

A newborn baby is wrapped in white swaddling clothes, being held gently by several hands. The background is a soft, out-of-focus light blue.

**Getting Ready for Sunday!**

**Sunday, 31 December 2023**

**Luke 2:22-40**

A man and a woman in traditional Middle Eastern attire are shown in a scene that appears to be a market or a place of sacrifice. The man, wearing a white head covering and a dark brown tunic, holds a pigeon in his right hand. The woman, wearing a red headscarf and a light blue tunic, holds a pigeon in her left hand. In the foreground, there is a wooden structure made of many parallel wooden poles, possibly a table or a rack. The background is slightly blurred, showing other people in similar attire. The overall scene is set in a warm, outdoor environment.

After the days of her purification were fulfilled, according to the law of Moses, they brought him to Jerusalem, in order to present him to the Lord

..... and in order to offer a sacrifice, according to what is said in the law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.”

And behold, there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon .... and the Holy Spirit was with him.

And he had received an answer from the Holy Spirit: that he would not see his own death before he had seen the Christ of the Lord.

.... And when the child Jesus was brought in by his parents, .... he also took him up, into his arms, and he blessed God and said:



“Now you may dismiss your servant in peace, O Lord, according to your word.

For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared before the face of all peoples:

A light to the revelation of the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel.”

*And his father and mother were wondering over these things, which were spoken about him.*

*And Simeon blessed them, and he said to his mother Mary:*

*“Behold, this one has been set for the ruin and for the resurrection of many in Israel, and as a sign which will be contradicted.*

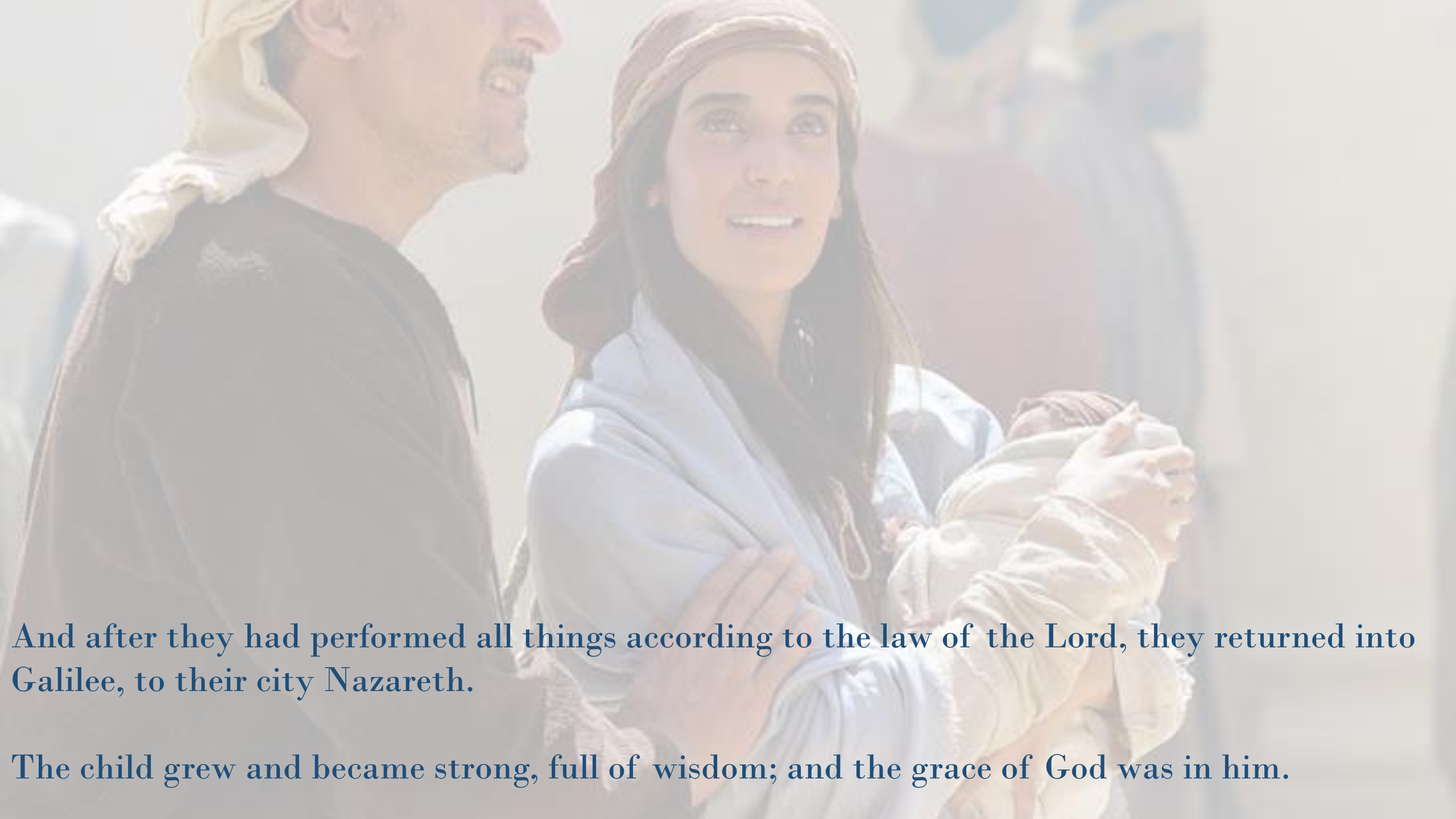
*And a sword will pass through your own soul, so that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed.”*

A close-up photograph of an elderly woman with her hands raised in prayer. She is wearing a light-colored headscarf and a white garment. Her eyes are closed, and her expression is one of devotion. The background is a soft, out-of-focus light color.

*And there was one Anna, a prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher; ....*

*And she was a widow until she was eighty-four years. She never left the temple, but worshiped night and day with fasting and prayer.*

*Now she, at the same hour, coming in, confessed to the Lord; and spoke of him to all that looked for the redemption of Israel.*



*And after they had performed all things according to the law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their city Nazareth.*

*The child grew and became strong, full of wisdom; and the grace of God was in him.*

# Bible Search

**Read Luke 2:22-40 in your family Bible - this is  
the Gospel reading at Mass this Sunday.**

26 Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God.  
27 These wait all for thee, O Lord, and thou shalt give them their food in due season.  
28 Thou givest unto them, they are satisfied with good, they hidest thy face, they are troubled.  
29 Thou hidest thy face, they are troubled.  
30 He shall be made known by his works, and he shall be glorified in his might.

7 He shall be made known by his works, and he shall be glorified in his might.  
8 He shall be made known by his works, and he shall be glorified in his might.

## BOOK V

1 Whom he hath redeemed from the hand of the adversary,  
2 And delivered out of the hand of the enemy, from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.

# Consider



**How can you make this a really happy Christmas for your family today?**

**Is there anyone in need whom you could help this Christmas?**

**Remember to make time for Jesus each day during Christmas!**



# Praying to Jesus



**Pray for the grace to be grateful.**

**Ask Jesus to give you a sense of wonder.**

**Thank God for each person who shows Gods love to you.**

**Thank God for all that you have.**

