

## PRESENTATION

The Blessed Virgin Mary goes to the Temple. Goes to the church to do for her child that which everybody does. She fulfils the traditions the patterns of the everyday experience of a new family.

Then this Man Simeon speaks of her Baby with prophetic authority. This man Simeon must have frightened her. This was her child. She will have wanted to protect him. She will have wanted to keep him safe from the crowd. To celebrate their love within the security of the family.

The words of Simeon smash that false sense of sanctuary.

The words that this man speaks of her child, have consequences beyond her.

Here the mother of God again learns that she is not in control.

That she can live for today loving the baby

But she can only plan for tomorrow

For the best laid plans of mice and men

Go adrift upon the movement of circumstance

Live for today

Plan for tomorrow

Live for today

Plan for tomorrow

I am very soon to go on holiday. I am getting older. Energy is not in great supply.

The anxieties of each day seem all the greater when viewed through tired eyes.

So there is the great temptation to invest all my joy in the future escape.

To see this moment only as an obstacle in front of tomorrow

But I am blessed and there is much love, interest and even adventure

To be found in this instant

How foolish it would be to miss what I have here and now

By a focus upon what I may have

Like the Blessed Virgin Mary I am not in control of what will be

I must

Live for today

Plan for tomorrow

Live for today

Plan for tomorrow

The average age of those practicing their faith is going ever up

The numbers celebrating the sacramental life

Ever going down

So there is the great temptation to invest all my anxiety in what will happen to the church

To see this moment only as a desperate prequel to tomorrow's disaster

But we are blessed and there is much love, interest, and even beauty in this Church.

To be found in this instant

How foolish it would be to miss what we have here and now

By a focus upon what we may have

Like the Blessed Virgin Mary we are not in control of what will be

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Live for today

Plan for tomorrow

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Your Children will be small for no time at all

Your youth will pass and only really be noticed when it is gone

Blackburn Rovers struggle at the top of the table is only for a brief time

The winter's bite is passing and even the freshness of spring will soon be exhausted

The excitement of the new, will soon become the living of the ordinary

Many of those you love will leave you

There is a great temptation to invest all our energy into what may be

To see this moment only as a desperate prequel to tomorrow's events

But we are blessed and there is much love, interest, and even beauty in our lives.

To be found in this instant

How foolish it would be to miss what we have here and now

By a focus upon what we may have

Like the Blessed Virgin Mary we are not in control of what will be

I must  
Live for today  
Plan for tomorrow

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