



Gospel Acclamation

Col 3:15. 16

Alleluia, alleluia!
May the peace of Christ rule in your hearts,
and the fullness of his message live within you.
Alleluia!

or

Acts 16:14

Alleluia, alleluia!
Open our heart, O Lord,
to listen to the words of your Son.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Lk 2:41-52

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke
Every year the parents of Jesus used to go to Jerusalem for the feast of the Passover. When he was twelve years old, they went up for the feast as usual. When they were on their way home after the feast, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem without his parents knowing it. They assumed he was with the caravan, and it was only after a day's journey that they went to look for him among their relations and acquaintances. When they failed to find him they went back to Jerusalem looking for him everywhere.

Have you thought?
Mary

We're told in today's gospel that Mary 'stored up all these things in her heart'. Mary is a model of the reflective life. When extraordinary, life-altering events occur to her, she is portrayed as pondering these events in her heart. She responds to these events by allowing them to speak to her and speak to her heart rather than simply 'reacting' as so many of us do. The ability to reflect on events, rather than react to them, can lead to a much better considered response and less chance of making the same mistakes over and over again.

GOSPEL CONTINUED:

Three days later, they found him in the Temple, sitting among the doctors, listening to them, and asking them questions; and all those who heard him were astounded at his intelligence and his replies. They were overcome when they saw him, and his mother said to him, 'My child, why have you done this to us? See how worried your father and I have been, looking for you.' 'Why were you looking for me?' he replied. 'Did you not know that I must be busy with my Father's affairs?' But they did not understand what he meant.

He then went down with them and came to Nazareth and lived under their authority. His mother stored up all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom, in stature, and in favour with God and men.

Communion Antiphon

Bar 3:38

Our God has appeared on the earth, and lived among us.

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What does the LORD require of you
but to act justly, to love tenderly, and
to walk humbly with your God.
MICAH 6:8



OUR LADY OF WAY PARISH—EMU PLAINS

**SUNDAY
26TH DECEMBER 2021**

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH Year C

Entrance Antiphon

Lk 2:16

The shepherds went in haste,
and found Mary and Joseph and the Infant lying in a
manger.

First Reading

Sir 3:2-6. 12-14

A reading from the Book of Ecclesiasticus

Whoever fears the Lord honours his parents.

The Lord honours the father in his children,
and upholds the rights of a mother over her sons.
Whoever respects his father is atoning for his sins,
he who honours his mother is like someone amassing a
fortune.

Whoever respects his father will be happy with children
of his own,
he shall be heard on the day when he prays.
Long life comes to him who honours his father,
he who sets his mother at ease is showing obedience
to the Lord.

My son, support your father in his old age,
do not grieve him during his life.
Even if his mind should fail, show him sympathy,
do not despise him in your health and strength;
for kindness to a father shall not be forgotten
but will serve as reparation for your sins.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 83:2-3. 5-6. 9-10. R. v.5

(R.) How happy they who dwell in your house, O Lord.

I. How lovely is your dwelling place,

Lord, God of hosts.

My soul is longing and yearning,

is yearning for the courts of the Lord.

My heart and my soul ring out their joy

to God, the living God. **(R.)**

2. They are happy, who dwell in your house,
for ever singing your praise.
They are happy, whose strength is in you;
they walk with ever growing strength. **(R.)**
3. O Lord, God of hosts, hear my prayer,
gave ear, O God of Jacob.
Turn your eyes, O God, our shield,
look on the face of your anointed. **(R.)**

Second Reading

1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24

A reading from the first letter of St John

He calls you his own children, and that is what you are.

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us,
by letting us be called God's children;
and that is what we are.

Because the world refused to acknowledge him,
therefore it does not acknowledge us.

My dear people, we are already the children of God
but what we are to be in the future has not yet been re-
vealed,
all we know is, that when it is revealed
we shall be like him
because we shall see him as he really is.

My dear people,
if we cannot be condemned by our own conscience,
we need not be afraid in God's presence,
and whatever we ask him,
we shall receive,
because we keep his commandments
and live the kind of life that he wants.
His commandments are these:

that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ
and that we love one another
as he told us to.

Whoever keeps his commandments
lives in God and God lives in him.

We know that he lives in us
by the Spirit that he has given us.