

## Feast of the Holy Family



In today's readings, we see a devotion to our spiritual ruler over and above any temporal concerns.

In the first reading, Hannah prepares Samuel so that she can fulfill her promise to God made at Shiloh. With Samuel in tow, she returns to Shiloh to fulfill the promise made at Shiloh.

In the second reading, the author addresses the problem of some members leaving the community and preaching a different doctrine. The community is urged to reflect on their relationship to the Father and act on it.

In the Gospel, in response to his mother. "Son, why have you done this to us?" He says "Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" What could be Luke's purpose in telling the story with such a peculiar twist? Last Sunday's reading was of an unborn child. Today the image is far less vulnerable and captures more of the powerful and majestic likeness of God. The focus seems to be more on the Son's relationship with His divine Father and less on the relationship with his human parents. Perhaps it is a try to place the nature of Jesus as God within the body of a human child - An attempt to see Jesus as a child prodigy in the reading of the Torah.