
From the Pastor's Desk..... 28 December 2014

We have just celebrated the birth of Jesus. And now this feast of the Holy Family offers us further reflection on the mystery of the incarnation – of God taking on our human flesh.

We have this touching scene in which God is carried into the temple in the arms of his parents, Mary and Joseph. There are two other figures in this scene – the prophet Simeon and the prophetess Anna. We see through their eyes the holy family: a mother, father and their newborn son. On one level it is a very ordinary scene that we behold, albeit, one touched with great tenderness. But the two seers, Simeon and Anna, help us to see the true identity of this child, the one who is the saviour of the world.

For me one of the most touching moments of this scene is when the baby Jesus is placed in the arms of Simeon. One can only imagine what this must have been like to hold in one's arms the creator of the universe and to stare into the eyes of the author of love. Perhaps we too, are invited to place ourselves in Simeon's shoes and through our imagination to cradle our saviour in our arms. For this is one aspect of the incarnation: that God placed himself in our arms, and it is a wonder beyond all wonders.

Peace and blessings,

Gerard