering Hymn: "Of the Father's Love Begotten"</b>		
Kneel	Occasional Prayers		
Kneel	Prayer of Saint Chrysostom & The Grace.....	page	24
Stand	<b>Recessional Hymn: "O Sion, Open Wide thy Gates"</b>		

***A reception follows in the Parish Hall — all are welcome!***

## Processional Hymn

Praise to the Holiest in the height,  
And in the depth be praise;  
In all his words most wonderful,  
Most sure in all his ways.

O loving wisdom of our God!  
When all was sin and shame,  
A second Adam to the fight  
And to the rescue came.

O wisest love! that flesh and blood,  
Which did in Adam fail,  
Should strive afresh against the foe,  
Should strive and should prevail;

And that a higher gift than grace  
Should flesh and blood refine,  
God's presence and his very Self,  
And essence all-divine.

O generous love! that he who smote  
In Man for man the foe,  
The double agony in Man  
For man should undergo,

And in the garden secretly,  
And on the Cross on high,  
Should teach his brethren, and inspire  
To suffer and to die.

Praise to the Holiest in the height,  
And in the depth be praise;  
In all his words most wonderful,  
Most sure in all his ways! ✕

## Choir Anthem: "Behold, the Tabernacle of God"

Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and the Spirit of God dwelleth within you; for the temple of God is holy, which temple are ye; for the love of whom ye do this day celebrate the joys of the temple with a season of festivity. O how dreadful is this place. This is the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.

## Offering Hymn

Of the Father's love begotten  
Ere the worlds began to be,  
He is Alpha and Omega,  
He the Source, the Ending he,  
Of the things that are, that have been,  
And that future years shall see,  
Evermore and evermore.

At his word the worlds were framèd;  
He commanded; it was done:  
Heaven and earth and depths of ocean  
In their threefold order one;  
All that grows beneath the shining  
Of the moon and burning sun,  
Evermore and evermore.

O that birth for ever blessèd!  
When the Virgin, full of grace,  
By the Holy Ghost conceiving,  
Bare the Saviour of our race;  
And the Babe, the world's Redeemer,  
First revealed his sacred face,  
Evermore and evermore!



This is he whom seers in old time  
Chanted of with one accord;  
Whom the voices of the prophets  
Promised in their faithful word;  
Now he shines, the long-expected,  
Let creation praise its Lord,  
Evermore and evermore.

O ye heights of heaven, adore him;  
Angel-hosts, his praises sing;  
All dominions, bow before him,  
And extol our God and King;  
Let no tongue on earth be silent,  
Every voice in concert ring,  
Evermore and evermore.

Thee let old men, thee let young men,  
Thee let boys in chorus sing;  
Matrons, virgins, little maidens,  
With glad voices answering:  
Let their guileless songs re-echo,  
And the heart its music bring,  
Evermore and evermore!

Christ, to thee, with God the Father,  
And, O Holy Ghost, to thee,  
Hymn, and chant, and high thanksgiving,  
And unwearied praises be;  
Honour, glory, and dominion,  
And eternal victory,  
Evermore and evermore. ✕

## Closing Hymn

O Sion, open wide thy gates,  
Old types now disappear;  
A Priest and Victim, both in one,  
The Truth himself, is here.

No more the simple flock shall bleed;  
Behold, the Father's Son  
Himself to his own altar comes  
For sinners to atone.

Conscious of hidden Deity,  
The lowly Virgin brings  
Her new-born Babe, with two young doves,  
Her tender offerings.

The aged Simeon sees at last  
His Lord so long desired,  
And Anna welcomes Israel's Hope,  
With holy rapture fired.

But silent knelt the Mother blest  
Of the yet silent Word,  
And, pondering all things in her heart,  
With speechless praise adored.

All glory to the Father be,  
All glory to the Son,  
All glory, Holy Ghost, to thee,  
While endless ages run. ✕