

**GOSPEL PEARLS**

## Whatever the cost

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*There was a prophetess, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was well on in years. Her days of girlhood over, she had been married for seven years before becoming a widow. She was now eighty-four years old and never left the Temple, serving God night and day with fasting and prayer. She came by just at that moment and began to praise God; and she spoke of the child to all who looked forward to the deliverance of Jerusalem. When they had done everything the Law of the Lord required, they went back to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. Meanwhile the child grew to maturity, and he was filled with wisdom; and*

*God's favour was with him. (Luke 2, 36-40)*

The presentation of Jesus in the temple is a prefiguration of His free offering on the Cross for us. In this way, as prophetically announced by Anna, Jesus redeemed us, that is, He saved us from the sin that once separated us from God. Obviously, to be saved, Jesus needs our collaboration. Are you ready to commit yourself to following Jesus whatever the cost?