

Feast of the Holy Family

December 27, 2020

These scriptures were also used on the Feast of the Presentation, i.e., Presenting the First-born child to the Jewish Temple. This Hebrew ritual symbolized the dedication of this child to the hope of the old Testament, the hope for a Messiah.

So, we hear **Simeon**, the holy man, alerted by the Spirit to recognize this child as the Holy One of God:

“Now, Master, you may let your servant go in peace...for my eyes have seen your salvation”.

The Woman, **Anna, a prophetess**, she too recognized this holy child as the source of our Redemption.

Imagine the thoughts and feelings of Mary and Joseph in hearing these words. “and you yourself a sword will pierce...”. It is with these words and that Mary and Joseph took their child Jesus and began the responsibility of creating a family.

It causes me to wonder what it may have been like for you as first-time parents, bringing your child home to begin a family.

Pauls’ word to the Colossians bring to a new, fledgling community the task of teaching and encouraging them to become a family, a faith family based on the experience of Paul and his disciples, recognizing the Risen Christ, the Son of God.

Now, this is your work, our work, together we continue to create a faith-family here at Christ on the Mountain. These days of the Corona Virus challenge us to stay faithful to this task.

Whether you came to Christmas Masses here at the church or you may have watched the streaming, the mission remains:

We together care for this “family”. We too are to bear with one another, forgive one another... and commit to putting on Christ.

As Paul preached: “May the Peace of Christ control our hearts, that peace into which we are also called into one body, the Body of Christ”. May we forever be THANKFUL.