

Yr 2 Encounter of Our Lord in the Temple Parents' Cheat Sheet

1. Who were Simeon and Anna and what did they do?

Simeon and Anna were two holy people who loved God and spent lots of time in the temple worshipping God, praying and fasting. They were both filled with the Holy Spirit. Because they were filled with the Holy Spirit, they immediately recognized Jesus as the Saviour and light of the world.

2. What does it mean to be filled with the Holy Spirit?

One is close to God, and therefore able to understand what God wants from them in their lives. One can see what God is doing in the world and can feel His presence. The Holy Spirit opens our eyes to see things differently. That is why Simeon and Anna recognized Jesus for who he was. We pray to the Holy Spirit to open our eyes to see Jesus in each person we meet.

3. Why do we bring candles to bless on this special day?

In the story of the encounter, Simeon says that Jesus will be a light for revelation to the Gentiles. The candles remind us of that.

The Gentiles are us! If Jesus is a light for revelation to us, then it means that by his life and his death and his rising he helps us see God. The Bible tells us that each person is an image of God. If we do the same things that Simeon and Anna did and dedicate ourselves to God, we will be filled with the Holy Spirit and we will see Jesus in others and we will know that God is everywhere!