

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 go 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.'

As the child's father and mother stood there wondering at the things that were being said about him, Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, 'You see this child: he is destined for the fall and for the rising of many in Israel, destined to be a sign that is rejected – and a sword will pierce your own soul too – so that the secret thoughts of many may be laid bare.'

There was a prophetess also, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was well on in years. Her days of girlhood over, she had been married for seven years before becoming a widow. She was now eighty-four years old and never left the Temple, serving God night and day with fasting and prayer. She came by just at that moment and began to praise God; and she spoke of the child to all who looked forward to the deliverance of Jerusalem.

When they had done everything the Law of the Lord required, they went back to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. Meanwhile the child grew to maturity, and he was filled with wisdom; and God's favour was with him.

#### ■ The Gospel of the Lord.

*Shorter form, Lk 2: 22-32*

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# Breaking Open the Word

# THE SAVING WORD

THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD / C

2 FEBRUARY 2025

## A LIGHT TO ALL

The Torah, the first part of the Old (First) Testament, legislates the consecration by an Israelite family of the first-born male child to God (Exodus 13:2,12). Mary and Joseph are faithful adherents to Jewish law and represent Luke's intention to illustrate that what unfolds in the couple and their child is in continuity with God's plan expressed in the First Testament.

The two beloved and holy characters that Jesus' parents next meet in the temple, Simeon and Anna, further underscore this connection. Simeon is a prophet and bearer of God's Spirit who desires the "comforting" of his people. Guided by the Spirit he comes to the Temple and takes Jesus into his arms. He blesses God and reaffirms the future ministry of Jesus, to bring God's salvation and light to all, while also being a sign of contradiction and rejection.

A second wizened prophet, Anna, also appears and attests that the child will be the cause of Israel's liberation. Our reading ends on a note about Jesus' growth, maturity, wisdom and gracefulness. The two prophetic figures that occupy this story affirm Jesus' nature and his future ministry. He is linked to Israel's history. He, like the two who attest to him in the Temple, will also be a prophet to God's people, bringing liberation for the oppressed and challenge those who oppress. Our invitation this Sunday is to draw close to this child, to allow him to comfort and free us, and accompany us in moments of contradiction and difficulty.

Fr Michael Trainor

## FIRST READING

Mal 3:1-4

A reading from the prophet Malachi

*The Lord whom you seek will come to his temple.*

The Lord God says this: Look, I am going to send my messenger to prepare a way before me. And the Lord you are seeking will suddenly enter his Temple; and the angel of the covenant whom you are longing for, yes, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. Who will be able to resist the day of his coming? Who will remain standing when he appears? For he is like the refiner's fire and the fullers' alkali. He will take his seat as refiner and purifier; he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and then they will make the offering to the Lord as it should be made. The offering of Judah and Jerusalem will then be welcomed by the Lord as in former days, as in the years of old.

■ The word of the Lord.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 23: 7-10. R. v. 8

**R.** Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord!

1. O gates, lift up your heads; / grow higher, ancient doors. / Let him enter, the king of glory! **R.**
2. Who is the king of glory? / The Lord, the mighty, the valiant, / the Lord, the valiant in war. **R.**
3. O gates, lift high your heads; / grow higher, ancient doors. / Let him enter, the king of glory! **R.**
4. Who is he, the king of glory? / He, the Lord of armies, / he is the king of glory. **R.**

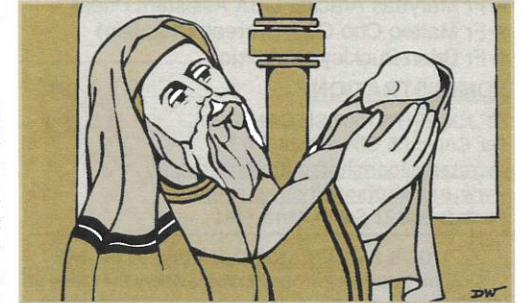
## SECOND READING

Heb 2:14-18

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

*He had to be made like us in all things.*

Since all the children share the same blood and flesh, Jesus too shared equally in it, so that by his death he could take away all the power of the devil, who had power over death, and set free all those who had been held in slavery all their lives by the fear of death. For it was not the angels that he took to himself;



he took to himself descent from Abraham. It was essential that he should in this way become completely like his brothers so that he could be a compassionate and trustworthy high priest of God's religion, able to atone for human sins. That is, because he has himself been through temptation he is able to help others who are tempted.

■ The word of the Lord.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Lk 2:32

Alleluia, alleluia! / This is the light of revelation to the nations, / and the glory of your people, Israel. / Alleluia!

## GOSPEL

Lk 2:22-40

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

*My eyes have seen your saving power.*

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 – observing what stands written in the Law of the Lord: Every first-born male must be consecrated to the Lord – and also to offer in sacrifice, in accordance with what is said in the Law of the Lord, a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons. Now in Jerusalem there was a man named Simeon. He was an upright and devout man; he looked forward to Israel's comforting and the Holy Spirit rested on him. 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



Est. 1887

**Presentation of the Lord (2 Feb 2025)**  
**St Joseph's Catholic Church, 30 Fitzgerald Street**  
**St Thomas Aquinas' Church, 43 Bromby Street**

**In the Pastoral Care of the AUGUSTINIANS**

- ▶ Fr Luca Park OSA Parish Priest
- ▶ Fr Marydas Arackal OSA Assistant Priest
- ▶ Fr Matteo Cho OSA (Korean Chaplain)
- ▶ Fr Brian Buckley OSA Prior

**ADMINISTRATION**

ST JOSEPH'S PARISH CENTRE  
 Tel: Church & Office 9826 9677  
[secretary@parishofsouthyarra.org.au](mailto:secretary@parishofsouthyarra.org.au)  
[www.parishofsouthyarra.org.au](http://www.parishofsouthyarra.org.au)  
**Postal:** Box 21 South Yarra 3141



**OUR PARISH AND THE AUGUSTINIANS**

Commit to creating an environment where the safety of children and vulnerable persons is paramount. All volunteers are required to have a Working With Children Check.

**Pastoral and Administrative Support**

- ▶ Stephy Coosnapa (Parish Pastoral Assistant) ▶ Juliet Oei (Business & Facilities Manager: Wed - Fri)
- ▶ Safeguarding: Stephy Coosnapa ▶ Joss Honour (St Joseph's Outreach Services)
- ▶ Toni Stuart (Parish Secretary, Weddings & SJOS Volunteer Co-ordinator: Tues/Thurs/Fri)

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY**

St. Joseph's • 10.30am Mass  
 Fourth Sunday of the month  
 (except school holidays and long weekends)

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**

St. Joseph's • Sat: 5.15pm – 5.45pm, or by appointment.

**ANOINTING / HEALING MASS**

(Sacrament of the Sick) First Tuesday of the month 10am at St Joseph's Church

**HOLY COMMUNION AT HOME**

Anyone ill or housebound may contact us to request a visit for communion at home.

**EVENTS AND MEETINGS**

- ▶ Anointing/Healing Mass: Tues 4 Feb 10am
- ▶ RCIA sessions recommence Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> Feb.

**AUGUSTINE: 'THE ROAD TO LIFE'**



"The Lord teaches that there are two roads lying before us—one narrow, the other wide; one leading to life, the other to death. So, my dearly beloved brothers, if you don't want to perish eternally, flee

the road to death and choose the road to life so that you may live eternally. The road to life is hidden in faith and in belief, for, in order to discover the road to life, we must believe faithfully, according to the dictum "Unless you believe, you will not understand." If you want to seek and discover the one right path, you must love and faithfully safeguard the virtues which constitute the road to life. For he who follows this route will enter into eternal light and possess the life which never ends. Amen." (Sermon 4)

**POSITION VACANT-** Parish Business Manager  
 The parish is seeking applications for a part-time permanent role as business manager (20-24 hours a week). Contact the parish office for details. Ph: 9826 9677

E: [secretary@parishofsouthyarra.org.au](mailto:secretary@parishofsouthyarra.org.au)

**BECOMING A CATHOLIC CHRISTIAN**



If you know someone who would like to know more about the Catholic faith, or if you have questions about taking the next step, the

Parish of South Yarra is here to accompany you. Please contact the Parish office for more details. 98269677

**PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:**

Ellen Allery, Robert Huggins, Gaston Gori, Margaret Wallin, Mark Ho, June Cochrane, Ronald Seaman, Mitos Gloudemans, Anne Rigg, Ced John Netto, Julie Mahony, Paul Chong, Isabella Chong, Thomas Bedier, Luke Dennis, Sonia Guzman, Damien Ryan, Stephen Soh, Cecil D'Cruz, Joanna Howe, Christine Rodrigues, Janine Forster, Christie De Silva.

**IN LOVING MEMORY**

**Recently Deceased**



**Anniversaries**

- ✦ Agatha Tong
- ✦ Margaret England
- ✦ Kevin Quealy
- ✦ Giovanna Malice
- ✦ Sr. Rosaleen McCaffrey PBVM.
- ✦ John Morley
- ✦ Leslie McMaster
- ✦ Anacleto Duran
- ✦ Julita Lim

**HEALING / ANOINTING MASS 10AM FEB 4<sup>th</sup>**

Our monthly Anointing/Healing Mass for those who are frail, elderly, mentally or physically ill, is scheduled for 10am Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> February at St. Joseph's.



If anyone has a friend or relative who is unable to attend but would like to receive communion at home, please speak to one of the priests.

**ROAD WORKS – BROMBY STREET**

Traffic and parking changes in Bromby St between Adams St & St Kilda Rd from 26 Jan to 7 Feb. Access may be restricted, please check signs before parking.

**VOLUNTEER WITH OUR QR CODE**

Scan this QR code for a direct link to our parish website to access bulletins, the latest news and information on how to get involved in your parish.



**PARISH BAPTISMS**

This weekend we welcome the family and friends of Lauren Yu who is to be baptised in our parish



**MASS COLLECTIONS 26/01/2025**

<b>Clergy (Augustinian Community)</b>	
1 <sup>st</sup> Collection, CDF & bank deposits.	\$ 683.00
<b>Church (Parish Ministries)</b>	
2 <sup>nd</sup> Collection	\$ 386.85
Envelopes	\$ 70.00
Direct Debit/EFT/ CDF Pay/ Cr Cards...	\$ 340.00
Tap Point Terminals	\$ 670.00
<i>Thank you for your generosity</i>	

**Liturgical Calendar** for the week commencing 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2025

DAY	ST JOSEPH'S	ST THOMAS AQUINAS'
	TIME	TIME
<b>Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> February</b>	<b>6.00pm Vigil Mass</b>	
<b>Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> February</b> <b>Presentation of the Lord</b>	<b>10.30am Mass</b>	<b>9.00am Mass</b>
<b>Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> February</b> Sts Ansgar & Blaise		
<b>Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> February</b> 4 <sup>th</sup> Week in Ordinary Time	<b>10.00am Anointing/ Healing Mass</b>	<b>12.45pm Mass</b>
<b>Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February</b> St Agatha	<b>10.00am Mass</b>	<b>12.45pm Mass</b>
<b>Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> February</b> St Paul Miki & Companions	<b>10.00am Mass</b>	<b>12.45pm Mass</b>
<b>Friday 7<sup>th</sup> February</b> Sts Jerome Emiliani & Josephine Bakhita & Bl Anselm Polanco	<b>10.00am Mass</b>	<b>12.45pm Mass</b>
<b>Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> February</b> 4 <sup>th</sup> Week in Ordinary Time	<b>9.00am Mass</b> <b>6.00pm Mass</b>	

**WORLD DAY OF CONSECRATED LIFE 2<sup>nd</sup> FEBRUARY 2025**

This special day instituted by St. Pope John Paul II, highlights the importance of religious vocations and the commitment of those in consecrated life. It coincides with the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, emphasizing the light of Christ in the world. We especially pray today for our Augustinian priests in South Yarra.