



Feast of the Presentation of the Lord

February 2nd, 40 days after Christmas, is the feast of the Presentation of the Lord. Mary and Joseph offer for her purification a sacrifice of 2 turtle doves, and they present and dedicate Jesus to God. When they encounter Simeon in the temple, he recognizes the Son of God and he prays,

Lord, now you let your servant go in peace;
your word has been fulfilled:
my own eyes have seen the salvation
which you have prepared in the sight of every
people:

a light to reveal you to the nations
and the glory of your people Israel.
(Luke 2:29–32)

Another name for this feast is Candlemas because the church used to bless the candles it would use during the year. We are invited to bring our candles so they can be blessed and used in our homes for prayer. Our blessed candles will serve as a sign that Jesus Christ is God's light to the nations, and if we allow our lives to reflect the light of Christ, then we will also become a light to others.

If you cannot attend the Mass at 9 a.m. on Friday, Feb. 2nd you may bring your labelled candles and set them on the table in the church for blessing.

