



St John Plessington Catholic College

Aspire
have not to **more**
but to **be**
more
Archbishop Rovers

Liturgical Theme for the week Week Commencing 3rd February 2020 “Following the rules”

“Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate;
only love can do that.”

Martin Luther King, Jr



Pope Francis tells us:

“Let us all remember this: one cannot proclaim the Gospel of Jesus without
the tangible witness of one's life.



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The presentation of Jesus in the Temple

Following the rules of Jewish tradition, Mary and Joseph bring the baby Jesus to the Temple in order to fulfil their religious duty of making an offering for their firstborn. And here they come across this old couple. We don't know much about these two, Luke tells us that Simeon is touched by the Holy spirit and comes to the temple. Anna, it seems, is just there all the time.

Both Anna and Simeon were people who looked forward with hope. When God acts and the promise that they have been waiting for is fulfilled Anna and Simeon are in tune. They do not miss what is taking place before them. Simeon recognises that his wait is over. That the long-awaited promise of God has been fulfilled in the Child of Jesus.





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Archbishop Rimmer

We sometimes find it hard to wait. It's no wonder as our culture is always in such a rush. Fast food, text messaging, on demand entertainment. We are very quickly losing a sense of what it means to appreciate anticipation.

But the best things in life are worth waiting for. As Christians we are a people who long for the coming of God's Kingdom. What helps when it comes to waiting in faith is knowing that we are not the first to do so. Our tradition is rich in the stories of those who have gone before us. Stories about real people with real lives and real desires just like our own.





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Loving Father, help us to be a people of hope as we live our lives in the way that you intended us too. May you be with us at every step of our journey through life. May all we do and say give you praise.

Amen.

St John Plessington
Pray for us





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Form Tutors:

The aim of this week's theme:

In our society today we are not very good at waiting we want things and we want them now. But waiting can be a good thing, it helps us to plan and prepare for our future. What is it important to think about when we make plans for our own futures?



Monday 3rd February 2020



Matthew 4:12-23

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, 'Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord'), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, 'a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons.'

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, 'Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.'



And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, 'This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.'

There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband for seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.



Other prayers:

Lord, thank you so much for all the blessings you have provided in my life. I have so much, and I know it is all because of you. I ask you today to continue to provide me with these blessings and to provide me with the opportunities I need to continue to do your work here.

Amen.

God our Father, you call each of us by name, and you treasure each of us individually as though no-one else exists. Inspire us to respect and value each person who comes into our lives this day.

Amen.

God, you created us all in your own likeness.

We thank you for the wonderful diversity of races and cultures in you God our Father, the qualities I see lived out so well in some people are a reflection of your own goodness, and I know that I have much to learn from other people who reflect your image and likeness in different ways. Inspire me to respect others fully as my equals, seeing and loving in them what you see and love in them.

Amen

