

The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas) at the Vigil Mass
Lectionary: 13

Reading 1: Is. 62:1-5

Responsorial Psalm: Ps. 89: 4-5, 16-17, 27,29

Second Reading: Acts. 13: 16-17, 22-25

Gospel: Mt. 1: 18-25

Everything in life has a reason to be, whom or what is the cause of our existence? These are two fundamental questions that we need to ask, to find the reason for our existence. During history, there have been several theories that try to explain the origin of creation. For example, the Theory of Evolution, which tells us that we come from the monkey. Many people may follow this theoretical approach of their lives. St. Thomas Aquinas in his argument of the “First Cause” explains us that we are the cause of our parents and our parents of theirs and so on, until we reach God, who is the cause of everything. In other words, God is the beginning and origin of everything created.

In the long form of today’s Gospel, we read all the generations that had to pass before Jesus was born. The cause of our creation is also the cause of our salvation. That is why Jesus comes to us; he comes to us as a baby king who depends totally on human care for his survival. Knowing that humanity at the same time would depend totally on him for their salvation. Today we

remember the union between heaven and earth; we remember that in this night love and peace should reign.

Where even the humblest have a special place to worship their creator. The God who was always invisible becomes visible and is now seen by the human eye. Jesus presence brings union where there is disorder; he brings love where there is hate. Jesus' Nativity brings the light of salvation and grace to us so that we can overcome the darkness of sin and evil.

So much so that, it is said that on a crisp, clear morning 100 years ago, thousands of British, Belgian and French soldiers put down their rifles, stepped out of their trenches and spent Christmas mingling with their German enemies along the Western front. In the hundred years since, the event has been seen as a kind of miracle, a rare moment of peace just a few months into a war that would eventually claim over 15 million lives.

This night is to reflect in our own life, to see in what moments we have allowed Jesus to be born in our hearts. God is faithful to his promises, that is why today we celebrate the Nativity of Jesus, he cannot contradict himself, he promised a Savior and we are celebrating that.

On this night, however beautiful it may seem, there are many who feel lonely, abandoned, and sick. But the secret of Christmas

is that we are not alone, that God has become man to share our human weakness.

The best way to experience Christmas is by helping people not to feel lonely, abandoned or forgotten. God is with us and we need to bring Christmas to others. God is the cause of our existence and our salvation; we must be the cause of a good Christmas for others as well.

On this night, we may find mixed feelings within us, as we reflect on our life, we may see our limitations, and our mistakes, and the desire for greatness, to be better comes to our heart. We want to change from disappointment to trust. Christmas shows us that evil, sin and death do not have dominion over us. Christmas reminds us that God is with us, that he is our guide to eternal life. We just need to learn to be with him!

Feliz Navidad!!!