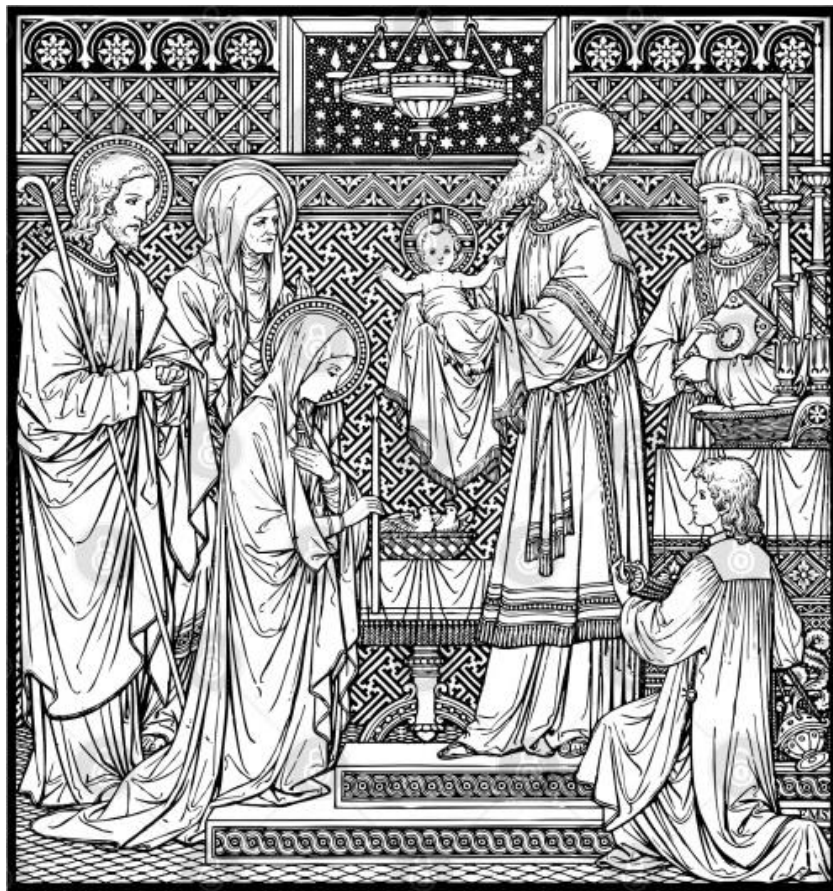


The Presentation of Our Lord



February 2, 2025

St. Stanislaus Cathedral

The First Parish of the Polish National Catholic Church

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February 2, 2025 ~ Solemnity of the Presentation of Our Lord

PRELUDE *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming*

Brahms

Prayer Before Holy Mass (please rise)

My dear God and loving Father, as I participate in this Holy Mass, may Jesus fill me with His holy grace when I open my heart to Him in sincere prayer. May the sacraments I will receive, the prayers that I will say and the hymns that I will sing bring me closer to Jesus and help me to be more like Him in all that I say and do. May the Holy Communion that I will receive give me strength, so that I may share faith, hope and love with the people I will meet. Amen.

BLESSING OF CANDLES

C: The Lord will come with mighty power, and give light to the eyes of all who serve Him. Alleluia!

C: My dear brothers and sisters: Forty days ago we celebrated the joyful solemnity of the birth of the Lord, Jesus Christ. Today we recall the holy day on which He was presented in the Temple, fulfilling the Law of Moses and at the same time going to meet His faithful people. Led by the Spirit, Simeon and Anna came to the Temple, recognized Christ as their Lord and proclaimed Him with joy. United by the same Spirit, we have come to the house of God to welcome Christ the Lord. Here we shall recognize Him in the Breaking of the Bread until He comes again in glory.

C: Almighty Father, eternal God, and the creator of all things, You fulfilled the prayer of Your servant, Simeon. We ask You, through the Blessed Virgin Mary and all the saints to

bless + and sanctify + this light and to hear our prayers as You heard those of Simeon. May these candles be for us a symbol of Jesus Christ, the true Light of the world. May their flame enkindle in us a burning love for You as well as a sincere desire to be united with You. We ask this through the same Jesus Christ, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. **R. Amen.**

C: Lord, Jesus Christ, You are the light which lights each of us. In flame our hearts with the unseen fire of the Holy Spirit and so purify us with that flame that we may be able to comprehend the message of Your word. Guide us to follow it so we may gain the eternal light of heaven. For You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. **R. Amen.**

C: Lord, Jesus, when You were presented by Your parents at the Temple, Your holy servant, Simeon, filled with the light of Your Spirit, recognized You as His Savior. Following His example, may we always recognize You as our Light and the source of our lives, following You toward salvation and eternal happiness. For You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. **R. Amen.**

OPENING HYMN *Lo! How a Rose E'er Blooming*

Lo! How a rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung,
Of Jesse's lineage coming, as men of old have sung.
It came a flow'ret bright,
Amid the cold of winter, when half-spent was the night.

Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the Rose I have in mind.
With Mary we behold it, the Virgin Mother kind.
To show God's love aright,
She bore to us a Savior, when half-spent was the night.

CONFITEOR - *Traditional Mass* Page 16 ~ *Contemporary Mass* Page 66

INTROIT

Luke 1:46-48; Psalm 29:11

C: My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; my spirit rejoices in God my Savior. **R: For He has looked upon His handmaid's lowliness; behold, from now on will all ages call me blessed. May the Lord give might to His people; may the Lord bless His people with peace.** C: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. **R: As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

KYRIE

O'Connor

GLORIA

Elfman

OPENING PRAYER

Almighty, Eternal God, Your Son, Jesus, was conceived in the womb of Your handmaid, Mary. At the appointed time He was born a man and was presented before You in the temple. May we who live according to Your will, place our whole being before You, and at the moment of death be united with You eternally. We ask this through the same Jesus Christ, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **R: Amen.**

~ LITURGY OF THE WORD ~

FIRST LESSON

Malachi 3:1-4

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.

This is the Word of the Lord. **R. Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL - *Traditional Mass*

Psalm 48:10-11

C: O God, within Your temple we ponder Your steadfast love. **R: Like Your Name, O Lord, Your praise reaches the ends of the earth. Your right hand is fully victorious.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM - *Contemporary Mass*

Psalm 24:7, 8, 9, 10

Alstott



R. Who is this king of glo - ry? It is the Lord!

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R. (8) Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord!

Lift up, O gates, your lintels;
reach up, you ancient portals,
that the king of glory may come in!

R. Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord!

Who is this king of glory?
The LORD, strong and mighty,
the LORD, mighty in battle.

R. Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord!

Lift up, O gates, your lintels;
reach up, you ancient portals,
that the king of glory may come in!

R. Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord!

Who is this king of glory?
The LORD of hosts; he is the king of glory.

R. Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord!

SECOND LESSON

Hebrews 2:14-18

Since the children share in blood and flesh, Jesus likewise shared in them, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the Devil, and free those who through fear of death had been subject to slavery all their life. Surely he did not help angels but rather the descendants of Abraham; therefore, he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every way, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest before God to expiate the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested through what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

This is the Word of the Lord. **R. Thanks be to God.**

ALLELUIA

Isaiah 49:6b

Choir, then all:
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

C: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. **R: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.** C: I will make you a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth. **R: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

GOSPEL

Luke 2:22-40

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 child’s father and mother were amazed at what was said about him; and Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, “Behold, this child is destined for the fall and rise of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be contradicted—and you yourself a sword will pierce—so that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed.” There was also a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived seven

years with her husband after her marriage, and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She never left the temple, but worshiped night and day with fasting and prayer. And coming forward at that very time, she gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were awaiting the redemption of Jerusalem.

When they had fulfilled all the prescriptions of the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

This is the gospel of the Lord. **R. Praise be to You, Lord Jesus Christ.**

HYMN TO THE HOLY SPIRIT *Come Down, O Love Divine*

Come down, O Love Divine, seek Thou this soul of mine
And visit it with Thine own ardor glowing;
O Comforter, draw near; within my heart appear
And kindle it, Thy holy flame bestowing.

Oh, let it freely burn, till worldly passions turn
To dust and ashes in its heat consuming;
And let Thy glorious light shine ever on my sight,
And clothe me round, the while my path illuming.

HOMILY

PROFESSION OF FAITH

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL - *Contemporary Mass*

R: Lord hear our prayer.

~ LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST ~

OFFERTORY VERSE

Luke 2:34b

Behold, this child is destined for the fall and rise of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be contradicted.

OFFERTORY HYMN *In His Temple Now Behold Him* (verses as needed)
REGENT SQUARE

In His temple now behold Him, see the long-expected Lord;
Ancient prophets had foretold Him; God has sent the promised Word.
Now to praise Him, His redeemed shall break forth with one accord.

In the arms of her who bore Him, Virgin pure, behold Him lie,
While his aged saints adore Him, ere in perfect faith they die.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Lo, th' Incarnate God Most High!

Jesus, by Your presentation, when they blessed You, weak and poor,
Make us see Your great salvation, seal us with Your promise sure;
And present us, in Your glory, to Your Father, cleansed and pure.

Prince and Author of salvation, be Your boundless love our theme!
Jesus, praise to You be given by the world You did redeem,
With the Father and the Spirit God of majesty supreme!

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Heavenly Father in humility of spirit we offer You the sacrifice of our hearts. Receive our gifts of bread and wine and hallow us that we may be worthy instruments in Your hand for the work of Your kingdom. We ask this through our Lord, Jesus Christ, Your Son, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **R. Amen.**

PREFACE

SANCTUS

Mushalko/Harrig

~ CANON ~

THE LORDS PRAYER

AGNUS DEI

Alstott

POST-COMMUNION HYMN (8:00) *O Lord, Now Let Your Servant*
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THAXTED

O Lord, now let Your servant depart in heav'nly peace,
For I have seen the glory of Your redeeming grace:
A light to lead the nations unto Your holy hill,
The glory of Your people, Your chosen Israel.

Refrain: O Lord, now let Your servant depart in heav'nly peace,
For I have seen the glory of Your redeeming grace.

Then grant that I may follow Your gleam, O glorious Light,
Till earthly shadows scatter, and faith is changed to sight;
Till raptured saints shall gather upon that shining shore,
Where Christ, the blessed Daystar, shall light them evermore. *Refrain*

POST-COMMUNION ANTHEM (9:30) *The Lord Is My Light* Lillian Bounight
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The congregation is invited to sing along with the refrain after the second verse.

The Lord is my light and my salvation!
The Lord is my light and my salvation!
The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?

Refrain: Whom shall I fear? Whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the strength of my life; whom shall I fear?

In the time of trouble, He shall hide me.
In the time of trouble, He shall hide me.
In the time of trouble, He shall hide me. Whom shall I fear? *Refrain*

*The Cathedral Choir, joined by Children of the Sunday School
Ernie Pappa, guitar*

COMMUNION VERSE

Luke 2:35

And you yourself a sword will pierce, so that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Lord our God, these Holy Mysteries which we have received are a saving remedy. May they strengthen our souls now and for ever. We ask this in the name of Your Son, Jesus Christ, Who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **R. Amen.**

FINAL BLESSING (please kneel)

DISMISSAL

C: Let us bless the Lord! **R: Thanks be to God.**

Prayer After Holy Mass (please remain kneeling)

I am grateful to You, Lord, that I was able to come to church and participate in the Holy Sacrifice of Mass. I thank You for receiving Your gracious pardon, Your instruction and teaching through Your Word, and Your Body and Blood in Holy Communion. May Your sacraments continue to strengthen and help me to be faithful to You and Your Church. Help me to face all the challenges of life on my journey to Your heavenly kingdom. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN 43 *Proclaim Messiah's Birth*

On this day proclaim Messiah's birth; For the angels wing their way to earth,
(Wing their flight o'er all the earth, Telling of our Savior's birth.
Joyously we sing, proclaim the newborn King!
O world, rejoice! In exultation sing!)

Prophets long foretold the great event; He has come to man from heaven sent.
(Simeon can happy be, witnessing this prophecy:
Joyously we sing, proclaim the newborn King!
O world, rejoice! In exultation sing!)

POSTLUDE *Allegro from Suite Gothique*

Boëllmann