

DUE: February 29th

Confirmation I Mass Assignment

February 2, 2020

Feast of the Presentation of the Lord

Gospel: Luke 2:22-40

Instructions: Read the gospel and gospel reflection, then answer the questions. Turn in with a signed bulletin.

Gospel Reflection

The Feast of the Presentation is based in a tradition which is unfamiliar to us, though it was an ordinary and expected rite for Jewish parents to present their newborn children to the Lord. The ordinary young couple, Mary and Joseph, had experienced many extraordinary circumstances surrounding Jesus' birth: from the announcements by the angel to the humble birth in a stable and the shepherds who came to worship the baby. When they brought Jesus to the Temple, the extraordinary events continued. The moment of celebration when Simeon proclaimed the baby Jesus to be the salvation sent by God was dimmed by his warning to Mary, that her Son would be contradicted and she too would suffer.

Gospel Questions:

1. Reflect on the events that Mary and Joseph experienced surrounding the birth of Jesus. What would you have felt during those events?

2. What do you think Mary and Joseph felt as Simeon proclaimed their Son God's salvation?

3. What do you imagine they felt when Simeon said Mary would know sorrow?

3. The greatest challenge I have ever faced in my call to be a light for Jesus was when . . .

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Confirmation Mass Assignment

February 16, 2020

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Gospel: Matthew 5:17-37

Instructions: Read the gospel and gospel reflection, then answer the questions. Turn in with a signed bulletin.

Gospel Reflection

Today's Gospel from Matthew is one of the most intense accounts of the way Jesus changed things. "You have heard it said" he begins each part of his teaching and then goes on to say, "But I say to you." He does what he said he would do: not abolishing the laws of God, but fulfilling them. He never says, "You have heard it said 'You shall not kill' but I say it's okay." On the contrary, Jesus' teaching requires more—don't be angry or name-call. In fact, Jesus says, if you are going to offer your gift at the altar and remember that your brother has anything against you, leave the gift and go be reconciled. We are called to keep the commandments, of course, but we are called to even more.

Gospel Questions:

1. Which of Jesus' teachings in today's Gospel do you find most difficult? Why?

2. It is a great compliment to be called "a person of his/her word." Whom would you name as such a person? Give examples.

3. What "yes" or "no" that God asks is most challenging for you? What "yes" or "no" that God asks is easiest for you?

DUE: February 29th

Confirmation Mass Assignment

February 23, 2020

7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Gospel: Matthew 5:38-48

Instructions: Read the gospel and gospel reflection, then answer the questions. Turn in with a signed bulletin.

Gospel Reflection

In this Sunday proclamation, we continue to hear from Matthew's Gospel account of the Sermon on the Mount. Jesus calls us to holiness. Jesus' preaching does not devalue the Mosaic Law, but reveals the heart of God's Law. To observe God's Law, we are to live a life of holiness. We are called to be perfect as God is perfect. Perfection is a tall order, but Jesus asks us as his disciples to emulate the perfection of God the Father. Jesus is calling us to "be perfect" in our relationships with one another. So we are called to love one another as God loves us. And in loving others as God loves us, we emulate the perfection of God.

Gospel Questions:

1. Whom do you name as an enemy and how can you love that enemy?

2. Is there anyone who would name you the enemy? Can you change that?

3. What is the greatest challenge you have in loving like God? Explain.