



Deep Faith. Courageous Spirit. Action for Justice.

Homily for December 31, 2025
7th Day in the Octave of the Nativity of Jesus
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The Letter of John describes the struggle of the early Church (even today). “This is the last hour...children, more antichrists have appeared, some of the community have deserted, ... but you have the anointing that comes from the Holy One—you have knowledge, you know the truth,” he reminds them!

The Gospel speaks wisdom: No one has ever seen God. The only begotten Son, God who is at the Father’s side, he revealed him. (Jn 1:18)

The Word of God became flesh and dwelt among us. To those who accepted him he gave Power to become children of God! // That’s what we are—Children of God!

In the Beginning was the Word, the Word was with God, the Word was God

All things came to be through him and with out him nothing came to be.

What came to be was LIFE, this Life was the Light of the human race, the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. God is the Word, the Light, the Son—all at once and for all time!

That is our FAITH, even though what we are experiencing now, in our country, seems like a lot of darkness!

He was in the world, but the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, but his own people did not accept him. And so, it is today. Many do not accept him! Do not understand his truth, do not accept!

From his fullness we have all received. The Law came through Moses, but grace and truth through Jesus Christ. This is wisdom!

In today’s Morning Prayer, the short reading was from the Book of Wisdom, it was describing Wisdom to set the tone for our Gospel today. “She (Wisdom) is the breath of God...the glory of God, a reflection of eternal light. Wisdom- passing into holy souls from age to age, she (Wisdom) produces friends of God and prophets.”

That is what we find in the Gospel today, Wisdom—that’s what we have been given! And what we can call ourselves: friends of God and prophets! If we have this wisdom, we are friends of God and prophets!



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Yes, we have received, not just the Law of Moses, but the grace and truth that came through Jesus the Christ.

Our creed and this gospel remind us that the WORD, the Son existed before time began, at the side of the Father.

God exists in divine fullness always, eternally, but recognizing our human limitations God gives us the Incarnation, revealed to us, God in the flesh, on a level we can grasp.

In one translation of the Gospel, I read the line "And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us" but rather it said "The Word became flesh and pitched his tent among us, and we saw his glory."

One author suggested to us that we let our souls marinate on these words, so that we can renew our appreciation for the deep beauty of our Faith! And the presence of God, the Lord Jesus in our lives.

As we come to the end of our year, we can look back at how we have lived out that Faith, and look forward to how we want to be open to God's continuing presence and so we can trust God's action at work in our lives, revealed to us each day by the Holy Spirit.

So let us pray:

O Christ, you are the Word become flesh, you are our God. You know both the love and struggles experienced in human families and communities. Teach us to extend ourselves beyond our immediate families and friends to embrace a broader vision of your gospel challenge. May this day be a time of reflection on our past gifts, and a time of conversion to hear your continued call.

Yes, on this last day of the year, let us hear the invitation from Revelation 3 suggested by Thomas Keating: "Here I stand at the door and knock. If you hear me calling and open the door, I will come in, and we will share a meal as friends."