## Synopsis of Brama

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AINT ANN, that worthy daughter of the Patriarchs, was destined, when advanced in years, to give birth to the Mother of the world's Redeemer. During the infancy of her child, Saint Ann vowed that, on attaining her third year, Mary should be consecrated to the service

of the Lord in the Temple at Jerusalem. When the auspicious day had arrived Saint Ann, accompanied by Saint Joachim, the father of the Immaculate Child, brought the Blessed Virgin to the Temple to present her to the Lord. Their hearts were torn with anguish at the thought of the dread parting, yet they were admirable in their fidelity to the promise made to the Almighty. Then, to quote an old chronicler, "the child ascended the fifteen steps unaided, and so rapidly that she had not time to look backward, as children are wont to do. By this prodigy the Lord prefigured her future greatness."