

Readings at Mass for the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord

FIRST READING

MALACHI 3.1-4

A reading from the Prophet, Malachi

Thus says the Lord God, 'Behold, I send my messenger, and he will prepare the way before me. And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his Temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts.

But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap. He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and they will bring offerings in righteousness to the Lord. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

PSALM 24(23).7, 8, 9, 10; R. V 10BC

**R. The Lord of hosts,
he is the king of glory!**

O gates, lift high your heads;
grow higher, ancient doors.

Let him enter, the king of glory! **R.**

Who is this king of glory?

The Lord, the mighty, the valiant;
the Lord, valiant in war. **R.**

O gates, lift high your heads;
grow higher, ancient doors.

Let him enter, the king of glory! **R.**

Who is this king of glory?

He, the Lord of hosts,
he is the king of glory **R.**

SECOND READING

HEBREWS 2.14-18

A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews

Since the children share in flesh and blood, Jesus himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery. For surely it is not angels that he helps, but he helps the offspring of Abraham. Therefore he had to be made like his brothers in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. For because he himself has suffered when tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

A light for revelation to the Gentiles,
and for glory to your people Israel. **R.**

GOSPEL

LUKE 2.22-32

When the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, the parents of Jesus brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, 'Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord') and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said 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, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. And he came in the Spirit into the Temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said,

'Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel.'

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

The mystery of Faith.

**Babe borne aloft,
named, "Ruin and resurrection",
Honour of Israel and light of the world,
Who is the king,
whose glory fills the Temple?**

**O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him;
O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord!**

The numbers of this evening's Entrance and Offertory hymns are displayed on the boards on the pillars.