

Thursday 24th December 2020

Advent, Christmas Eve

Reading: Lk.2,1-14

V.7 *“And she gave birth to her firstborn son... and laid him in a manger”*

The significance of the incarnation is hardly perceived in the circumstances of Jesus’ birth. The whole thing bears the mark of lowliness. One does not get the impression that what happened there had any or much significance beyond the circle of those who were affected. And yet it did. But who sees?

The blind do, because Jesus has come to give sight. The bound, because he has come to give freedom. The guilty, because he has come to forgive. The lost, because he has come to find. The people sitting in darkness, because the One who came is the light. The sorrowful, because he has come to bless. The sinner, because he has come to give life.

God’s condescension reaches into our despair, the guilt of our sins, our lowliness, so that in finding us where we are God may be with us and redeem us.

Drop the high esteem you may have for riches, for achievement, for possessions, for grandeur, for power, for your own ways and ideas, ban the intimidations born of sin and despair, pain and trouble, and lower sight and knees before the manger – where lies your Saviour and King, God with you.