

February 2nd & 9th, 2025

Presenting the Present: Scott Hahn Reflects on the Feast of the Presentation

Sunday Bible Reflections by Dr. Scott Hahn
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First Reading: Malachi 3:1–4 | Psalm 24:7, 8, 9, 10
Second Reading: Hebrews 2:14–18 | Gospel: Luke 2:22–40

Today's feast marks the Presentation of the Lord Jesus in the Temple, forty days after he was born. As the firstborn, he belonged to God. According to the Law, Mary and Joseph were required to take him to the Temple and "redeem" him by paying five shekels. At the same time, the Law required the child's mother to offer sacrifice in order to overcome the ritual impurity brought about by childbirth.

So the feast we celebrate shows a curious turn of events. The Redeemer seems to be redeemed. She who is all-pure presents herself to be purified. Such is the humility of our God. Such is the humility of the Blessed Virgin. They submit to the law even though they are not bound by it.

However, the Gospel story nowhere mentions Jesus' "redemption," but seems to describe instead a religious consecration—such as a priest might undergo. Saint Luke tells us that Jesus is "presented" in the Temple, using the same verb that Saint Paul uses to describe the offering of a sacrifice (see Romans 12:1). Another parallel is the Old Testament dedication of Samuel (1 Sam 1:24-27) to the Temple as a priest.

The drama surrounding Jesus' conception and birth began in the Temple—when the Archangel visited Mary's kinsman, Zechariah the priest. And now the story of Jesus' infancy comes to a fitting conclusion, again in the Temple.

All the readings today concern Jerusalem, the Temple, and the sacrificial rites. The first reading comes from the Prophet Malachi, who called the priests to return to faithful service—and foretold a day when a Messiah would arrive with definitive purification of the priesthood.

Likewise, the Psalm announces to Jerusalem that Jerusalem is about to receive a great visitor. The Psalmist identifies him as "The LORD of hosts . . . the king of glory."

Christ now arrives as the long-awaited priest and redeemer. He is also the sacrifice. Indeed, as his life will show, He is the Temple itself (see John 2:19-21).

INCOME TAX RECEIPTS

To our dear parishioners who used the envelope system for the weekly donation to the Parish in 2024, your income tax receipts are ready at the Sacristy. Please pick up your receipt either on the weekend after Mass or during the week, Monday to Friday, from 9:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. Thank you.

SUNDAY MISSALS

The new 2025 Sunday Missals have arrived. They go into effect the first Sunday of Advent (December 1st). \$5 each.

THE CATHOLIC CALENDAR

The 2025 Catholic Calendar is now available at \$5.00 each.

ENVELOPES FOR 2025 SUNDAY OFFERINGS

Envelopes for 2025 Sunday offerings are at the front of the Church. **PLEASE TAKE ONLY THE BOX WITH YOUR NAME AND NUMBER ON IT.** If you have never used the envelopes and wish to start, please ask for a new box at the Rectory or call (514) 747-4226 during office hours (9am to 2pm) to register. **We request all users to please put your name and address on the first few envelopes for the New Year to ensure proper recording. Thank you.**

MARY: A BIBLICAL WALK WITH THE BLESSED MOTHER

Please join us for a Biblical Study of our Blessed Mother Mary (An 8 session Video Series presented by Dr. Edward Sri / Ascension Press). **Fridays from 7pm-8:30 pm every two weeks**, beginning November 22nd in the parish hall. These videos will be followed by Sharing/Discussions and some Fellowship (coffee/snacks). Cost: No Fee.

In this Biblical study, you will: 1) experience an extraordinary pilgrimage through Mary's life and see why she is an essential part of our faith; 2) see the significance of Mary as we explore the biblical roots of our beliefs about her; 3) deepen your devotion to Mary as you discover our Blessed Mother in a uniquely personal way; 4) be drawn closer to Christ as Mary leads us to a more profound and personal relationship with her Son.

Mark your calendars for the remaining evenings:

Feb. 7th, Feb.21st, Mar. 7th, Mar. 21st

To join, please register online (www.olof.ca), email emiltirona@gmail.com, or call 514-617-4021.

SAINT BLAISE: February 3RD

Monday the 3rd, is the feast of Saint Blaise, patron of throat afflictions. On his feast day there is a special blessing of the throats, invoking his healing. There will be a mass added to the usual weekly schedule to celebrate his feast on Monday at 8am.

OUR LADY OF FATIMA ONLINE MINISTRIES

The Rosary

Emil & Irah Tirona are hosting an online interactive rosary Mondays at 7:30pm. For those interested, kindly send an email to Emil and Irah (irahtirona@gmail.com), so you may be added to the online invitation. Please call 514-617-4021 if you need any online technical assistance or have questions.

HOMILIES AND REFLECTIONS

During the current COVID restrictions, while the parish is either closed to the public or limited in the number of those who can gather for mass, from time to time Fr. Jason will post on the parish website a homily or reflection on various faith related subjects. You can find the homilies at the following link: <http://www.olof.ca/homilies/>

ADORATION

Come spend some time with Our Lord.

Tuesdays 6pm to 7pm (*mass at 7pm*)

Thursdays 8am to 9am (*mass at 9am*)

Fridays 9:30am to 10:30am (*mass at 9am*)

First Saturday of the Month 10:30am to 11:30am (*mass at 10am*)

SAINTLY WISDOM

Whereas Adam and Eve were the source of evil which has unleashed on the world, Joseph and Mary are the summit from which holiness spreads all over the earth.

-St. John Paul II

CALLED HOME TO THE FATHER

Our deepest sympathy to the family of **Amalia Lebron Mourelo**. May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.

ANNOUNCED MASSES
February 1st – 16th, 2025

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| Saturday 10:00 a.m... | Feb. 1st | Saint Brigid of Ireland Anna Bui Thi Thong – RIP – by Olivia |
| Saturday 4:30 p.m.. | Feb. 1st | Sunday Vigil Mavis Tait – RIP – by Kevin and Linda Piper |
| Sunday 9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. | Feb. 2nd | Presentation of the Lord (Year C) <i>Pro Populo</i> Donata Pellos – RIP – by the family |
| Monday 8:00 a.m. | Feb. 3rd | Saint Blaise Loris Dager – RIP – by Suzie and family |
| Tuesday 7:00 p.m. | Feb. 4th | Weekday Constantino Lopez – RIP – by the family |
| Wednesday 9:00 a.m. | Feb. 5th | Saint Agatha Gioanbaotixita Phuong Nguyen – RIP – by Olivia |
| Thursday 9:00 a.m. | Feb. 6th | Saint Paul Miki & Companions Phero – RIP – by Olivia |
| Friday 9:00 a.m. | Feb. 7th | Weekday Dennis Piper – RIP – by Kevin and Linda Piper |
| Saturday 4:30 p.m. | Feb. 8th | Sunday Vigil Anosa Naoum – RIP – by Andi Hanna |
| Sunday 9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. | Feb. 9th | Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C) Monique Viel – RIP – by Alain and Liezl Vernier <i>Pro Populo</i> |
| Monday | Feb. 10th | NO MASS |
| Tuesday 7:00 p.m. | Feb. 11th | Weekday Yasmine Mounayar & Michel Chahine – RIP – by the family |
| Wednesday 9:00 a.m. | Feb. 12th | Weekday Priya - Thanksgiving |
| Thursday 9:00 a.m. | Feb. 13th | Weekday Deogracias & Rosita Navarette – by Arsenia |
| Friday 9:00 a.m. | Feb. 14th | Saint Cyril and Saint Methodius Living and Deceased Members of the Rodrigues family – by Leo and Lavinia |
| Saturday 4:30 p.m.. | Feb. 15th | Sunday Vigil Pam Ho – RIP – by the family |
| Sunday 9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. | Feb. 16th | Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C) <i>Pro Populo</i> Beatrice Perera – RIP – by Jennifer and family |

THE FIVE PRAYERS OF FATIMA

The Fatima Prayer/Decade Prayer

(Mary told the children that people should add this prayer to the end of each decade of the Rosary.)

“O my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell, lead all souls to Heaven, especially those most in need of Thy mercy. Amen.”

The Sacrifice Prayer

(Mary gave the children this prayer, as well as the Fatima Prayer/Decade Prayer, on June 13th, 1917. The prayer is meant to be recited when you are offering up suffering to God.)

“O Jesus, it is for the love of Thee, in reparation for the offenses committed against the Immaculate Heart of Mary, and for the conversion of poor sinners [that I do this].”

The Pardon Prayer

(This prayer was given to the children by the angel that visited them in 1916, the year before Mary appeared to them.)

“My God, I believe, I adore, I hope and I love Thee! I beg pardon for all those that do not believe, do not adore, do not hope and do not love Thee.”

The Angel’s Prayer

(This is another prayer given to the children by the angel. There was a Eucharistic host and chalice suspended in the air, and the angel led them in kneeling before it and praying this prayer.)

“O Most Holy Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, I adore Thee profoundly. I offer Thee the most precious Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus Christ present in all the tabernacles of the world, in reparation for the outrages, sacrileges and indifferences by which He is offended. By the infinite merits of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary I beg the conversion of poor sinners.”

The Eucharistic Prayer

(When Mary appeared to the children for the first time on May 13, 1917, she said, “You will have much to suffer, but the grace of God will be your comfort.” According to Lucia, a bright light shone all around them, and without thinking about it, they all started reciting this prayer.)

“Most Holy Trinity, I adore Thee! My God, my God, I love Thee in the Most Blessed Sacrament.”