

Feast of the Presentation 2021

A Mother Rocks her baby to sleep



“Sleep gently, my darling while I watch over you and ponder the happenings of that strange day in the Sacred Temple. It was your first visit there and one that you will never remember and I will never forget.

Your father and I had already bought the two turtle doves for the sacrifice when, suddenly, an old holy man came forward and took you from my arms. He held you very gently and his face lit up as he proclaimed that he was ready to die because now he had seen God's salvation for all and the glory of God's people.

Joseph and I were astonished but even more so when the old man blessed us and, looking closely into my face as he gently placed you back into my arms, warned me solemnly that a sword would pierce my heart because you are a sign to be contradicted.

As we tried to understand what had just happened, a prophetess came to us, praising God and, calling everyone who looked forward to the reign of God and the liberation of his people to come and see what was happening before them

Suddenly a crowd was surging forward to look at you, nestling unconcerned in my arms. Most of them smiled and called down blessings on us, but some of the women, with tears in their eyes, looked at me pityingly and promised to pray for us always. I was relieved that your father was right next to us.

On the way home, your father and I didn't speak of what had happened, but he kept very close to us and frequently looked around as if sensing danger.

You can be sure, my little darling, that we will always try to keep you safe, so sleep softly knowing that our wonderful God in heaven loves you even more than your adoring parents here on earth”.