

Advent, Sunday of 1st week

Reading: Lk.1,1-4

V.3.4 *“...I too decided to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, so that you may know the certainty of the things you have been taught.”*

What are the chances that what Luke is about to relate will be received fruitfully and that his account of Jesus of Nazareth will have the kind of effect that those who were with him saw he had on all who received him and believed?

The stakes are high, because what Jesus embodies and restores in all who receive him is nothing less than true humanity.

Two things increase these chances: (1) The accuracy of his account, which enables a close and proper look at the matter, with open and clear eyes, and (2) the attitude or frame of mind of the reader/hearer indicated by the name “Theophilus” – lover of God.

What are the chances of navigating the period of ‘Advent’ meaningfully and fruitfully towards the joy of Christmas, of not missing its import under all the diversions that go by the same name? They are increased when we follow the story with listening ears and a seeing heart, both matters with which God readily helps all who seek him.