

Fr. Romeo Evangelista Homily  
Sunday, February 2, 2025  
Presentation of the Lord  
Cycle C

Here's an irony: We all want inner peace, but we don't want to keep still. Whenever stillness looms, we fill our lives with noise, notifications, and the constant need to be productive. But in today's readings, we encounter Simeon and Anna, both models of awaiting the Christian way.

Simeon and Anna teach us that waiting is not passive but an active engagement with God. Simeon was "awaiting the consolation of Israel." Anna, a prophetess, worshiped with fasting and prayer, never leaving the temple. They both symbolize a steadfast commitment to God. As Jesus says, "Remain in me, as I also remain in you."

Their constant presence in the temple shows their deep intimacy with God—the desired fruit of spending more time with Him. It is through this cultivated closeness that they were able to recognize the Baby Jesus as the Messiah. This wasn't just a matter of being in the right place at the right time; it was the result of a lifetime of faithful waiting and spiritual attunement.

From them, we also learn to trust in God's plan. Simeon trusted that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Anna, despite her advanced age and long widowhood, trusted God and continued to worship and pray. They trusted that everything would fall into place in God's perfect time, illustrating a profound faith that His promises are worth waiting for, no matter how long it takes.

As we celebrate the presentation of the Lord, we are reminded that faithful waiting is essential to any Christian who is serious in their relationship with God. In our noisy, impatient world, let us choose to remain in Christ, cultivate our intimacy with God, and trust in his perfect plan. In doing so, we, too, will be able to recognize and celebrate the presence of God in our lives.