

IV SUNDAY OF ADVENT

18th of december 2022 - Cycle A



YOU COME



AND YOU ARE ALWAYS WITH US

SETTING

The Virgin is pregnant; it is the Lord who is coming. He comes and is always with us. Let us make your arrival new. He comes when I welcome my entire neighbour. He comes when I expect him, preparing the house. He comes when I share his life, his Kingdom. He comes when I listen and feel with the others. He comes through my words and gestures. He comes at every moment, in which we make a dignified life possible. He comes and He keeps coming. That Child who is going to be born is the King of glory and that, welcoming him into our life, means having a spontaneous, simple, innocent heart...

Let us listen to what God communicates to us through his Word and acts according to his will, welcoming Jesus into my heart.

SONG. Nothing is impossible when you – Poonam Eunice

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oinEH91M-Gc>

GOSPEL – Mathew 1, 18 – 24

“The generation of Jesus Christ was like this: His mother, Mary, was betrothed to Joseph and, before they began to be together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, the Angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said: “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary with you as your wife, for what the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you will name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.” All this took place to fulfil what had been spoken by the lord through the prophet; “Look the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they will name him Emmanuel, which means: “God with us.” When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him; he took her as his wife.

We deepen the Gospel

Saint Matthew begins his gospel with the phrase: “Book of the generation of Jesus Christ.”

When it comes to Joseph, the logical relationship follows: “Jacob begot Joseph” but, from there, the evangelist cannot use the same formula, he cannot say: “Joseph begot Jesus” and says: “Jacob begot Joseph, husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus, who is called Christ.”

This verse clearly shows the break in the genealogy: according to the usual formula “Joseph begot Jesus.” Thus, he would automatically be from the lineage of David, but here, for Jesus to be inscribed in this line, it is necessary for Joseph to adopt him. From here, the Son of God is delivered into the hands of the humanity; God's project depends on the human being accepting it through the good will of a man: Joseph.

This free acceptance of a just man conditions the beginning of the human history of Jesus. Mathew insists: when the Angel addresses Joseph, he calls him “son of David”. The words that follow clearly show the mystery of the filiation of Jesus: begotten by the Holy Spirit and not by Joseph, he will nevertheless be recognized as his son: “Do not be afraid to receive Mary, your wife, into your house”, what he wants say that Jesus will be introduced into his house and, furthermore, Joseph will be the one who gives Jesus his name.

Regarding the name of Jesus, Mathew explains what this name means: "Jesus means the Lord saves" and goes on explaining: "because it is he who will save the world from its sins." This precision is interesting because it shows that the Jewish people were waiting impatiently for the Messiah, and not just a political Messiah who would free them from Roman occupation.

The second precision about the name of Jesus, said by the angel to Joseph: "You will call your son Jesus, which means "the Lord saves", because he is the one who will save his people from their sins." And Matthew comments: "All this happened so that the word of the Lord would be fulfilled...he will be given the name Emmanuel which means: "God with us". Being saved from our sins is simply knowing that God is with us, never doubting that he is by our side and, as the prophet Micah said, "Living in his presence." That is exactly what Joseph did!

Imaginative contemplation

After reading the text calmly, remember what is said in it, imagine the scene,

Ruminate those words that seem most significant to you.

- Look at the attitude of Maria, of Joseph; what are they inviting you to? What do they convey in their gestures?

- Live a time of gratitude, of gratitude. Perform a conversion gesture.

AMBIENTAL MUSIC. Not Alone – ROB COSTLOW

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2_V2Tvh9ho4

-----**YOU INSPIRE MY LIFE**
WAITING FOR YOU, LIVING FOR YOU, DREAMING OF YOU

THE ONE WHO IS ALWAYS

We celebrate the novelty

That the one who arrives, is already there.

Make us aware,

That, the one who comes, is.

Is to be sensitive to

Life that surrounds us,

And always to remain vigilant,

To what is, to what is.

Make us aware,

That, the one who comes,

Is to unite with me,

The responsibility that I have
Facing the other.
Make us aware,
That the one who comes, is.
It is to harmonize my life,
In the immediate environment
Making it, sure.
Make us aware,
That the one who comes, is
It is to understand the feelings,
The words, the gestures;
Of those who are and of those who are;
Whatever condition it is.
Make us aware,
That the one who comes, is.
Is to always answer
To the one who calls, to the one who asks,
Who needs, who asks.
Make us aware,
That the one who comes, is.
Is to make life possible.
To so many and to so many needs,
Empowering the person.
Make us aware,
That the one who comes, is.
It is taking care of the house, taking care of things,
Above all, take care of the person.
Make us aware,
And above all sensitive
Is to go on looking,
Is to go on listening,
Is to go on healing,
Is to pass by lifting
Instantly sensitive,
To the place, to the people.
Come Lord Jesús!

SONG. O Virgin Mary – Christian youth

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ruA-Vo4y5x4>



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