

Presentation A

The feast of the Presentation seems to bring us back to Christmas
Joseph and Mary bring their infant son to the temple – fulfilling OT law.

Because Simeon calls Jesus “A light unto the Gentiles” we recognize Jesus is the light by blessing all
the candles we will use this year.

Candles on our altar recognize Jesus is the light of the world

Now I want you to imagine this scene

Joseph and Mary bring their baby into the Temple to consecrate Him to God.

MANY TIMES – I meet new mothers and fathers bringing their babies for Baptism

So excited about the birth of their child

They come with God-parents, family baptismal gowns, family & friends

They come to present their baby to God, to be baptized and consecrated

This is what Joseph and Mary were doing -

Simeon wants to hold the baby – and when he does

The HS comes upon him and he realizes this child is the source of salvation

“My eyes have seen Your salvation –

a light for revelation to the Gentiles and glory for Your people Israel”

Watch this

The Lord is presented in the temple and the temple is never the same

The presence of God no longer resides in the sanctuary

The presence of God is in the baby held in Simeon's arms

NB **We** were presented to the Church as infants on **our** baptism

The Church has never be the same since

A new presence of God exists in us, the newly baptized – the Church grows.

Every child, born and baptized, every single one of us, presented to the Lord,
carries a unique image of God within us –
and we bring it out into the world

Each of us is called to recognize the image and likeness of God within us – and to develop it
To step out into the spiritual reality of who we are
and grow the Kingdom of God

All we earn and build in this physical world will fade away
But Christ, and His love, and the way we love Him – that will be forever.