



Presentation in the Temple

Resource Overview for Parents

February 2

Scripture Readings

Epistle/Apostol:

Hebrews 7:7-17

Gospel:

Luke 2:22-40

Troparion/Apolytikion – Tone 1

Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, full of grace!
From you shone the Sun of
Righteousness, Christ our God.
Enlightening those who sat in darkness!
Rejoice, and be glad, O righteous
elder; you accepted in your arms the
Redeemer of our souls, Who grants us
the Resurrection.

Kontakion – Tone 1

By Your nativity, You sanctified the
Virgin's womb, and blessed Simeon's
hands, O Christ God.
Now You have come and saved us
through love.
Grant peace to all Orthodox Christians,
O only Lover of man!

This Week We Learned About

✦ Scripture

- Hebrews 7:7-17
- Luke 2:22-40

✦ Liturgical Life

- Prayer of St. Simeon

✦ Feasts & Saints

- Synaxis of the Righteous
Simeon the Elder
February 3

✦ Daily Living

- Candles and the Light of Christ

Questions for Your Kids

- Why is this feast important to us as Orthodox Christians?
- What do we learn about Jesus Christ from His meeting in the Temple?
- How does this make you feel about God?

- In the icon for the feast, how do we know this event took place indoors?
- Why did Simeon give thanks to God for seeing the infant Jesus?
- What did St. Simeon and St. Anna do for the majority of their lives?

- On the day after the Presentation, we remember St. Simeon and St. Anna. Why are they important?
- How were they godly people?
- How would you feel if you were promised by God to see the Messiah before you die?

- Why do we light candles when we say prayers?
- Why do we bless candles on this feast?

Learn and Discover Together

- Why are there references in the New Testament to specific prophecies or events in the Old Testament?
- How is our church like the Temple in Jerusalem?

- Why do we say St. Simeon's prayer at the end of every vespers service?
(Hint: *Vespers is celebrated at the end of the day...*)
- If Christ is the Light of the world, what does He help us see?

- Read about St. Simeon here:
<http://bit.ly/feb3-st-simeon>
- After reading about his life, how does he inspire you to live as an Orthodox Christian?

- How is the flame on a candle like God's love?
(Hint: *the flame doesn't decrease when lighting another candle...*)
- What are the other two feasts we just celebrated which are called feasts of illumination?

Learn More...

Study guides for different age groups are available to accompany the "An Offering of Purity" handout for the feast of the Presentation of our Lord in the Temple. Use as many or as few of the questions and discussion topics to help children learn about the feast while discovering how the Orthodox Faith can be a part of their daily life.

Ask open-ended questions which may lead the conversation to reveal their thoughts about God.

As parents, we may not readily have all the answers, but we have the ability to inspire a desire in children to love God, which can benefit them throughout their lives.

In the Week Ahead...

Normal Wednesday/Friday fasting (no meat) continues.

February 3: Synaxis of Ss. Simeon and Anna

February 9: Leavetaking (Apodosis) of the Presentation in the Temple

March 25: Annunciation of Mary



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orthodoxjourneys@gmail.com | www.orthodoxjourneys.com

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