

Candlemas 2013

Happy Candlemas, Happy Groundhog Day, Happy Presentation, Happy Purification.

Malachi
refiner's fire
rigid to plastic
proud to penitent

Seek the Lord

Candlemas represents the end of the Christmastide celebrations. It is the end of a season of revelations. Revelations to Mary, to Joseph, to Elizabeth and Zechariah; to shepherds and Kings, to baptismal candidates on the banks of the Jordan, to wedding guests and now to two elderly people in the Temple.

Elderly: wait, expect, be patient

How to recognise?

No great drama, the little things, personal, intimate. Sometimes it is not until we look back that, like the wedding guests at Cana, we realise that He was present. God does not frighten us, though we often frighten ourselves.

Don't worry if the candle flame flickers.

Have no expectations. Would Anna and Simeon have expected a baby to be the Divine manifestation?

It's like a homecoming

Unless you become as a little child, you will not inherit eternal life

The Snow Queen

childlike trust

childlike unquestioning love, Gerda seeking Kay

Seduced by comfort, shown the way by the unexpected: the wild people, by wild animals.

This is about what goes on in us, in our dreams.

Melt this heart of ice

Then we shall come home to eternity

It is enough

Like Simeon nothing else matters.

We sang: you shall not live by bread alone

Nothing else satisfies for long.

All the idols are falling, but

Simeon: we need nothing else

Light

The divine light. John 1

See the child's face light up.

Let your light so shine ... so that you can light the way for others,

Take the light of Christ into the local community