February 2
THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD
Feast

Prayer after Communion

By these holy gifts which we have received, O Lord, bring your grace to perfection within us, and, as you fulfilled Simeon’s expectation that he would not see death until he had been privileged to welcome the Christ, so may we, going forth to meet the Lord, obtain the gift of eternal life. Through Christ our Lord.

Reflection:

Let us hope the parish begins this feast blessing candles and then all processing with lighted candles going “in peace to meet the Lord.” What an image: light bearers, illumined by Christ, going to meet him in the special manifold presence of the Risen One in assembly, in spoken Word, and in Eucharist.

Let us be like Simeon: expecting great things. Let us be like Simeon: going in peace to do what is at hand. Let us be like Simeon: looking everywhere for the light for revelation to the Gentiles (Lk 2:32). Let us be like Simeon: seeing salvation at work in this world. Let us be like Simeon: giving God glory for it all.

Let us be light bearers of the Illumined One in all we say and do and are.

Prayer:

Strengthened by this food, this meal that is Christ the Lord, let us go forth and meet him, the Dead and Risen One, everywhere to go.

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