



February 2, 2022

Good day!

Today we celebrate the Presentation of the Lord in the Temple. This is the moment, 40 days after the Nativity, that Mary and Joseph take Jesus to the Temple as required for a first-born son. Simeon and Anna, representing the Old Covenant, are in the Temple and recognize Jesus as the Messiah, the New Covenant. This feast was previously called the Purification of Mary. According to Levitical law a woman was unclean for 40 days after the birth of a son (80 days for a daughter). The ritual of purification was an important step for a woman to once again be socially active.

In modern times, it is through the pouring of water or immersion, the Baptism of a person of any age continues to be a spiritually significant moment for the person being baptized. Particularly for the Baptism of a child it also is a moment in which the family stands in front of the faith community professing their faith and desire that their child become a child of God. In return, the community pledges its support in raising the child within the faith. The involvement of the community in raising the child is an often forgotten aspect of Baptism. United in faith, parents, grandparents, siblings, cousins and the entire community are responsible for the faith development of every person baptized.

Peace and All Good,

Barb SchwabKlaco, Director of Associates



