

Lectio Divina

- **Read and re-read**, out loud and slowly the Gospel
 - **Meditate** on reading as being spoken to you, an experience in your life
 - **Pray** - Thanksgiving – Repentance – Petition
 - **Action** – Attitude (Call to change / to act / to do)
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February 2nd 2014. Sunday The Presentation of The Lord – Year A – Luke 2 : 22 - 40

In this week's gospel we celebrate the Presentation of The Lord in the temple also known as Candlemas Day. We celebrate Christ as in the words of Simeon "a light to the nations". Simeon recognises Jesus as the Messiah because he was open to the prompting of the Holy Spirit. He also speaks to Mary of the future suffering her son would endure. We are reminded that Christ is with us by our Easter candle because it is marked with the sign of the cross by 5 nails which symbolise the five wounds of Christ. The candle has a flame, a light. This light represents the light of Christ risen from the dead. That light has burned for over 2000 years to let us know that darkness and sadness do not have the last word. How do we as Baptised people keep the 'flame of faith alive in our hearts' which are the words said when we received our Baptismal candle?

Prayer:

Thank you Lord for the gift of the Holy Spirit and for the people who let themselves be guided and give witness to the great messages of Jesus just as Simeon gave witness in the temple, as he set his eyes on Jesus and foretold the death of Jesus and the sadness His mother would feel.

Forgive us for the times that we did not appreciate the wonderful gift of faith we received by our Baptism and let the light represented by our Baptismal candle go out.

Help us to realise that even though at times in our lives we feel our heart is pierced with a sword just like Mary. Jesus is there for us to bring us new light out of our darkness through his death and resurrection.

