SUNDAY GOSPEL STORIES

The Child Simeon Waited For

THE HOLY FAMILY



Sunday 27 December 2026

Luke 2:22-40

A FAMILY BOOKLET

READ TOGETHER

The Gospel story



Mary and Joseph took the infant Jesus to the Temple in Jerusalem to present him to God. They brought two birds for their offering, as the law allowed.

The Holy Spirit had led Simeon to the Temple that day. God had promised that he would see the Messiah before he died. When Simeon met Jesus, he gathered him in his arms and blessed God. He saw God's promise shining in this child, for Israel and for people of every nation. Mary and Joseph marvelled. Simeon told Mary that her son would reveal what was in people's hearts and that she would know sorrow.

Anna, a prophet who spent her days in prayer, came up and thanked God. She told people who were waiting for Jerusalem to be set free about Jesus.

Mary and Joseph took Jesus home to Nazareth. There he grew strong and wise, and God's favour was with him.

An original retelling of Luke 2:22-40

REMEMBER THE GOSPEL

Draw or write

Who has helped you notice God at work?

Draw Simeon or Anna meeting Jesus. Add a speech bubble with what they might tell a friend.

AT HOME

Talk and pray

SAY TOGETHER

Jesus, help us to recognise your love as Simeon and Anna did. Thank you for the people who help us grow in wisdom. Amen.



WONDER TOGETHER

What did Simeon and Anna recognise in Jesus before he could speak or walk?

TRY ONE THING

Ask an older person who helped them grow in faith. Thank them for sharing the memory.

The optional shorter Gospel is Luke 2:22, 39-40.

Liturgy Office calendar

RSV Catholic Edition