

The Mystery of Christmas

For many contemporary Catholics the mystery of the incarnation of God in the person of Jesus Christ is foundational to our faith. Genuine human religious experience, in a Catholic understanding, is primarily incarnational: In Christ, the eternal becomes subject to time; the Divine becomes fully Human. Divinity is given over to humanity in the historic person of Jesus Christ who comes to us disguised as a human infant lying in a manger. God takes the initiative and comes to us in the helpless child of Bethlehem.

At the Heart of Catholic spiritual and religious experience is a consciousness of the Divine within the human; the eternal within the finite; the immortal One within our mortality; the heavenly within the earthly; the extraordinary within the ordinary in the person of Christ. He is the Word Made Flesh, Divinity is hidden just below the surface: everything is not as it appears: This is what is meant by the Latin word, incarnation.

God was incarnate to us in the person of the Messiah, a first century Palestinian Jew, named Jesus of Nazareth. He was rejected by His own people and killed by the Roman Empire, but God raised Him from the dead, declaring Him to be both Lord and Christ! Now, the Incarnation of God in Christ, continues in the church, which has become the incarnated body of Christ engaged in mission to the contemporary world; the incarnational presence of the risen Christ continues to remain within the Church through the celebration of the Eucharistic Meal and the other recognized sacraments celebrated by the Church. The Sacramental actions we celebrate incarnates Christ within each of us. We, as Catholic Christians possess an incarnational and sacramental consciousness. "All of creation radiates the Glory of God!" In the Incarnation the spiritual becomes physical.

In the Feast of Christmas we experience and celebrate the holy mystery of God entering our world in the person of an infant human born of a youthful virgin girl, Mary, who would become the Mother of God! May this mystery of the incarnation bring you Christmas joy! Jesus is the incarnation of Divine love coming to us that we, too, might become an incarnation of the Divine love of Christ in our world today.



Christmas Schedule at Saint Matthew 2022

Saturday, December 24th

6:00pm Bilingual Liturgy

Sunday, December 25th

9:30am – English Liturgy

12:30 – Spanish Liturgy

Please join us for a Christmas Liturgy!

