**Prayers of the People for the Feast of the Presentation**

*Adapted from Psalm 84 and the Song of Simeon from the Gospel according to St. Luke*

*Priest:*The prayers of the people may be found on the next page in your bulletin.

Let us kneel together.

*Intercessor:* Eternal Father, Source of light and life, we present before you today

the prayers we carry in our hearts. Please accept these offerings,

made pure and holy through your son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

*A silent pause.*

*Intercessor:* We present our parish of St. Peter’s, our diocese,

and your one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church.

*People:* **Refine us, O Lord, so that we might be made pure**

**in thought, word, and deed.**

*Intercessor:* We present our own souls, which embody our desire

and longing for your dwelling, O Lord.

*People:* **Kindle our hearts to rejoice in you,**

**and guide us to seek your way of love.**

*Intercessor:* We present our local, state, and national leaders

who need a love for your truth and a devotion

to your sense of justice, liberty, and peace.

*People:* **O Lord, you are both sun and shield;**

 **Give them a measure of your grace and glory.**

*Intercessor:* We present all who suffer from violence, poverty, disease,

and environmental destruction.

*People:* **Let them behold the compassion of your Son, our savior,**

**whom you have given for all the world to see.**

*Intercessor:* We present the blessings in our lives, including \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Accept this, our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving.

*People:* **Happy are those whose strength is in you!**

 **Set our hearts on the pilgrims’ way.**

*Intercessor:* We present the names of those who have asked our prayers for healing, including \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Accept these intercessions.

*People:* **May those who go through the desolate valley**

 **find it to be a place of springs.**

*Intercessor:* We present the names of those who have died, including \_\_\_\_\_.

Forever bless these dear souls, whose desire and longing

for the courts of your heavenly kingdom has been fulfilled.

*People:* **Happy are they who dwell in your house!**

 **They will always be praising you.**

*Celebrant:* On this day, your Son, our savior, was presented as the Light of the world. Please accept these prayers which we present, and embolden us to magnify your perpetual light, to the glory of your Name. *Amen.*

*Priest:* Finally, we present our broken and contrite hearts,

as we pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

*A silent pause.*

*All:* **Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;
  in your compassion forgive us our sins,
  known and unknown,
  things done and left undone;
  and so uphold us by your Spirit
  that we may live and serve you in newness of life,
  to the honor and glory of your Name;
  through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*The Celebrant concludes with an absolution.*

*All stand, in order to exchange the Peace*

*Celebrant:* The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People:* **And also with you.**