

Prayer Gathering for the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord

SIGN OF THE CROSS +

OPENING PRAYER

**Keeper of Every Promise,
you have pledged to be with us always
and to reveal yourself on any day, without warning.
Keep our eyes open for your arrival
and keep us faithful as we await you.
We ask this in the power of the Holy Spirit, through Christ, our Lord. AMEN.**

READING

MOMENT FOR SILENCE

GOSPEL PASSAGE

SHARING QUESTIONS

*“And suddenly there will come to the temple the LORD whom you seek,
And the messenger of the covenant whom you desire.”*
**We encounter God in the Eucharist each week. How would meeting God face-to-face
be different than that? How would it be similar?**

“But who will endure the day of his coming? And who can stand when he appears?”
**What makes you excited when you think about one day standing in God’s presence?
What scares you?**

POSTED RECENTLY



DISCUSSION

*“Now, Master, you may let your servant go in peace, according to your word,
for my eyes have seen your salvation.”*
**What would it take for you to be able to say that your life was fully complete?
How would you know that you had nothing essential left to do?**

LITANY

When frustration is overwhelming me... **May I be on the lookout for the presence of God.**

When resentment is swallowing me... **May I be on the lookout for the presence of God.**

When impatience is overtaking me... **May I be on the lookout for the presence of God.**

When jealousy is sickening me... **May I be on the lookout for the presence of God.**

When greed is robbing me... **May I be on the lookout for the presence of God.**

When fear is paralyzing me ... **May I be on the lookout for the presence of God.**

When my appetites are ruling me... **May I be on the lookout for the presence of God.**

When my loneliness is breaking my heart... **May I be on the lookout for the presence of God.**

In every moment in all of my days... **May I be on the lookout for the presence of God.**

OUR FATHER

[OPTIONAL] PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION (St. Alphonsus Ligouri)

**My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament.
I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace You as if You were already here, and unite myself wholly to You.
Never permit me to be separated from You. AMEN.**

CLOSING PRAYER

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. AMEN.**

SIGN OF THE CROSS +

READING 1

A reading from the book of the prophet Malachi

Thus says the Lord GOD:

*Lo, I am sending my messenger
to prepare the way before me;*

*And suddenly there will come to the temple
the LORD whom you seek,
And the messenger of the covenant whom you desire.*

Yes, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts.

*But who will endure the day of his coming?
And who can stand when he appears?*

*For he is like the refiner's fire,
or like the fuller's lye.*

*He will sit refining and purifying silver,
and he will purify the sons of Levi,*

*Refining them like gold or like silver
that they may offer due sacrifice to the LORD.*

*Then the sacrifice of Judah and Jerusalem
will please the LORD,
as in the days of old, as in years gone by.*

The word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

READING 2

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke

When the days were completed for their purification
according to the law of Moses,
Mary and Joseph took Jesus up to Jerusalem
to present him to the Lord,
just as it is written in the law of the Lord,

Every male that opens the womb shall be consecrated to the Lord,
and to offer the sacrifice of
a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons,
in accordance with the dictate in the law of the Lord.

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon.
This man was righteous and devout,
awaiting the consolation of Israel,
and the Holy Spirit was upon him.

It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit
that he should not see death
before he had seen the Christ of the Lord.

He came in the Spirit into the temple;
and when the parents brought in the child Jesus
to perform the custom of the law in regard to him,
he took him into his arms and blessed God, saying:

*“Now, Master, you may let your servant go
in peace, according to your word,
for my eyes have seen your salvation,
which you prepared in the sight of all the peoples:
a light for revelation to the Gentiles,
and glory for your people Israel.”*

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to You, Lord, Jesus Christ

Luke, chapter 2