

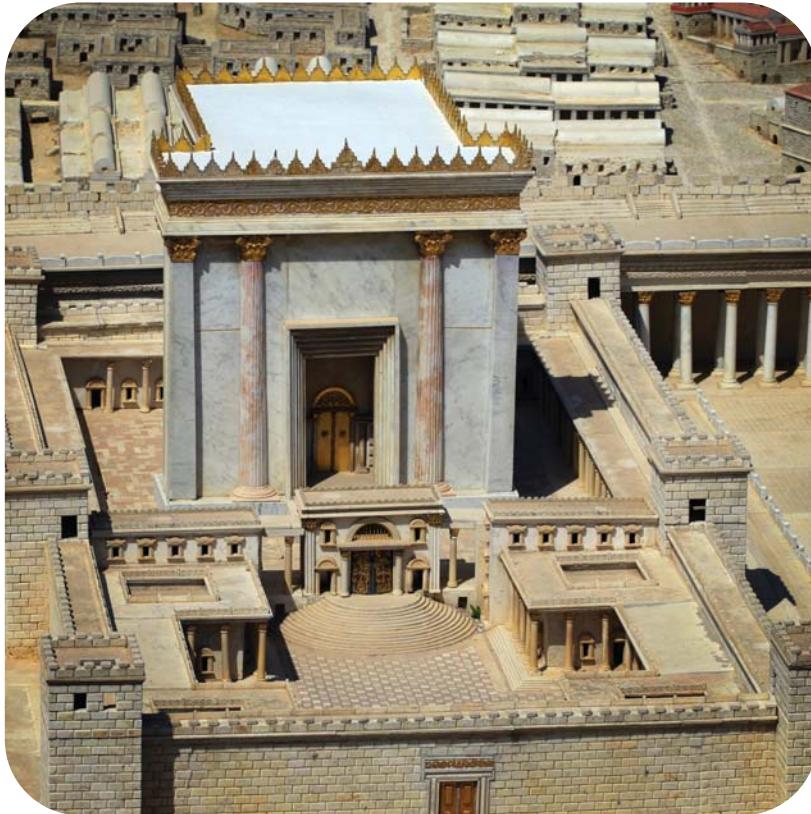
Candlemas

This christian festival commemorates the presentation of Jesus in the Temple. Traditionally church processions on this day were lit by candles (hence the name), to symbolise Jesus being “a light to the Gentiles”. This linked in well with an older tradition of a festival to mark the awakening of the earth in Spring and the “return” of light.



- ① Sit down with the children and show them the series of pictures overleaf. You may wish to lay the sheets out either on a table or the floor, and then read the story.
- ② Ask the children the following questions and discuss them:-
What part of the story did you like?
What part of the story didn't you like?
What do we use candles for?
- ③ Explore different occasions when candles are used and why i.e. Birthdays, baptisms etc.
- ④ Make some candle collage and craft decorations. Templates can be found within the Candlemas section on iChild.

Candlemas



Mary and Joseph took their baby son Jesus to the temple in Jerusalem.



Mary and Joseph took an offering of 2 turtle doves.

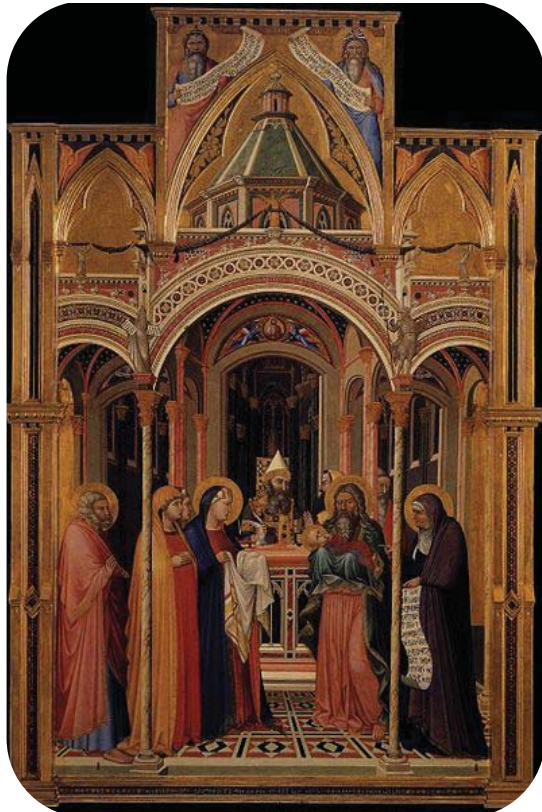


Mary and Joseph met an old man called Simeon, who told them that he recognised Jesus as a very special person. He said Jesus would be a light to lighten all people.

Simeon took the baby Jesus and prayed for him.



**Some pictures are called
ICONS and this is an icon
of the presentation of
Jesus in the Temple.**



**Lots of artists have
pictured this event.**