

Thought for the Week
2nd February 2020
Feast of the Presentation of Our Lord

As the 2nd of February falls on a Sunday this year, we are treated to a celebration which is something of a Trinity all to itself. In the current calendar of the Church, today is celebrated as the “Feast of the Presentation of the Lord” although some may remember it as the “Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary” many of us will simply refer to it as Candlemas.

This mid-winter day, so richly blessed with Christian honour, also seems to have attracted an unusual tradition. Should any of you have failed to take down all of your Christmas decorations by Twelfth Night; now is your second chance to pack them away.

Looking beyond these distractions, we can see in the Gospel the devout Holy Family follow in the traditions of their faith to present Jesus for the first time in his Father’s house. At the same time Mary is welcomed back into the family of the faithful following her traditional confinement after childbirth.

This seems to me to be a good time to reflect on others who may be just starting a new phase in their life of faith, including our Confirmation candidates who are to be enrolled at the 10.30am Mass today: we may also like to consider those who are returning to the Church after some absence. Should you know anyone who finds themselves in this position I am sure that they would be grateful for your prayers.

A parishioner