



“Joseph went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. She gave birth to her firstborn son ... and laid him in a manger because there was no place for them in the inn.” (Luke 2: 5-7). Again, and again, it astonishes us that God makes himself a child so that he may be close to us, and we may love him.

One of the dangers that we face in hearing from St. Luke’s account of Jesus’ birth is that it can very easily for us today sound like just a cute Christmas story. We have the charming little town of Bethlehem; the lovely shepherds and we have Mary gazing upon her son. It’s almost like a fairy tale. But this story is far more than that. Here God is showing us something very profound and meaningful for our lives.

St. Luke presents us with three images, that are worth to reflect upon; Bethlehem, the shepherds, and Mary. If there is anything that ties all these images together for us, it is humility – the virtue of humility. Christmas is first and foremost the feast of God’s great humility. God steps down to us as a baby in a little town, in a smelly cave with animals, so that we could approach him, and so that he could one day raise us up to where he is in heaven. We must have the humility to recognize that we were made by God and for God, and that we have a hunger that only God can satisfy.

The famous Bishop Fulton Sheen once remarked that only two classes of people found the baby Jesus: the shepherds and the wise men – the simple and the learned – those who knew that they knew nothing, and those who knew that they did not know everything. Bp Fulton Sheen would go on to say that God is never found by the man of one book – by the man who thinks he knows. “Not even God can tell the proud anything! Only the humble can find God!”

Let us pray that this Christmas might be an occasion for us to grow in humility – a humility that recognizes within ourselves a hunger that only God can satisfy – a humility that receives the Gospel message and wants to share that with the rest of the world. Merry Christmas!

Fr Jan



**MASSES BETWEEN  
CHRISTMAS AND  
NEW YEAR**

**Thursday, 26th of December**

St Joseph the Worker - 9am

*(NO 5:30pm Mass  
at Mary Immaculate Church)*

**NEW YEARS DAY**

**Wednesday, 1st of January 2020**

St Joseph the Worker - 9am

**St. Joseph the Worker Church**

44 Imperial Parade, Labrador

**Sunday Masses**

7:00am & 8:30am

**Weekday Masses**

Monday & Wednesday

7:00am

**Gold Coast University Hospital**

Friday 10:30am

**Guardian Angels’ Church**

99 Scarborough St., Southport

**Saturday Masses - 6:00pm**

**Sunday Masses**

7:00am & 10:00am

**Weekday Mass**

Friday 12:30pm

**Reconciliation**

Saturday 4:30pm to 5:15pm

**Mary Immaculate Church**

31 Edmund Rice Drive, Ashmore

**Sunday Masses**

8:30am & 6:00pm

**Weekday Masses**

Tuesday 9:00am

Thursday 5:30pm



**Before Mass speak with God**



**During Mass, let God speak with you**



**After Mass, speak with others**



## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.



### PROCESSIONAL HYMN

#### O Come All Ye Faithful

O come, all ye faithful,  
joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye,  
O come ye to Bethlehem.  
Come and behold him  
born the King of Angels;

#### **Refrain:**

**O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord.**

Sing, choirs of angels,  
sing in exultation,  
sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above.  
Glory to God in the highest: **R**

Yea, Lord, we greet thee,  
born this happy morning,  
Jesus to thee be glory giv'n.  
Word of the Father,  
now in flesh appearing: **R**  
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### GLORIA

#### Angels We Have Heard on High

Angels we have heard on high,  
sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
and the mountains in reply,  
echoing their joyous strains.

#### **Refrain:**

**Gloria in excelsis Deo  
Gloria in excelsis Deo**

Shepherds, why this jubilee?  
Why your joyous strains prolong?  
Say, what may the tidings be  
which inspire your heav'nly song? **R**  
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### GIFTS PROCESSION

#### Away in a Manger

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,  
the little Lord Jesus  
laid down His sweet head.  
The stars in the bright sky  
looked down where He lay,  
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing,  
the baby awakes,  
but little Lord Jesus,  
no crying He makes.  
I love you, Lord Jesus !  
Look down from the sky  
and stay by my side  
until morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus,  
I ask you to stay  
close by me for ever and love me, I pray.  
Bless all the dear children  
in your tender care,  
and fit us for heaven,  
to live with you there.  
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### MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION (ICEL)

We proclaim your death, O Lord, and  
profess your Resurrection until  
you come again.

### COMMUNION PROCESSION

#### While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks

While shepherds watched their flocks by  
night, all seated on the ground,  
the angel of the Lord came down,  
and glory shone around.

"Fear not," said he, for mighty dread  
had seized their troubled mind,  
"Glad tidings of great joy I bring  
to you and all mankind."

"To you, in David's town this day,  
is born of David's line  
a Saviour who is Christ the Lord,  
and this shall be the sign:"

"The heavenly Child you there shall find  
to human view displayed,  
all meanly wrapped in swaddling bands,  
and in a manger laid."

Thus spoke the seraph, and forthwith  
appeared a shining throng  
of angels praising God  
who thus addressed their joyful song:

"All glory be to God on high  
and to the earth be peace,  
goodwill henceforth from heaven to all,  
begin and never cease."  
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#### Hark the Herald Angels Sing

Hark! the herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn King,  
peace on earth, and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled!"  
Joyful, all you nations rise,  
join the triumph of the skies.  
With the angelic host proclaim  
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

#### **Refrain:**

**Hark! The herald angels sing  
"Glory to the newborn King!"**

Christ, by highest heaven adored,  
Christ the everlasting Lord,  
late in time behold Him come,  
offspring of a virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh, the Godhead see,  
hail the incarnate Deity!  
Pleased as man with us to dwell,  
Jesus, our Emmanuel. **R**

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace!  
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings,  
risen with healing in his wings.  
Mild he lays his glory by,  
born that we no more may die,  
born to raise us from the earth,  
born to give us second birth. **R**  
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#### What Child is This?

What child is this, who, laid to rest  
on Mary's lap, is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,  
while shepherds watch are keeping?  
This, this is Christ the King,  
whom shepherds worship and angels sing;  
haste, haste to bring him praise,  
the Babe, the Son of Mary.

Why lies he in such mean estate,  
where ox and ass are feeding?  
Come have no fear, God's Son is here,  
his love all love exceeding.  
Nails, spear, shall pierce him through,  
the cross be borne for me, for you.  
Hail, hail, the Saviour comes  
the Babe, the Son of Mary.

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh,  
all tongues and peoples own him,  
the King of kings salvation brings,  
let every heart enthrone him.  
Raise, raise, your song on high  
while Mary sings a lullaby,  
joy, joy, for Christ is born,  
the Babe, the Son of Mary  
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### REFLECTION HYMN

#### Silent Night

Silent night, holy night!  
All is calm, all is bright  
round yon Virgin, Mother and Child.  
Holy infant so tender and mild,  
sleep in heavenly peace,  
sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night!  
Shepherds quake at the sight,  
glories stream from heaven afar,  
heavenly hosts sing "Alleluia!"  
Christ the Saviour is born!  
Christ the Saviour is born!

Silent night, holy night!  
Son of God, love's pure light  
radiant beams from thy holy face,  
with the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth,  
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.  
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### RECESSIONAL HYMN

#### Joy to the World!

Joy to the world! The Lord is come!  
Let earth receive her King!  
Let every heart prepare him room,  
and heav'n and nature sing,  
and heav'n and nature sing,  
and heav'n and heav'n and nature sing.

Joy to the world!  
The Saviour reigns!  
Let us our songs employ,  
while fields and floods,  
rocks, hills and plains  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat, repeat, the sounding joy.

He rules the world  
with truth and grace,  
and makes the nations prove  
the glories of his righteousness,  
and wonders of his love,  
and wonders of his love,  
and wonders, wonders of his love.  
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