



Today Jesus Christ is born poor in a stable. The Most Blessed Virgin brings him into the world in a place where she finds no comfort nor any human help, and where there is no other bed to put this new-born Child except a manger

READER 1

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth.... I saw the holy city, and the new Jerusalem, coming from God out of heaven, as beautiful as a bride all dressed for her husband.

All: Lord, make your home among us; renew the whole of creation.

READER 2

Then I heard a loud voice call from the throne, "You see this city? Here God lives among humanity. He will make his home among them; they shall be his people, and he will be their God.

All: Lord, make your home among us; renew the whole of creation.

READER 3

His name is 'God-with-them.' He will wipe away all tears from their eyes; there will be no more death, and no more mourning or sadness. The world of the past is gone.

All: Lord, make your home among us; renew the whole of creation.

READER 4

Then the One sitting on the throne spoke: "Now I am making the whole of creation new... I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End.

All: Lord, make your home among us; renew the whole of creation.

READING

From the book "Free to be Nothing" by Edward Farrell

Incarnation is open to us; Christ is alive in his body - the Church. Christ comes alive in us as we become free enough to give him our heart. Every time we act in such a way as to reveal God, every time we abandon ourselves into God's hands, we participate in Incarnation. Each time we celebrate the liturgy, the Sacraments of the Church, we live the mystery of the Incarnation.

Living through the commemoration of Jesus' life, we are born into the mystery of his life in us. How do you give birth to Christ? How do you act as midwife to his birth in others? Do you nurture him as the child within you, care for him as the child in others? Do you allow him to discipline you, to help you to grow? How do you assist or abet his growth in your family, your friends, your enemies? Have you spent lonely days in the desert with him, struggling to resist temptation? Are you an angel feeding him in your neighbour? Are you at home when the Spirit breathes a word in you? Who will you follow? Are you free to plunge into the Incarnation?

Matthew 5

Left: Happy are the humble-minded;

All: The reign of God is theirs.

Right: Happy are those who know what sorrow means;

All: They will be given courage and comfort.

Left: Happy are those who are gentle;

All: The whole earth will belong to them.

Right: Happy are those who are hungry and thirsty for goodness;
All: They will have all they ask for.

Left: Happy are those who are merciful;
All: They will be treated mercifully.

Right: Happy are those who are truthful and sincere;
All: They will see God.

Left: Happy are those who are persecuted for being good;
All: The reign of God is theirs.

(Short Pause)

Leader: Saint John Baptist de La Salle
All: Pray for us.

Leader: Live Jesus in our hearts.
All: Forever.