



Dear Parents and Carers,

In this Sunday's Gospel, we read about Simeon who joyfully recognised Jesus as the 'Light of the World' – the one who fills our lives with hope.

Hope is a virtue which can strengthen and sustain us through life's greatest difficulties. Putting our hope in God is trying to live and do our best in the present moment, and then trust the future to God.

Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2025

Simeon is a great example of someone who placed his hope in God and was blessed by encountering Jesus, the 'Light of the World'. We too can be blessed and enlightened when we do the same.

As part of our celebrations for this Jubilee Year of Hope, enjoy exploring this Sunday's Gospel and this Wednesday's word, which is **HOPE**.

Dom Henry Wansbrough



A Word from Pope Francis

*"Always know in your heart that God is by your side. Let us never lose hope!"*

## THE GOSPEL IN CHURCH Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2025



When the day came for them to be purified as laid down by the Law of Moses, the parents of Jesus took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord and, in accordance with the Law, they offered two young pigeons in sacrifice. Now in Jerusalem there was a man named Simeon. He was an upright and devout man and it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death until he had set eyes on the Christ of the Lord. Prompted by the Spirit he came to the Temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the Law required, he took him into his arms and blessed God; and he said: "Now, Master, you can let your servant die in peace, just as you promised; because my eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared for all the nations to see, a light to enlighten the pagans and the glory of your people Israel." Jesus' parents took him back to Nazareth where Jesus grew to maturity, and he was filled with wisdom; and God's favour was with him.

*Adapted from Luke 2:22-40  
The Feast of the Presentation of the Lord*

Getting to know Jesus makes life joyful.  
Learn more about this Sunday's Gospel in your local Parish Church: all are very warmly invited.

2025: The Jubilee Year of Hope!

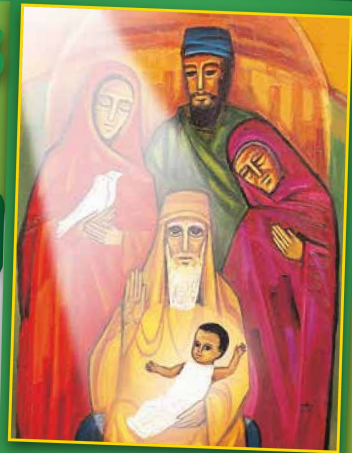
Having Hope  
in our Families

Hope is a wonderful gift. When we spend time learning about and listening to Jesus, we are blessed with hope and strengthened, and so are able to bring great hope and good news to others.



# Good News for Families

## TOGETHER TIME



### 1 READ & REFLECT! Listen & Learn with Jesus, the Word!

When Jesus was a baby, his parents, Mary and Joseph, took him up to the Temple to present him to God and make an offering of two young pigeons. In the Temple was a good and holy man named Simeon. The Holy Spirit had promised Simeon that he would not die until he had seen Jesus, the Light of the World. Simeon took Jesus into his arms and praised God saying, "Now, I can die in peace because you have kept your promise. This child, Jesus, will be a light for all nations."

**What had the Holy Spirit promised Simeon?**

Which word or words stood out for you in this Sunday's Gospel, and why? Spend a few relaxing moments pondering the picture together. Share any thoughts before moving on.

### Sunday Gospel Gallery

Look at this Sunday's Gospel picture. What can you see? How do you feel? What does it make you think about?

### 2 SHARE & CARE! Growing in Goodness & Love: This Wednesday's Word...

"God is the reason for our hope and the source of our happiness." *Pope Francis*

# HOPE



Jesus brings a message of hope to the world. Ask your child what the word 'hope' means to them. Can they remember a time when they faced a difficult situation and someone (or maybe their faith) gave them hope? Each of you say who or what gives you hope when times are tough. Can you remember a time when you gave hope to someone?



To hope is to believe that God's love will always be with us. Is there anyone you know who is sad or troubled and needs hope? In what ways can we bring hope to that person or those people? Perhaps we can: be a good friend; be a patient listener; offer help and support where needed; tell others about the hope that God brings into our lives; let others know we are praying for them.

3 Dear Lord Jesus, thank you for the hope and light you bring to our lives. Please help us to bring light and hope to others too. Amen.

### FINDING THREE

K	T	E	M	P	L	E	A	B	K	H	Y
B	R	V	L	I	C	H	P	E	S	O	J
T	W	K	G	B	Q	F	J	U	C	P	B
D	N	H	G	L	T	J	S	Y	W	D	V
E	T	O	F	G	X	E	L	I	G	H	T
T	L	P	E	H	J	S	M	F	L	S	B
N	U	E	W	M	J	U	R	P	U	I	C
E	Y	X	A	A	I	S	F	V	L	M	Y
S	B	R	P	R	E	S	E	N	T	E	D
E	W	O	A	Y	L	G	D	E	P	O	H
R	R	K	F	M	C	V	F	Y	B	N	W
P	G	J	O	S	E	P	H	L	J	E	D

**WEDNESDAY WORDSEARCH**

SMARTSEARCHERS FIND THESE EIGHT WORDS EITHER ACROSS OR DOWN

- MARY
- JOSEPH
- PRESENTED
- JESUS
- SIMEON
- TEMPLE
- LIGHT
- HOPE

SUPERSEARCHERS FIND THE WORDS BACKWARDS OR DIAGONALLY



Find and draw 3 differences, then colour the picture

Cross out the letters **b v w** in the jumbled words below to find 4 real words.

**cwhibldv blivghtw nabtiwonvs sibmevown**

\_\_\_\_\_ said, "This \_\_\_\_\_, Jesus, will be a \_\_\_\_\_ for all \_\_\_\_\_."

This Sunday we celebrate a special feast - 'The Presentation of the Lord', which is also traditionally known as 'Candlemas'. During Mass this weekend, church candles may be blessed by the priest. We light these candles every time we celebrate Mass to remind us of the light that Jesus brings to our world.



This week I will try my best to...

Write a promise & draw a big smile on Smiley

