

FR.TK.REFLECTIONS PRESENTATION OF OUR LORD:

THE SIGN OF CONTRADICTIONS:

Today we are privileged to embark on **Joyful mysteries of the Holy Rosary.**We had **The Annunciation of the coming of our Lord,**then mary couldn't keep this to herself hence she went to share with her cousin Elizabeth hence **the Visitation.**Few weeks back we had the fulfillment of the great day **the Nativity or the Birth of our Lord.**

Today we have the fourth mystery in our Rosary the **Presentation of our Lord in the temple.**

St.Luke (2:22-40) recount this event of presentation and emphasizes the truth of **incarnation(God becoming man).**The second person in the Trinity subjected himself to the law.Later during his ministry, we see him paying the taxes,he followed all the Judaism law,he had undergone the rituals of **naming,circumcision and now presentation or dedication,and the purification of the mother as required** by the Jewish laws.

In becoming human,the son of God took on our biology and took also human law of development by obeying the customs of Judaism culture.He didn't exempt himself from ritual structure of Judaism.He is showing us we must not consider or think ourselves to be above the background from our culture and too from our Catholic culture. The faith of our church needs expression and we are the agents of that mission in our most challenging society.We must stand for that background.The challenge for you and me is,are we doing it or we are compromised by modernization and modern technology!

In today's gospel,we see the song of Simon which looks beyond Christmas to redemption as prophet Malachi(Mal 3:1-4) spoke of

cleansing and purifying that the anointed one will bring, as the old man Simon speak of **darkness and light, rise and fall of souls, a sign of contradiction and a sword of sorrows**. He is giving a preview of redeeming power of Christ. Jesus came to fight the fact of sin and show us as human beings **what we can become, transmit grace and life of God, to bring forgiveness and call for conversion**. How are we taking this mission of Christ in our present day situation is that what matters. Many of us due to lot of confusion and lack of direction sometimes due to pride, ignorance **lack of respect for the gospel and the church** ignore and oppose thus choosing death over life. The rise and fall continues today and Jesus continues to be a sign of contradiction, yet he remains **light to people in darkness** **kya** When people reject the Lord, then **the sword of sorrow continues to enter the heart of His mother**. We must save our Blessed mother from these sorrows through recommitting ourselves to the mission of her son.

We are called to be **faithful and trust in God** like Simon who trusted Gods words would become true. ***Now lord you have fulfilled your word and my eyes have seen your salvation (Lk 2:29) we are called to be the light in darkness especially in our world which is full of darkness from all sides***, yet through our shining during this day of presentation, our light, our candles must shine.

Let us light the candles of one another today: