

Christmas Mass: Night

A lady lost her handbag in the bustle of Christmas shopping. It was found by an honest little boy and returned to her. Looking in her purse, she commented, "Hmmm.... That's funny. When I lost my bag, there was a \$20 bill in it. Now there are twenty \$1 bills." The boy quickly replied, "That's right, lady. The last time I found a lady's purse, she didn't have any change for a reward."

Tonight, is the joyful night for every one of us gathered here and around the world. This night reminds us to read and reflect on a lot of rejoicing things around us. God has become man, in a defenseless form of a baby. He brought light into darkness and made everything bright. The star showed and led the way for rejoicing. The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light. They are the Christmas people. Ordinary people caught up in the extraordinary.

Through the readings we have selected for the Mass, I encourage you to reflect on two things today.

1. God has come down to us as man. He brought light to the world.
2. God gives honor to little people or unimportant people.

The first reading from the book of Isaiah says, "A child is born to us; he is the wonder councilor, God- hero, father-forever, Prince of Peace." The four titles reveal the glory and salvation hidden in the newborn, titles express his reign will be prosperous, peaceful, and just. The people who walked in darkness have seen the light. The light has brought joy, freedom from oppression and peace and prosperity. A son is given to us. God has given the savior to us. He brought joy, hope, and light for us.

God knows the taste and love of humans. We love everything when they are babies, whether they are animal, creature, or human. We love them because they are cute. God loves us the same way. We are his children. we read in the scripture, the children of Israel. As we grow older, we treat everyone different. Jesus was treated the same. God's love never fulfills in itself without human cooperation. To bring a redeemer, God needed the help of Mother Mary. Today God needs our help to bring redemption to the nation.

I loved this quote in our church Facebook page couple of days before: "A thousand times in history a baby has become a king to rule a nation. Only one time has a king become a baby to save all nations."

God honors each and everyone of us with his love, in a special way little ones and unimportant people. The angel gave the first good news to the shepherds who were in the field. It was said in the Gospel, "Behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. They were given a sign. God's ways are always different. Luke makes the point that sometimes what the world sees as unimportant, God honors.

Christmas is a joy because it brings a new way of life. When a new baby is born, he gets new eyes, a new heart and new feelings. So, let this Christmas bring a new joy and new life for us. Christmas is not a day; it is a new way of life.