

Sermonette for a Grief & Cancer Support hospital CHRISTMAS Party
based on ISAIAH 7:14 & LUKE 2:10-11
by Chaplain Robert Baral
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What The Prophet Foresaw

The prophet Isaiah foresaw a Day when GOD would again walk among His people, even as He had walked with Adam and Eve in The Garden of Eden before The Fall. So he wrote in:

ISAIAH 7:14

Therefore The Lord Himself shall give you a sign. Behold a Virgin shall conceive, and bear a Son, and His Name shall be called EMMAUEL,¹ meaning, “GOD with us.”²

A Child is Born for Us

After Mary gave birth to The Infant JESUS, with Joseph at her side, The Gospel record that She wrapped Him in swaddling clothes and placed Him in a manger.

Nearby there were shepherds watching over their sheep. To them an Angel of The LORD appeared. The very Light of The Glory of GOD shone around them and they shook with fear. But Saint Luke writes further in:

LUKE 2:10-11

10 And The Angel said to them: Fear not; for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, that shall be to all the people:

11 For, this day, is born to you a Saviour, who is CHRIST The Lord, in the city of David.³

Therefore We Shall Not Fear, But Rejoice!

Tonight we, GOD’s people in our hospital’s Grief and Cancer Support Groups, come together to celebrate the journeys and stories of our lives with one another and with GOD as we celebrate CHRISTMAS. We in our support groups - begun by our own beloved Nun, Sister Maddy, 26 years ago, embrace The Light and Love of The Lord, Which shines upon and through us – now in part – and some Day in Heaven in full, forever!

¹ Douay-Rheims Bible, ISAIAH 7:14.

² New Advent Catholic Encyclopedia, definition “EMMANUEL.” Kevin Knight, 2017. Retrieved 12/17/2018.

³ Douay-Rheims Bible, LUKE 2:10-11.

Following Sister as she has shepherded us to follow The Divine Providence and Mercy of The Lord, with our loved ones and friends on earth and in Heaven - and with one another now – we recall those simple shepherds who beheld on the night of CHRIST’s birth an Angel of GOD. With Mary, Joseph, the Magi and the shepherds, we too behold in wonder GOD’s Love at The Birth of JESUS. And we too, shall not fear, but rejoice!

A Prayer for CHRISTMAS Light

Let us come together to pray, each in our own way:

[silent Sign of The Cross]

From That same Light of Love of GOD

That brought forth creation by The Word of The Father,
That walks with His people down through the ages,

That shone forth from The MENORAH flames
in The Temple rededicated to Him
by the Maccabees on CHANUKAH,

That brings forth The Virgin Birth of
The MESSIAH on CHRISTMAS,
That secures The Victory of His Light over Darkness
at The Cross on EASTER,

That rebirths us in The HOLY SPIRIT,
That secures for us a Home in His Kingdom
on earth and then in Heaven,

We rejoice and give thanks!
And let us say together,
AMEN!

[silent Sign of The Cross]