

LOVE

JOY

PEACE

PATIENCE

GOODNESS

KINDNESS

FIDELITY

GENTLENESS

SELF-CONTROL

ALL FOR GOD! ALL THROUGH HOLY LOVE!

All who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are the sons of God. *Rom 8:14*

Dear Sisters, and the entire Spiritual Family of Saint Marie Rivier,

Today we begin the Novena of preparation for the Feast of the Presentation of Mary on November 21st. We celebrate it with great solemnity, in the joy of being together, in hope for the future, in the love that governs life rooted in Jesus Christ, ***who is the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, he will have the light of life*** Jn 8:12.

Together to make Jesus Christ known and loved!

The theme of our novena is: ***With Mary, presenting herself in the Temple, let us live the Fruits of the Spirit.*** Saint Paul, in his letter to the Galatians 5:22-23, presents these fruits: **love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, benevolence, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control**.

Day after day, we are called to live them, as a source of life in abundance, a divine work, a community project, a mission of zeal, through the transformation of our lives, in the following of Jesus Christ. ***We have all shared in its fullness, we have received grace after grace*** Jn 1:16.

The Spirit makes us live, let us walk under the guidance of the Spirit Gal 5:25. During this pilgrimage, the Virgin Mary is our guide, our teacher, our counsellor. She draws upon us the Spirit of holiness. *The humble Virgin Mary, the freest of God's creatures, is our model of availability and self-giving. We look to her as we journey in hope.* ***C 48***

Living according to the Spirit, letting ourselves be guided by his presence, his gifts and his grace, transforms our life as disciples of the Master and radiates trust. Pope Leo XIV says: "*to live in docility and listening*, to welcome the Word of God with humility and to be attentive to the inspirations of the Spirit. This presupposes spiritual vigilance to avoid passing illusions. The action of the Holy Spirit is not abstract: it is expressed in fraternal charity, dialogue and social responsibility. The Christian faith is never separated from justice and care for the most vulnerable. The search for unity and peace must always be present. The Holy Spirit builds the Church into one Mystical Body. ».

Mary's prayer teaches us that all true holiness is the holiness the Spirit accomplishes in us when we let ourselves be fashioned by him. C 78

In communion with my councilors, I wish you a fervent Novena and a very beautiful feast of the Presentation of Mary.

Sister Maria dos Anjos Alves, p.m.
Superior General



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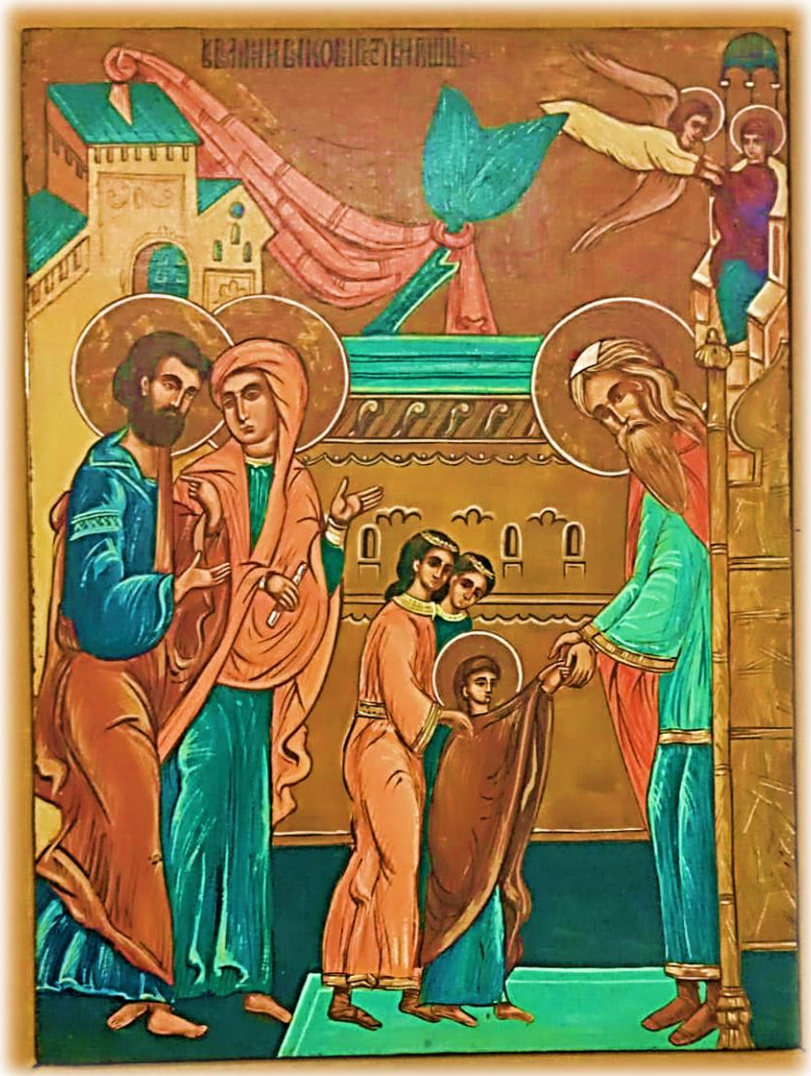
KINDNESS

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November 13, 2026



Mary teaches us true love.

The humble Virgin Mary, the freest of God's creatures, is our model of availability and self-giving. **C 48**

God our Father, you who gave us the Virgin Mary as a model and school of true love, grant us, through her maternal intercession, the grace to give ourselves unreservedly, to open our hands and hearts to our brothers and sisters, and to let your love spread throughout our lives. May we, following the example of the Virgin Mary, learn to love with humility, generosity and fidelity. Amen.

November 14, 2026

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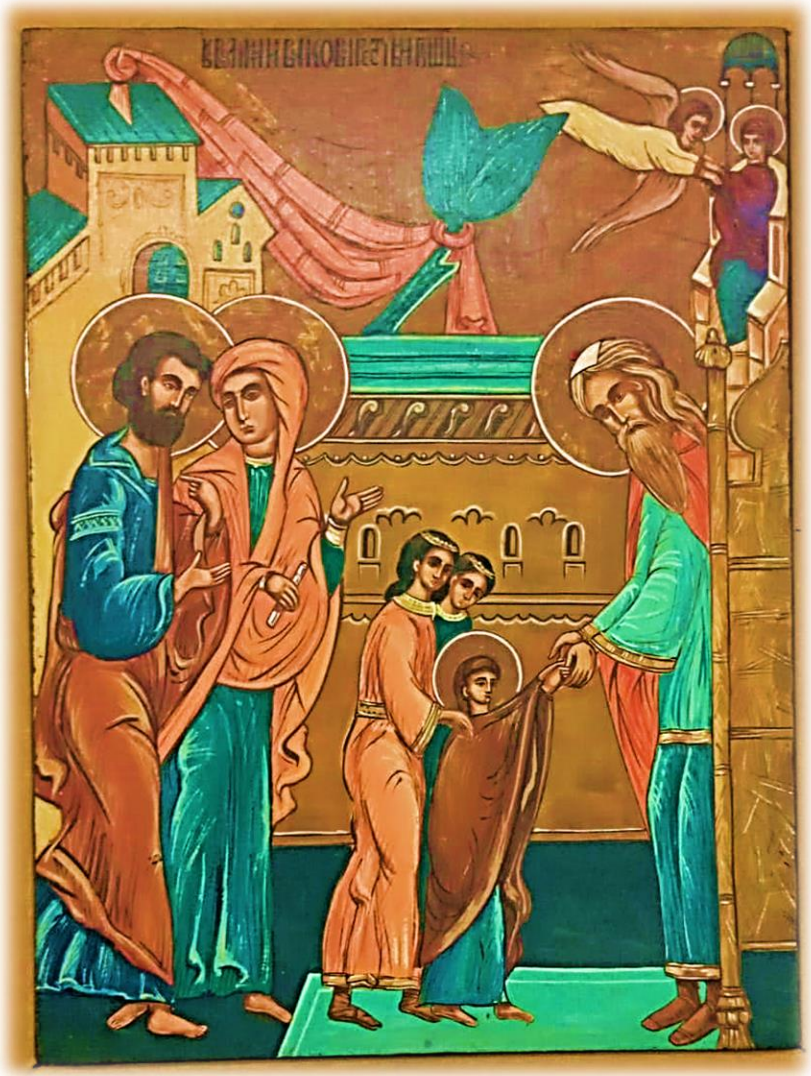
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Mary teaches us true joy.

We are called to live in thanksgiving and the ever-renewed joy of Mary's Magnificat. **C 49**

God our Father, you have given us the Virgin Mary as a model of true joy. Grant us, through her intercession, the grace to bring hope and to restore joy to those who have lost it, through the witness of our lives, our words and our gestures of charity. We ask you through Christ our Lord. Amen.

November 15, 2026

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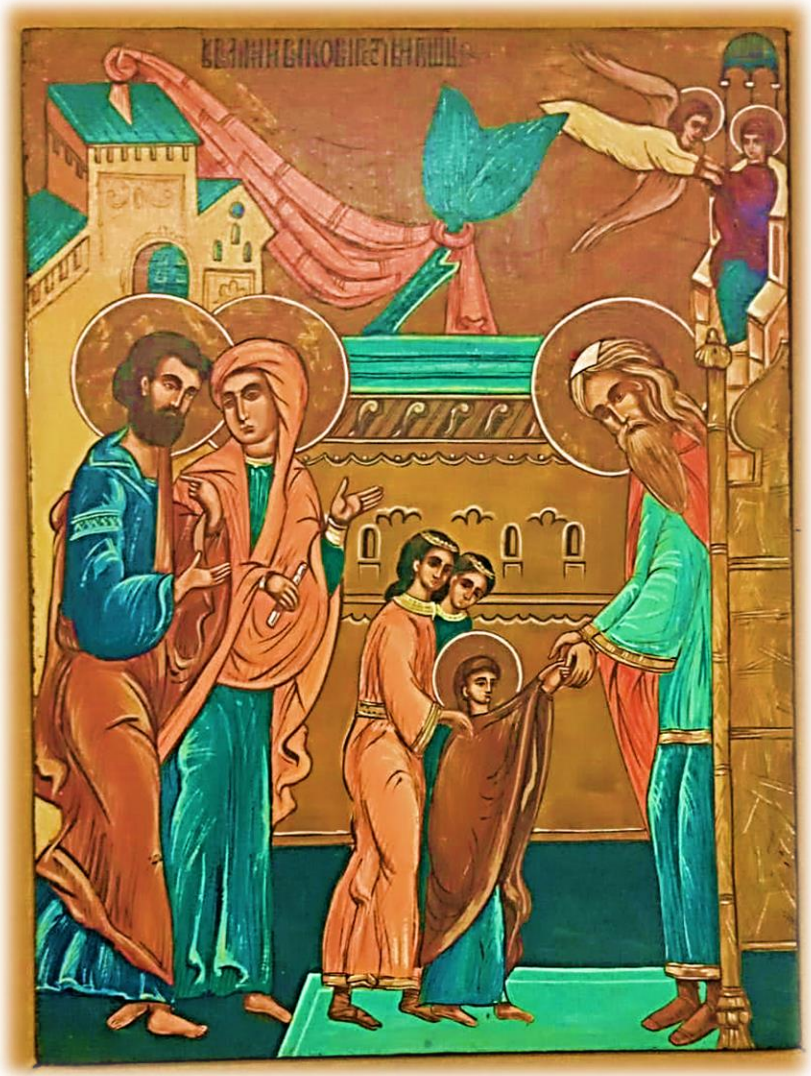
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Mary teaches us inner peace.

Behold, the handmaid of the Lord; let all things be done to me according to your word.

Luke 1:38

God our Father, we bless you for the precious gift of Mary, a woman of peace and silence, who kept her heart serene as she lived the mysteries of her life. Through her tender and powerful intercession, grant that we may receive this same inner strength and live it every day in Christ our Lord. Amen.



November 16, 2026

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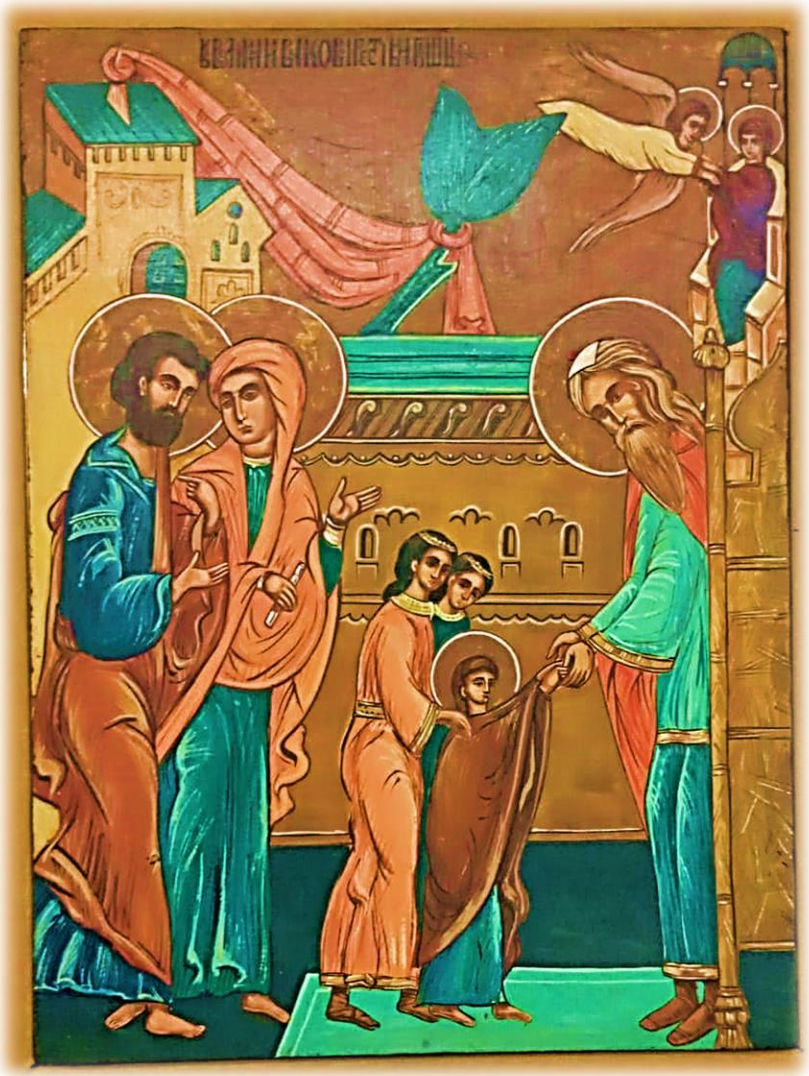
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Mary teaches us silent patience.

Mary kept all these things in her heart and meditated on them. **Luke 2:19**

Heavenly Father, we thank you for the gift of Mary, whose silent patience and unwavering trust light up our lives like a beacon in the night. Following her example, teach us to welcome and meditate on your Word in the silence of our hearts. Give us the grace to await with faith and hope the fulfilment of your plans, even when the path seems dark. Like Mary, may we know how to abandon ourselves to your will with confidence, certain that you direct all things for the good of those who love you. Amen.

November 17, 2026

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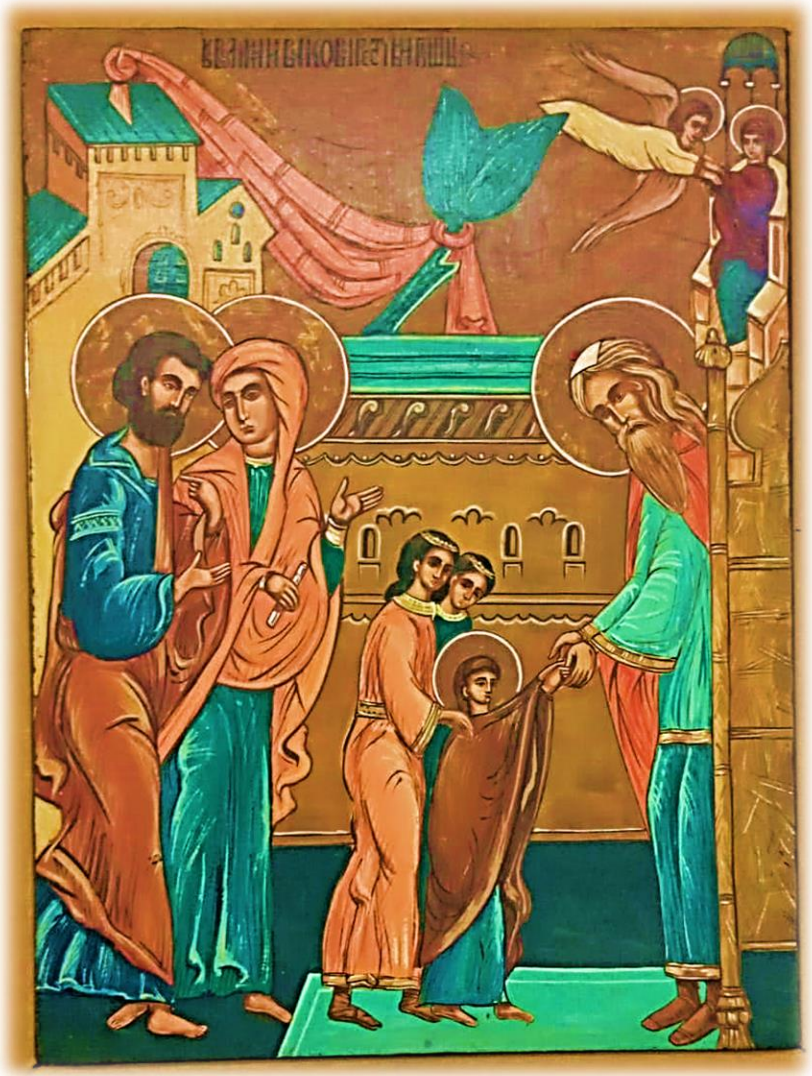
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Mary, transparency of God's goodness.

A generous man will prosper; he who refreshes others will himself be refreshed.

Proverbs 11:25

God of love, you have given us Mary as a model of goodness and fidelity. Help us to imitate her spirit of service, her sensitivity to the needs of others, and her unwavering love, in moments of joy and in times of trial. We ask you through Christ our Lord. Amen.

November 18, 2026

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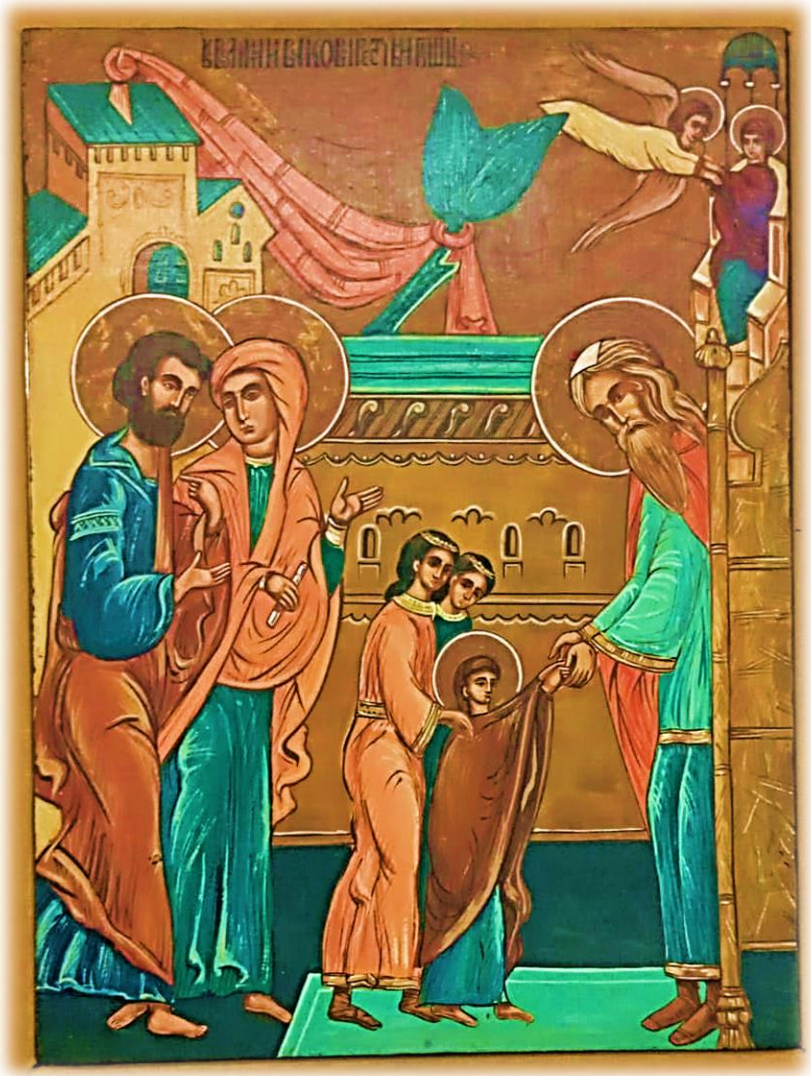
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With Mary, let us live in kindness.

The God of mercy calls us to be kind; with Mary, let us sing of his goodness for all peoples.

God of love, who in the Blessed Virgin Mary has given us the perfect model of a love that endures all things, believes all things, and hopes all things, grant us, through her maternal intercession, the grace to live in a spirit of kindness and charity towards one another. Amen.

November 19

With Mary, let us move forward with creative fidelity.

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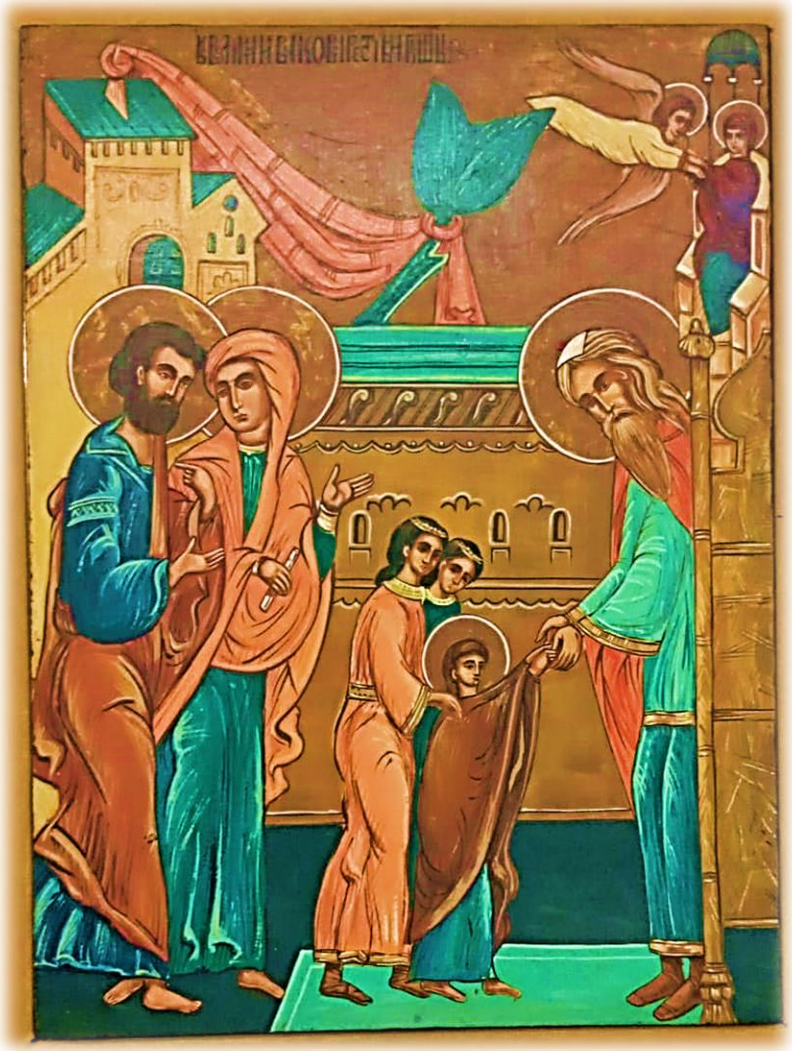
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With Mary, let us walk in renewed fidelity; like her, let us welcome God's will every day with an open and trusting heart.

Heavenly Father, give us the grace and courage to remain standing in the midst of the trials of our world, bringing your peaceful and life-giving presence to those who suffer. May our first "yes" to your call grow and be renewed every day, so that our trials may become a path of transformation and a true pilgrimage of faith. We ask you through Christ our Lord. Amen.

November 20, 2026

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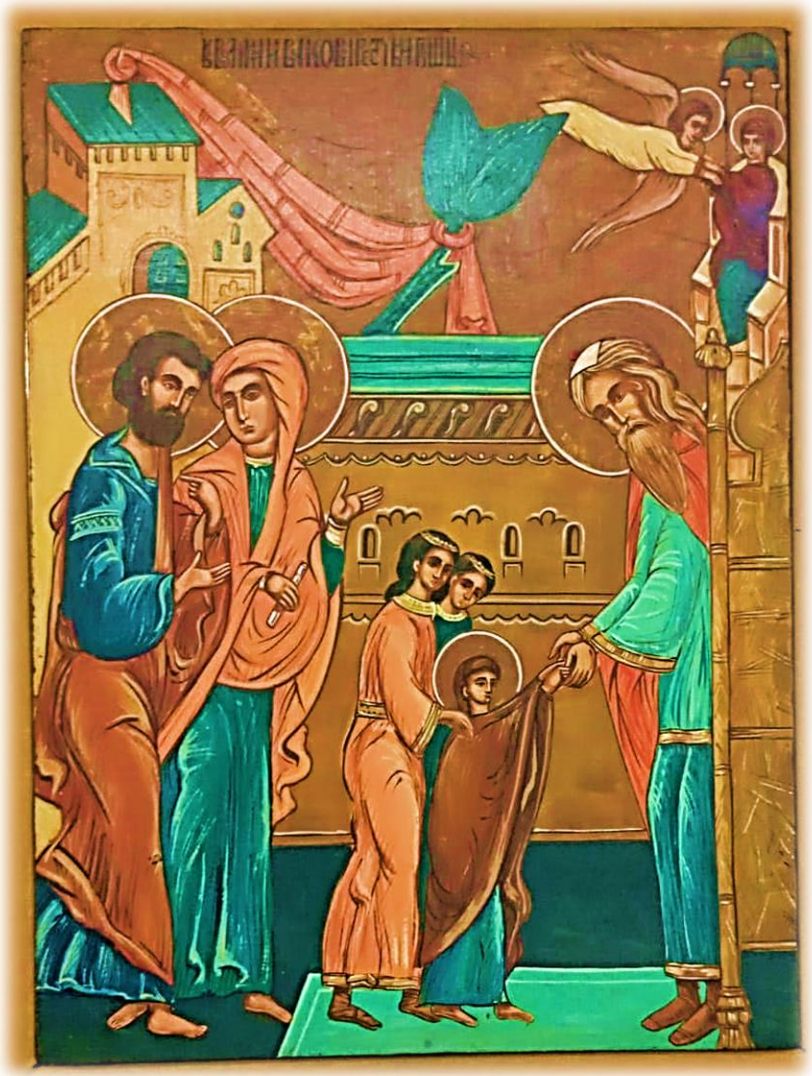
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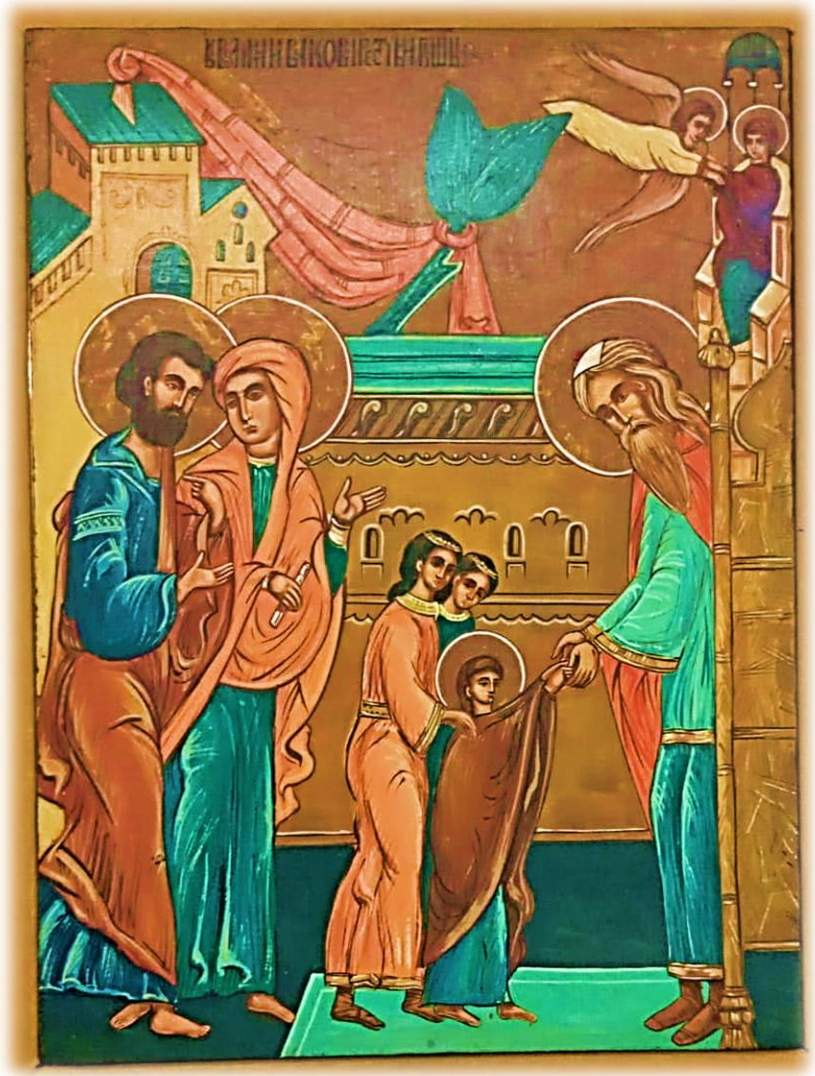


With Mary, let's choose gentleness.

With Mary, let us move forward in gentleness and humility; may our words and actions reveal the goodness of God's heart.

God of love, we thank you for the gift of Mary, whose welcoming heart and peaceful strength reveal your perfect love. Teach us, following her example, to bring Christ to the world with a gentle, humble and charitable heart. May our words, our actions and our whole lives become a reflection of your grace, your peace and your tenderness. Amen

November 21, 2026



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Following the example of Mary presented in the Temple, let us cultivate self-control in order to become available to God and free to love.

God our Father, following the example of Mary being presented in the Temple, teach us to offer ourselves to you every day with trust and generosity. May our whole life become a living, holy and pleasing offering to you. We ask you through Christ our Lord. Amen.