



“The Birth of Baby Jesus”...

FROM THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO - LUKE - :

“[At that time, Joseph went] to Judea, to the city of David that is called Bethlehem... with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child... [Mary] gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.” (Luke 2:4-7)¹

MEDITATION ON THE MYSTERY:

As we reflect on the distracted innkeepers, let us be careful not to imitate them; instead, let us meditate on Mary and St. Joseph. Mary, by listening and careful consideration, understood [the announcement], and walking toward the goal in total poverty, gave birth to God! St. Joseph, the man of patience, did not think (as many would have) that he had been betrayed; instead, even if he misunderstood at first, he didn’t raise so much as a finger against Mary. (cf. SLC, p. 14)

FROM THE TEACHINGS OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH:

- In regards to listening, Pope Francis says: “Joseph listened to the angel of the Lord and responded to God’s call... In this way he played his part in God’s plan.” (FRANCIS, Address, Meeting with Families, 16 January 2015)

- In regards to patience, St. Francis de Sales says: “Do not limit your patience to a certain predetermined kind of injury or affliction, but extend it to everything which the Lord sends or allows to happen to you.”
(FRANCIS DE SALES, *Philothea*, III.3)

¹ NABRE (USCCB)

FREE AND PERSONAL MEDITATION

(for a personal contribution to give to those who listen) :

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Then follows ...

- 1 Our Father ...
- 5 Hail Mary ...
- 1 Glory be to the Father ... (Sung)
- Praised be,,,
- O my Jesus, forgive us...
- Mary, Queen of Peace ...
- Then, a quick song relevant to the mystery / or one sings : “ Aveeeee, Aveeeee, Ave Maria”

Then one goes on to the next Mystery which (like this one) if possible must not take more than 5-7 minutes ...