

## **Commentary on the Gospel for Fri, Dec 30th 2011**

We remember the Holy Family not just as a pretty picture but as depicted in the gospel: a family who fulfilled the Scriptures. Joseph and Mary were devoted to their faith that they went to the temple to offer the ritual sacrifice for a first-born. This ordinary religious event was made extraordinary by the witness of Simeon and Anna who were filled with joy and hope that this child will be the salvation of the nation which comes with it a price—the sword! That’s a more realistic picture of the family—one filled with the pain and promise of salvation.

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