THE ANNUNCIATION

The angel Gabriel was sent by God to a city of Samaria, called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the house of David, and the virgin’s name was Mary. The angel went to her and said, “Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you.” But she was greatly troubled at the saying andondered what sort of greeting this might be. And the angel said to her, “Do not fear, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High; and the Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; and of his kingdom there will be no end.” But Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I have not known a man?” And the angel said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child that is conceived in you will be holy; it shall be called Son of God. And behold, your kinswoman Elizabeth has also conceived a son in her old age, and she is six months with child. For nothing will be impossible with God.” And in obedience to the word of the Lord Mary set out and went into the hill country to visit her kinswoman Elizabeth. When she entered the house of Elizabeth, the babe leaped in her womb at the sight of Mary and blessed her. And Mary said, “My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my savior. For he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed. For the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation.” And Mary remained with Elizabeth for about three months and then returned to her own home. (Luke 1:26-55)

Our Father... (Contemplating the mystery, Glory to the Father)

THE PRESENTATION IN THE TEMPLE

And when he was presented in the temple, the child was offered to the Lord. And there was a man of the hill country of Ephraim named Simeon, who was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. And it was revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he should not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Christ. And he came in the Spirit into the temple. When the parents brought him to the temple to do for him according to the custom of the law, he offered him up with a child sacrifice. And a prophet said to him, “The Lord has fulfilled for you what he spoke through me in the presence of all the people, by setting your child free to work in the fear of the Lord.” (Luke 2:22-38)

Our Father... (Contemplating the mystery, Glory to the Father)

THE BIRTH OF OUR LORD

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be enrolled. This was the first enrollment, when Quirinius was governor of Syria. And everyone went to be enrolled, each to his own city. And Joseph also went above to enroll himself, being a man of the house of David; he went up to Jerusalem, to the house of his father, that he might be enrolled. When they came into the house, there was a baby, wrapped in swaddling clothes, and lying in a manger. And the shepherds told them about what had been spoken to them concerning this child; and they went with the shepherds and found the baby. And when they had seen he went out with them and spread the word about the baby, all who heard it were amazed. (Luke 2:1-14)

Our Father... (Contemplating the mystery, Glory to the Father)