

## Biblical Account of Christ's Presentation into the Temple- February 2nd

Taken from goarch.org

The story of the Presentation is told in [Luke 2:22-29](#). Mary and Joseph were faithful Jews and observed their religious customs. An important custom was for the couple to take their first-born son to the Temple. The baby was taken to the Temple forty days after his birth and was dedicated to God. In addition, if the parents were wealthy, they were to bring a lamb and a young pigeon or a turtle dove to be offered as a sacrifice at the Temple. The custom provided that if the parents were poor, they were to offer two pigeons or two turtle doves for the sacrifice.

When Jesus was forty days old, Mary and Joseph took Him to the Temple in Jerusalem. They were not wealthy, so they took two turtle doves with them to offer as a sacrifice at the Temple. As they arrived at the Temple, Mary and Joseph were met by a very old man named Simeon. He was a holy man and was noted as a very intelligent scholar. Simeon spent much time studying about the prophets of Israel. It was during his studies that he learned of the coming of the Messiah. The Jewish people were waiting for the Messiah to come and deliver Israel from their conquerors. From that time on, Simeon spent his time praying for the Messiah to come. He spent many years in prayer. Finally, while Simeon was praying he heard the voice of God. God promised Simeon that he would not die until he had seen the Messiah.

When Simeon saw Jesus, he took the baby in his arms and blessed the Lord and said: "Lord, now let Your servant go in peace according to Your promise, because my eyes have seen Your salvation which you have prepared before the face of all peoples, a light to bring revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory to your people Israel."

Also, in the Temple was Anna the Prophetess. She had been a widow for many years. Anna was about eighty-four years old and spent her time in the Temple worshipping, fasting, and praying. When she saw the Christ Child she praised God and spoke of him to all who were awaiting the Messiah.

After Jesus was presented in the Temple, the family returned to Galilee to the town of Nazareth. The Bible tells us that Jesus grew and became strong, and was filled with wisdom.

### To Our Visitors:

We are pleased that you have chosen to worship with us. Just a reminder, however: the Sacrament of Holy Communion is a manifestation of the *unity of the Body of Christ*. As such, only those who are members in spiritual good standing of the Orthodox Church – and who have prepared themselves for the Sacrament – may partake of the Holy Chalice. However, *everyone* is welcome to come up with our people at the end of the service to receive blessed bread.

*Please be sure to join us at Coffee Hour following Services.*

## Ss Constantine & Helen

Greek Orthodox Cathedral of the Pacific



January 26, 2020

15th Sunday of Luke

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January 26, 2020

15th Sunday of Luke

Commemoration of: Xenophon & his Companions; Symeon, Elder of Mount Sinai

**Apolytikia - Entrance Hymns**

*Katelisas to Stavro* (Hymn of the Day) Tone 7  
*O Lord by your Cross You abolished death and opened to the thief Paradise. The lamentation of the myrrh-bearers You turned to joy, and You commanded Your Apostles to proclaim that You had risen from the dead, O Christ our God, bestowing upon the world the great mercy.*

*Tu Stavru Su* (Hymn of the Church) Tone 8  
*Having seen in the sky the form of Your Cross and, like Paul, having received his calling not from men, Your apostle among Kings, Lord, placed his reigning city in Your hand, which forever you guard in peace, by the intercessions of the Theotokos, for You alone are the lover mankind.*

**Kontakion**

*O mitran parthenikin* Tone 1  
*For our salvation You took flesh and You sanctified the Virgin's womb; You blessed the aged Symeon as You lay resting in his arms; and having come to save us all, O Christ our God, to these troubled times, bring Your lasting peace. Give strong and undaunted faith to all Your people, O only lover of mankind. (Kevin Lawrence)*

**Epistle Reading**

1 Timothy 4:9-15

TIMOTHY, my son, the saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance. For to this end we toil and suffer reproach, because we have our hope set on the living God, who is the Savior of all men, especially of those who believe. Command and teach these things. Let no one despise your youth, but set the believers an example in speech and conduct, in love, in faith, in purity. Till I come, attend to the public reading of scripture, to preaching, to teaching. Do not neglect the gift you have, which was given you by prophetic utterance when the council of elders laid their hands upon you. Practice these duties, devote yourself to them, so that all may see your progress.

**Gospel Reading**

Luke 19:1-10

At that time, Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. And there was a man named Zacchaeus; he was a chief collector, and rich. And he sought to see who Jesus was, but could not, on account of the crowd, because he was small of stature. So he ran on ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see him, for he was to pass that way. And when Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, make haste and come down; for I must stay at your house today." So he made haste and came down, and received him joyfully. And when they saw it they all murmured, "He has gone in to be the guest of a man who is a sinner." And Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, "Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have defrauded any one of anything, I restore it fourfold." And Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, since he also is a son of Abraham. For the Son of

man came to seek and to save the lost."

**Today**

✘ Sunday, 1/26– 15th Sunday of Luke; Aloha Choir FDF Preview Concert; Vasilopita Celebration

**This Week**

✘ Wednesday, 1/29– Young Adult Fellowship– 6:30 p.m.  
✘ Thursday, 1/30– Three Holy Hierarchs: Orthros 8:30 a.m.; Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m.  
✘ Saturday, 2/1- Great Vespers 5:30 p.m.  
✘ Sunday, 2/2– Presentation of our Lord into the Temple

**Announcements**

**Welcome Choir Federation Members from Chicago**– We welcome Ms. Gia Xenakis and all the members of the choir who have joined us today, on their vacation and visit with us!

**Tea Party Fundraiser for Philoptochos...Save the Date!** Alma Chu and Eres Eddy are coordinating this event. Saturday, 2/8, 2pm-5pm in the Social Hall. Tickets are \$20 and will go on sale soon. Head scarf a must. Stay tuned for more details.

**FDF is approaching!** The excitement is building for our Nisiopeda Dancers and Aloha Choir as they prepare for FDF 2020 happening February 13-16 in Anaheim, California. Find out more at [YourFDF.org](http://YourFDF.org).

**Quotes from the Holy Fathers**

*"You came into the world to save sinners; therefore You came to save Me also? You came to find and to save him who was lost; therefore You came to seek me too, for I am one of the lost. O Lord, O my God and Creator! I should have come to You as a transgressor of Your law. I should have fallen at Your feet, cast myself down before You, humbly begging forgiveness, pleading with You and craving Your mercy. But You Yourself have come to me, wretched and good-for-nothing servant that I am; my Lord has come to me, His enemy and apostate; my Master has come and has bestowed his love of mankind upon me. Listen my soul: God has come to us."*

— **St. Tikhon of Zadonsk**