

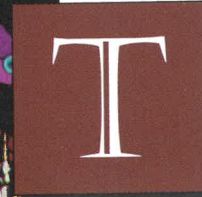
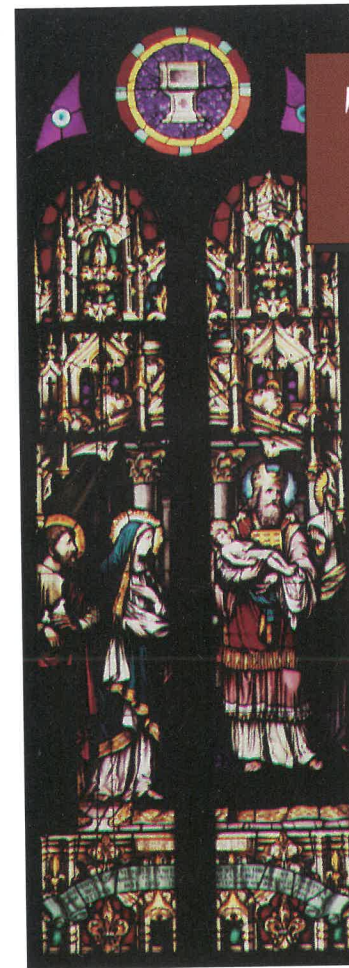
he Nativity

This window depicts the birth of Christ in the stable at Bethlehem with three shepherds adoring the Infant Saviour.

Note the twelve stars of Heaven in Mary's halo from now on throughout the church.

The window above displays the crown of thorns with the three nails used to crucify Christ. The mystery of Our Lord's Incarnation was ordered toward the Passion, Death, and Resurrection.

The rough wood of the crib anticipates the wood of the cross. Though Christ was born King of Angels, the crown of thorns signifies the Kingship of Christ who was later to be mocked by the soldiers.



he Presentation of the Child Jesus in the Temple

This window shows Mary and Joseph with Simeon and Anna. To complete the purification according to the law of Moses, they took him up to Jerusalem to present Him to the Lord. "Every male who opens the womb shall be consecrated to the Lord." Simeon was righteous and devout 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 Messiah of the Lord. He took the Child in 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 sight of all the peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and glory for your people Israel."
Luke 2:29-32

Anna, who is standing at Simeon's left, had been married for seven years before being widowed and from that time never left the temple; but worshiped day and night 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."

Above the window is the baptismal font. The Presentation marked Christ's formal introduction to service of His Heavenly Father. Baptism marks our entry into the Church as the beginning of our life of Christian service.