

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK**

**Monday, December 25, 2023**

7:00 AM Ann Phelan – 3<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary  
 10:00 AM The deceased members of the da Silva-Hartlett Family

**Tuesday, December 26, 2023**

7:30 AM Dr. Joanne Dempsey  
 12:30 PM Domingos Barbosa

**Wednesday, December 27, 2023**

7:30 AM Fr. John McGratty  
 12:30 PM Bernt K. Nygaard (1st Anniversary)

**Thursday, December 28, 2023**

7:30 AM Msgr Dominick Graziadeo  
 12:30 PM Flaviano Jalandoni

**Friday, December 29, 2023**

7:30 AM Joyce Russo  
 12:30 PM John Sullivan

**Saturday, December 30, 2023**

5:00 PM Living & deceased family and friends of the Bordonaro family Miguel & Maria Paiva

**Sunday, December 31, 2023**

7:00 AM Mariana Dias  
 8:30 AM Portuguese Intentions  
 10:00 AM Maria & Antonio Cirne  
 11:30 AM People of the Parish  
 7:00 PM The Unborn

**PRIEST CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE**

**Sunday, December 24, 2023**  
 4:00 PM Fr. Malcolm  
 6:00 PM Fr. Yesudas  
 8:00 PM Fr. Tomaz (Spanish)  
 11:00 PM Fr. Ngozi


**Monday, December 25, 2023**  
 7:00 AM Fr. Ngozi  
 8:30 AM Fr. Tomaz (Portuguese)  
 10:00 AM Fr. Yesudas  
 11:30 AM Fr. Malcolm

**PRIEST SCHEDULE**

**Saturday, December 30, 2023**  
 5:00 PM Fr. Ngozi

**Sunday, December 31, 2023**  
 7:00 AM Fr. Malcolm  
 8:30 AM Fr. Tomaz (Portuguese)  
 10:00 AM Fr. Yesudas  
 11:30 AM Fr. Ngozi  
 7:00 PM Fr. Malcolm

**Monday, January 1, 2024**  
 7:00 AM Fr. Yesudas  
 8:30 AM Fr. Tomaz (Portuguese)  
 10:00 AM Fr. Ngozi  
 11:30 AM Fr. Malcolm (Spanish)



**CMA Numbers for 2023**  
**Goal = \$95,900**  
 Pledges = \$47,785      Payments = \$47,685  
 Donors = 179              Average = \$267

**Thank you to all the families who already have made a sacrificial gift. Please consider a yearly offering.**



**STEWARDSHIP CORNER**  
*Sharing Time, Talent and Treasure*

**“Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with you!”**  
 – Luke 1:28

After Jesus, we look to Mary as an ideal steward. Her entire life was lived in obedience to God’s call. Mary teaches us to live with joy for all we have been given. Just as the moon reflects the light of the sun, Mary reflects the light of Christ. Like Mary, we are called to reflect Christ’s light to the world through our gratitude and generosity.

**Sunday December 17<sup>th</sup> Actual Collection = \$11,169**  
**Sunday December 17<sup>th</sup> Mail-In Donations = \$1,932**  
**Sunday December 17<sup>th</sup> Electronic Donations = \$456**  
**Sunday December 17<sup>th</sup> Total Collection = \$13,557**  
**Attendance = 1,133**  
**Christmas to date = \$7,387**  
**Christmas flowers to date = \$2,606**  
**Religious Retirement = \$3,263**  
**Guadalupe Mass = \$586**



DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE  
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

Christmas 2023

To the People of God of the Diocese of Rockville Centre:

Merry Christmas to you and your families!

In recent years at Christmas, I have meditated on the relationship between the Nativity of the Prince of Peace and the Parable of the Good Samaritan.

I have been especially inspired by Pope Francis' analysis of the Parable of the Good Samaritan in the second chapter of his 2020 encyclical *Fratelli Tutti*. It is powerful and provocative, and I would recommend it for your mental prayer.

The short phrase in the Christmas Gospel narrative in the second chapter of the Gospel of Luke reads: "She wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn."

"No room for them in the inn." No Good Samaritan stepped up to help the Holy Family. They were ignored and treated perfunctorily and impatiently. Some passed them by. Some pretended not to notice their plight.

Remember too that in the Parable of the Good Samaritan an "inn" is also mentioned. Luke 10 reads: "But a Good Samaritan while traveling came near him, and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn and took care of him."

The inn that the Holy Family approaches on the way to Bethlehem is a sign of rejection and indifference.

The inn in the Parable of the Good Samaritan is a sign of the Good Samaritan's compassion and commitment to go the extra mile and to make sure that the wounded man is taken care of until he is completely healed.

Contemporary literary criticism might very well emphasize that the use of "inn" by the Gospel writer in both the Nativity in Luke 2 and the Parable of the Good Samaritan in Luke 10 is not by accident.

DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE  
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

In a sense, the phrase “there was no room at the inn” in the Nativity foreshadows and connects with the phrase in the Parable of the Good Samaritan describing the callous indifference of both the priest and the Levite toward the wounded man on the side of the road: “[H]e passed by on the other side.”

As Pope Francis says in *Fratelli Tutti*: “Each day we have to decide whether to be Good Samaritans or indifferent bystanders.”<sup>1</sup>

Our Lady, St. Joseph and the unborn Christ Child experienced the reality of people who decided to be indifferent bystanders.

The Christmas Gospel narrative from Luke 2 poses a question which is posed again later in the Parable of the Good Samaritan in Luke 10.

Will we be Good Samaritans?

Or will we be indifferent bystanders?

As the Holy Father reminds us, we make that choice every day.

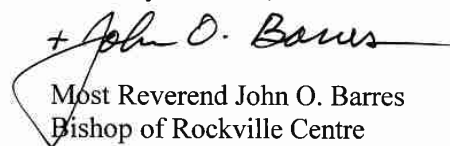
May our prayer, silent contemplation and creative family catechesis of the Nativity scene help us to be instruments of a Nativity Mystery. May the Good Samaritan Gospel revolution of humility, charity, mercy, tenderness and peace unite us in solidarity with the sick, the poor and the suffering, especially in the Middle East, Ukraine and all war-ravaged areas of the world.

May our commitment to “holiness and mission” bless our contemplative Synodal listening and our Eucharistic Revival and Evangelization.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you and your families!

May the Light and Love of the Christ Child animate and guide our global Catholic Missionary Spirit on this Christmas night and throughout the New Year.

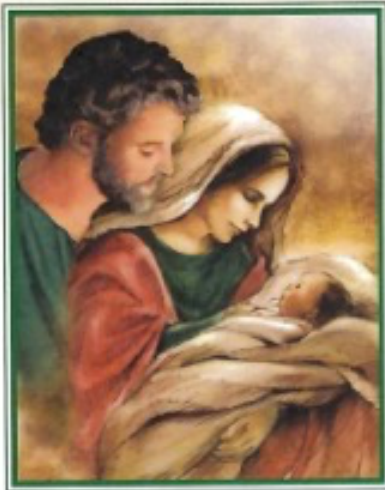
Sincerely in Christ,



Most Reverend John O. Barres  
Bishop of Rockville Centre

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<sup>1</sup> Francis, encyclical *Fratelli Tutti*, October 4, 2020: AAS 112 (11) 969-1074, at no. 70.



## *Behold, Christ is Born*

Christmas 2023

My Dear Friends and Families of Corpus Christi Church,

“Joseph went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem...to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with Child. While they were there, the time came for Her to have Her Child, and She gave birth to Her firstborn Son. She wrapped Him in swaddling clothes, and laid Him in a manger...” (Luke 2:4-7)

These wonderful Gospel words of Midnight Mass, capture the deepest mystery of our yearly Christmas celebration. The travels and trials of the Holy Family led them to a most unlikely place of birth for the Savior of the world, because there was “...no room for them in the inn”. The question we need to ask ourselves this holy season; is there room in the inn of our hearts and homes for Jesus?

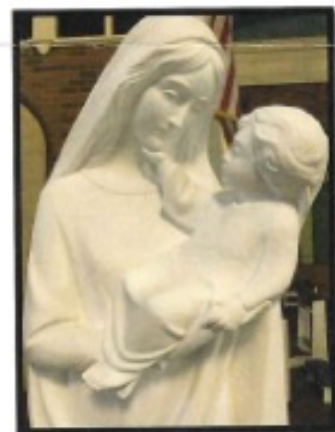
As I write this Christmas letter well in advance of 25 December, our world has been consumed by the horrors of war in the Holy Land and Middle East. Countless thousands of innocent families and children have died from all sides; caught in the crossfire of ancient hatreds. So many of our brothers and sisters of the Jewish faith, as well as our brothers and sisters of the Islamic faith, continue to suffer so deeply. Our place as Catholics is always to stand strong and pray ceaselessly for the One God of all these great religions; to bring us together in the spirit and peace of Mother Mary and Child Jesus.

In Bethlehem, the Lord provides the Holy Family with the humble simplicity of a manger, so that pure Divine Love might be born into our broken humanity. This same mystery of the Incarnate Christ-Child gives profound Hope to our weakened world today. And God blesses us all with a deep Faith to overcome all fear.

I thank you for being so generous with your time, talents and treasures; not only at Christmas, but all year long. May Jesus, Mary and Joseph watch over your family, children and grandchildren, with the greatest gifts of faith, hope and love. God bless your Christmas season and New Year 2024 to come!

Yours in Christ,

Father Malcolm J. Burns  
Pastor







**CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE 2023**

**Christmas Eve (Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup>)**

4:00 P.M. Family Mass (English)

6:00 P.M. (English)

8:00 P.M. (Spanish)

11:00 P.M. Midnight Mass (English)

**Christmas Day (Monday, December 25<sup>th</sup>)**

7:00 A.M. (English)

8:30 A.M. (Portuguese)

10:00 A.M. (English)

11:30 A.M. (English)

**There is no Mass on Christmas Day at night.**

**CONFESSIONS**

**Monday, December 18<sup>th</sup>**

6:30 P.M.- 7:30P.M.

**Tuesday, December 19<sup>th</sup>**

11:00 P.M.– 12:00P.M.

**Wednesday, December 20<sup>th</sup>**

4:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M.

**NEW YEAR'S DAY MASS SCHEDULE 2024**

(Always a Holy Day but this year not obligatory)

**New Year's Day (Monday, January 1st)**

7:00 AM, 8:30 AM (Portuguese), 10:00 AM and 11:30 AM (Spanish)

**There is no Mass on New Year's Day at night.**



**25 December 2023**

**Merry Christmas from all the Corpus Christi Parish Staff!**

Bishop Anjay      Fr. Tomaz      Deacon Brian  
Fr. Malcolm      Fr. Ngozi      Troy  
Paula      Mrs. Anaischik      Frannie  
Kenny      Mary Ann      Rob      Nuria  
Fatima      Eddie      Fr. Yesudas      Jackie








**LESSONS & CAROLS**



Honoring Our Lady of Guadalupe



Tuesday 12 December, the feast day for Our Lady of Guadalupe, was celebrated at Corpus Christi with a Mass and indoor procession. Fr. Tomaz said this beautiful Mass and Fr. Ngozi concelebrated.

  
**Religious Education**

Tues., Wed. Thurs.,  
Dec. 26, 27, 28, 2023

*No classes-Christmas recess*

Tuesday, January 2, 2024

Classes resume.

**Junior Lectors  
10:00 AM Mass**

Sunday, Dec. 31, 2023  
Sunday, Jan. 7, 2024  
Sunday, Jan. 14, 2024

Michael Perro and Nicole Henriques  
Robert Basel and Nicole Henriques  
Michael Marketti and Luigi Sartori

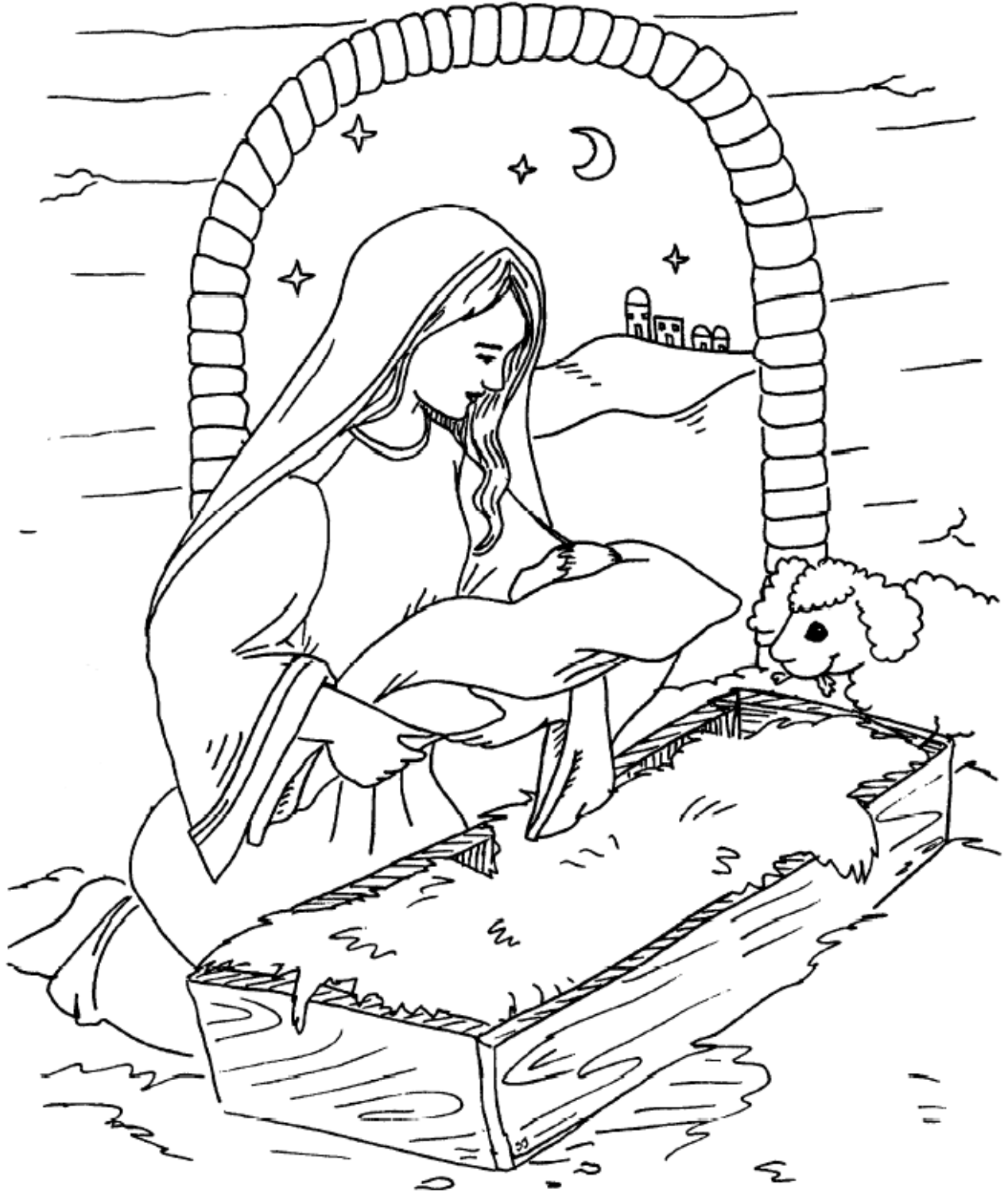
*Twenty Minutes with the Director*

Sunday, January 7, 2024  
Sunday, January 14, 2024  
Sunday, January 21, 2024


Grades 1, 2, IC-2  
Grades 3, 4  
Grades 5, 6



# COLORING PAGE



# Altar Server Schedule



Sat., Dec. 30	5:00 PM	K.Cunha
Sun., Dec. 31	10:00 AM	A.Basel
	11:30 AM	A.Alvarez/K.Alvarez



If you are in need of food or financial assistance please call 516-746-1223 Santa's helper is Rudolf, the reindeer, who had a very shiny nose. Compared to the image of the ideal reindeer. Rudolf has a defect. And, he was not in any position to help himself.



Please remember the sick in your daily prayers, including the following who have asked to be included in our list:

Connie Altvater, Aurora Antunes, Armandina Araujo, Vinnie Benedetto, Violeta Bernal, Anne Boland, Diane Bombardi, Erin Burke, Marie Byrnes, Jeanne Carroll, Michael Castalino, Frank de Carolis, Sue Citro, Christine Englund, Emmanuel Colon, Joann Cornacchioli, James Cunney, Jerry Daraio, Kate Donovan, Virginia Fallon, Laurie Fefta, Lilly Fuentes, Anne Gallagher, Kenneth Gallagher, Vanessa Gomes, Sue Krebs, Pat Kober, Diane LaBianca, Joseph LaBianca, Lorraine Liqury, Vincent Lodato, Christine Lucivero, Augustus & Camella Lodato, Jason Lopes, Thomas Mitchell, Susan O'Brien, Gabriel Palhete, Linda Pires, Dennis Radovic, Elizabeth Rose, JoAnn Russo, Mary Santucci, Robert Santucci, Ann Schwarz, Lisa Simeone, Lucy Elena Sivirichi, Paul Tubito, Lorraine Verdade, and any other members of our parish who are sick at this time.


Today we celebrate the birth of the real Messenger from heaven, Jesus. Sin turns us into a despicable Rudolf. But the heavenly Messenger comes, not to take away the red nose but to declare to us the Good News that we are acceptable to God even with our defects. Rudolf's red nose was a defect. But Santa chose him precisely on account of that. The heavenly Messenger has the ability to turn the defects of our tainted humanity into assets for the service of God.

What makes the reindeer story so poignant is that Santa does not use his magic wand to heal Rudolf of his defect. He let him go on, even with the red nose, as his chosen reindeer. Certainly Rudolf would have wanted nothing more than to be a normal reindeer. Similarly, Jesus does not simply make us good men and women, rather He makes us into people who can use all their strengths and defects to the service and the glory of God. This is the proof to us that it is not by our own will power that we are able to become children of God. It is by God's grace!. As God tells St Paul, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness". Like Rudolf's yes to Santa, let us today listen to what the Child Jesus asks of us, following Him without looking back, even when we do not know where the journey will lead us, knowing one thing for sure: that the grace of God will supply the strength we need for the long journey of faith ahead. MERRY CHRISTMAS!

**2023**  
CATHOLIC  
MINISTRIES  
APPEAL

DIOCESE OF ROCHESTER CENTER

*One Family - Journeying together in  
Compassion, Participation, and Mission.*

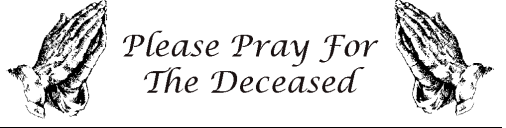


**Thank you for your generous support of the  
2023 Catholic Ministries Appeal.**

Completing your 2023 pledge ensures that our Parish will benefit by receiving our full rebate.

If you have not yet had the opportunity to give, please prayerfully consider making a donation to the Appeal. To give securely on line, please go to: <https://www.drvc.org/donate/cma/>

**There's still time to make a gift.** Please remember that all new pledges must be in by December 31, 2023 and paid in full by January 31, 2024.



Souls in Purgatory

# *Español*

## **NATIVIDAD DEL SEÑOR**



### **EVANGELIO DE SAN LUCAS 2, 1-14**

Por aquellos días, se promulgó un edicto de César Augusto, que ordenaba un censo de todo el imperio. Este primer censo se hizo cuando Quirino era gobernador de Siria.. Todos iban a empadronarse, cada uno en su propia ciudad; así es que también José, perteneciente a la casa y familia de David, se dirigió desde la ciudad de Nazaret, en Galilea, a la ciudad de David, llamada Belén, para empadronarse, juntamente con María, su esposa, que estaba encinta. Mientras estaban ahí, le llegó a María el tiempo de dar a luz y tuvo a su hijo primogénito; lo envolvió en pañales y lo recostó en un pesebre, porque no hubo lugar para ellos en la posada. En aquella región había unos pastores que pasaban la noche en el campo, vigilando por turno sus rebaños. Un ángel del Señor se les apareció y la gloria de Dios los envolvió con su luz y se llenaron de temor. El Ángel les dijo: *“No teman. Les traigo una buena noticia, que causará gran alegría a todo el pueblo: hoy les ha nacido, en la ciudad de David, un salvador, que es el Mesías, el Señor. Esto les servirá de señal: encontrarán un niño envuelto en pañales y recostado en un pesebre”*. De pronto se le unió al ángel una multitud del ejército celestial, que alababa a Dios, diciendo: *“Gloria a Dios en el cielo, y en la tierra paz a los hombres de buena voluntad”*.



Porque nos ha nacido un niño,  
se nos ha concedido un hijo;  
la soberanía reposará sobre sus hombros,  
y se le darán estos nombres:  
Consejero admirable, Dios fuerte,  
Padre eterno, Príncipe de paz.  
**Isaías 9:6**

DailyVerses.net

El evangelio nos deja pistas muy claras. Para que encontremos al Señor, no deja la misma señal que el ángel dio a los pastores: Jesús nació en la mayor pobreza, es de suponer que nació entre animales, y como cuna un pesebre. Las credenciales que legitimaron a Jesús como salvador no fue el poder sino la pobreza. Desde el primero momento Jesús toma en serio que los últimos serán los primeros. San Lucas nos narra que unos pastores, marginalizados de la sociedad, fueron los primeros testigos del nacimiento de Jesús, y los primeros que dan testimonio del gran acontecimiento. El anuncio no se da los ricos o poderosos, sí a los pobres, a los marginados, a los que no cuentan; ese es el camino por donde podremos encontrar al Mesías. Este evangelio encierra un mensaje de fe para nosotros.



“Querido hermano: la gracia de Dios ha manifestado para salvar a todos los hombres y nos ha enseñado a renunciar a la irreligiosidad y a los deseos mundanos, para que vivamos, ya desde ahora, de una manera sobria, justa y fiel a Dios, en espera de la gloriosa venida del gran Dios y salvador, Cristo Jesús, nuestra esperanza. Él se entregó por nosotros para redimirnos de todo pecado y purificarnos, a fin de convertirnos en pueblo\_suyo, fervorosamente entregado a practicar el bien”. (Carta de Pablo a Tito 2, 11-14)

**UNA FELIZ NAVIDAD A TODOS**  
**EL NACIMIENTO DEL NIÑO DIOS**



## Português

### NATAL DO SENHOR



### EVANGELHO DE SÃO LUCAS 2, 1-14

Naqueles dias, saiu um decreto de César Augusto, para ser recenseada toda a terra. Este primeiro recenseamento efectuou-se quando Quirino era governador da Síria. Todos se foram recensear, cada um à sua idade. José subiu também da Galileia, da cidade de Nazaré, à Judeia, à cidade de David, chamada Belém, por ser da casa e da descendência de David, a fim de se recensear com Maria, sua esposa, que estava para ser mãe. Enquanto ali se encontravam, chegou o dia de ela dar à luz e teve o seu filho primogênito. Envolveu-o em panos e deitou-o numa manjedoura, porque não havia lugar para eles na hospedaria. Havia naquela região uns pastores que viviam nos campos e guardavam de noite os rebanhos. O Anjo do Senhor aproximou-se deles e a glória do Senhor cercou-os de luz: e eles tiveram grande medo. Disse-lhes o Anjo: *“Não temais, porque vos anuncio uma grande alegria para todo o povo: nasceu-vos hoje, na cidade de David, um Salvador, que é o Cristo Senhor. Isto vos servirá de sinal: encontrareis um menino recém-nascido, envolto em panos e deitado numa manjedoura”*. Imediatamente juntou-se ao Anjo uma multidão do exército celeste, que louvava a Deus, dizendo: *“Glória e Deus nas alturas e paz na terra aos homens por ele amados”*.



Lucas descreve com algum pormenor a pobreza e a simplicidade que rodeiam a vinda ao mundo do libertador dos homens: a falta de lugar na

hospedaria, a manjedoura dos animais a fazer de berço, os panos improvisados que envolvem o bebê, a visita dos pastores... É assim que Deus entra na nossa história. Esse Deus que vem ao nosso encontro para nos oferecer a salvação não se impõe pela força das armas, pelo poder do dinheiro. Ele apresenta-se aos homens na fragilidade de um recém-nascido e num cenário de simplicidade e de total despojamento. Uma outra indicação de Lucas é dada pela referência às “testemunhas” do nascimento: os pastores. Trata-se de gente considerada rude, violenta, marginal; eram, com frequência, colocadas ao lado dos publicanos e dos cobradores de impostos; eram pecadores públicos. Lucas coloca precisamente, esses marginais como “testemunhas” que acolhem Jesus. O evangelista, desta forma sugere que é para estes pecadores e marginalizados que Jesus vem.



Desiludido com os reis e com a política, o profeta teria então começado a sonhar com um tempo novo onde a justiça, o direito e o temor de Deus se sobrepõe à guerra, à injustiça, à prepotência dos poderosos. O “menino” aqui referenciado, da descendência de David, trata-se de um texto que vai alimentar a esperança messiânica e vai potenciar o sonho de um futuro novo, de paz e de felicidade para o Povo de Deus.



O destinatário desta carta, é um cristão convertido por Paulo, que acompanhou o apóstolo nalgumas missões importantes. Esa leitura convida-nos a reconhecer a graça de Deus que nos foi manifestada com a vinda de Jesus; e propõe que respondamos a esse dom com uma vida autêntica e comprometida

**UM FELIZ E SANTO NATAL A TODOS**