

Sunday, November 19th



- Which feast are we celebrating this week?
- 2. Where did Mary's parents take her so she could promise God she'd always follow and love Him?
- 3. Which candle did we light in church today?

Praying Together:

Dear Mary,

Thank you for showing us how to love and serve God by promising to in the Temple. Pray for us as we try to live as God wants us to, especially as we prepare for Jesus' birth this Christmas.

Parents' Cheat Sheet - Car Qs

Nov. 19/17, 2nd Week of Pylypivka - Feast of the Entrance of the Mother of God into the Temple (24th Sunday after Pentecost)

1. Which feast are we celebrating this week?

- 1. The Feast of the Entrance of the Mother of God into the Temple (Nov. 21)
- 2. In the icon for this feast, we see a three year-old Mary being brought into the Temple by her parents, Joachim and Anna. They were barren and had prayed to God for a child, saying if they had one they would give that child over to serve God. God answered their prayer and Mary was born. As promised Joachim and Anna took Mary to the Temple so she could begin serving Him. This would prepare her heart to receive Christ at a later point in her life.
- 3. We are also preparing our hearts to receive Christ at Christmas.
- 4. For more detailed information on the history of the feast, check out *A Byzantine Rite Liturgical Year* by Fr. Julian Katrin, OSBM

2. Where did Mary's parents take her so she could promise God she'd always follow and love Him?

- 1. The Temple
- 2. The Temple at that point in time was the centre of the Jewish faith. The Temple is where God resided, so it was considered the holiest place in the world. Christ, however, declared that the Temple had become corrupt, thanks to those who were using the space as a place of trade.¹
- 3. Instead every Christian is known as "the temple of God." Saint Paul says this a couple times in his first letter to the Corinthians: "Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you? If any one destroys God's temple, God will destroy him. For God's temple is holy, and that temple you are" (1 Cor. 3:16-17); "Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God?" (1 Cor. 6:19).

3. Which candle did we light in church today?

- 1. The purple candle.
- 2. The purple candle represents service and sacrifice², a part of what we must do to open ourselves up to Christ.
- 3. As a family, say the last prayer we said together in church this morning:

Pray for us, O Virgin Mary,

Holy Mother of Our Lord,

That, like you, we may become

Holy Temples of Our God.

¹ Check out the stories of the Cleansing of the Temple in Matthew 21:12-13, Luke 19:45-46, and John 2:13-22.

² Found in the St. Philip's Fast booklet at the parish.