

# St. Mun's Monthly

*For our young parishioners*

Notice that the priest's vestments are once again green!

green ← Colour the letters please

The **Feast of the Presentation of the Lord** is celebrated on February 2nd. Mary and Joseph present the baby Jesus, in the Temple, as the Law required. This day is sometimes called **Candlemas Day**, when candles are blessed in the Church.

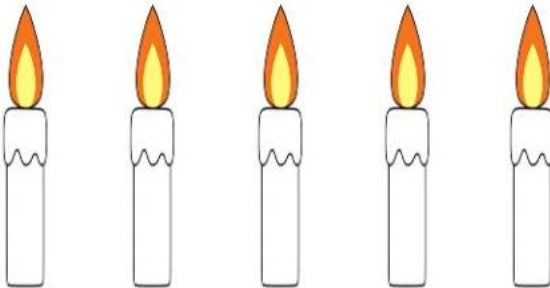
Q. What do candles do?

A. They light up the darkness

Jesus lights up our darkness when we are sad, lonely or afraid. There is a hymn which says:

*'Lord, the light of Your love is shining  
in the midst of darkness shining;  
Jesus, Light of the World shine upon us,  
set us free by the Truth You now bring us,  
shine on me, shine on me.'*

## Let your light shine!



Colour these bright candles and write your name under the first one and then the names of all the people in your family under the others.

# Saint Polycarp

## February 23

SAINT POLYCARP LEARNED ABOUT JESUS FROM SAINT JOHN THE APOSTLE. HE BECAME THE BISHOP OF SMYRNA, IN WHAT IS NOW TURKEY.



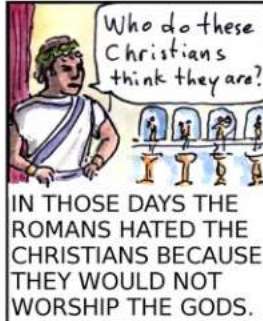
POLYCARP FOUGHT AGAINST BAD TEACHINGS THAT CONFUSED PEOPLE ABOUT GOD, BUT WAS KIND TO EVERYONE.



POLYCARP CELEBRATED EASTER ON A DIFFERENT DAY THAN THE POPE, BUT THEY DID NOT ARGUE ABOUT IT.



The celebration is more important than the day.



WHEN THEY CAME FOR POLYCARP HE HID ON A FARM, BUT WAS FOUND.



AT FIRST THEY FELT SORRY FOR HIM BECAUSE HE WAS SO OLD. THEY TRIED TO CONVINCE HIM TO GIVE UP THE FAITH.



HE WOULDN'T GIVE UP THE FAITH, SO THEY TRIED TO BURN HIM, BUT THE FIRE ONLY WENT AROUND HIM AND DIDN'T HURT HIM! FINALLY THEY STABBED HIM.

SAINT POLYCARP HELD ONTO HIS FAITH EVEN WHEN HE WAS VERY OLD. HE WOULDN'T DENY HIS LOVE OF JESUS EVEN WHEN FACED WITH PAIN. WE SHOULD ALSO LOVE JESUS WHATEVER PROBLEMS WE MAY FIND EACH DAY IN OUR LIVES.

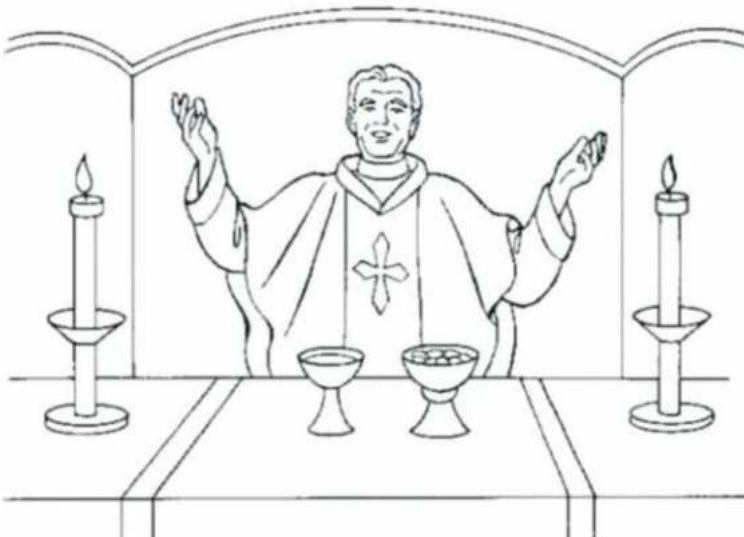
See how many words you can make from the letters in SAINT POLYCARP

# God Gave us Hands!

Our hands are very useful and do a lot for us. Can you write down 10 things you use your hands for? To start you off;

1. To make the Sign of the Cross
2. ....
3. ....
4. ....
5. ....
6. ....
7. ....
8. ....
9. ....
10. ....

Have you noticed how the priest at Mass uses his hands?



Please colour this picture with the priest in green vestments.

From now on, every time during Mass watch closely to see how many different ways the priest uses his hands. What do we do with our hands? Why do you think the priest washes his hands before the Consecration?

# Ash Wednesday

Wednesday 14th February is **Ash Wednesday** and is the first day of **Lent**.



Lent is a special time in which we prepare to celebrate Jesus's death and resurrection on *Good Friday* and *Easter Sunday*. Lent lasts for 40 days and the priest will wear purple vestments.

Lent is a time when Christians try to draw closer to Jesus by making a special effort to be more like Him. It is a good time to think about the way we behave, the decisions we make and the way we treat others.

During Lent we think about the temptation, the suffering and the sacrifice of Jesus. It is a time to prepare ourselves for Easter.

On *Ash Wednesday* when you go to *Mass* you can receive ashes on your forehead. The ashes remind us that without God we are nothing and that someday we will die and be buried. But they can also remind us that if we have God living in us, after we die we will rise from the dead, just as Jesus did at Easter, after He died on the cross.

