

“The Morning Dawns, the Wait is Over”

Alleluia He is born today. The awaited Savior, the Son of God is here in our midst. The new Adam has been born and the world is recreated. Salvation is in our midst. Let us welcome Him into our hearts. Let us sing with the Angels, **“Glory to God in the highest heavens and peace on earth to people of good will”** It is a time of new birth for us who believe and a time when we should renew and surrender our lives completely over to God.

I hope you had good preparation during Advent for the coming of Baby Jesus. It may have been difficult and we might have slipped a few times in preparing our hearts to receive Him. Well, we now are invited to forgive ourselves and enjoy the season of Christmas. Even though we may not have lived up to our expectations, the Lord delights in us and blesses us for our efforts. Today let us thank God for His blessings of Baby Jesus and recognize that even our response to God’s gifts of grace is God’s gift to us.

In our first reading, through Prophet Isaiah, God sends a message of comfort to His people. A message that, good news, salvation, and peace will come their way after they had suffered much because of sin. This message was relayed to them in the image of a fast runner with ‘happy-feet’ and the people understood that, just by noticing the messenger from afar. They knew the news he was bringing, would be good news.

The news in part is that, they should draw comfort from their past relationship with God, who always delivers on His promises. This message is also for us, if we repent and keep our faith in Him. It is a message that we should trust God; and know that He is our Father, who would not give us a snake when we ask for a fish. He has come to bring joy to the world.

In our second reading, written to Christians who were on wobbly grounds about their faith in Jesus Christ as the promised Messiah, the writer laid strong emphasis on the divinity of Jesus. He reminded them that in the past, God revealed Himself hidden in the Hebrew Bible but now, through Jesus, He has revealed Himself fully and openly. As Jesus said, **“It is written in the prophets (Isaiah 54:13): ‘They shall all be taught by God.’ Everyone who listens to my Father and learns from Him comes to me”** (John 6:45).

In our Gospel reading, John said: **“The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.”** The darkness that John is talking about is not night time darkness but darkness of the heart caused by the author of lies the Devil. Jesus is **“The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.”** To have this light in our hearts, we must trust Him completely and let Him lead us to His Father in heaven.

I would like to share a joke with you. As Stuart tidy up the kitchen after dinner, he noticed that the broom had been left outside on the porch. He said, **“Cindy go out back and get the broom please.”** Cindy was scared and she reminded her dad that she was afraid of the dark. **“Don’t worry, Cindy, Jesus is out there to watch over you.”** So Cindy went over to the back door, opened it a crack, and whispered, “Jesus, could you please hand me the broom?”

Cindy was afraid to go out on the porch to get the broom because she did not trust her dad who told her that Jesus will protect her. We too sometimes do not trust that God would be there for us. What God wants from us is our trust in Him and for us to know that He will always be there for us. We might have to suffer in following Him for a while, but in the end He will fill us with unfathomable joy.

As we come to receive His Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity in the Eucharist, let us love Him with all our hearts by doing what He says and listen to His mother who says, **“Do whatever he tells you”** (John 2:5b).