

# Christmas Homily

## 2025

Today—on this holy day—we stand before a manger far quieter than the hustle and bustle of our lives. Christmas did not arrive with a grand entrance or display. It came softly. A child wrapped in cloth. A God who drew near – to us! Which raises a few questions: Why did God have to come like this? Why not from a distance? Why not through a simple message? Let me share something beautiful. When someone truly falls in love, and the moment comes to say, “I love you,” they do not send someone else to speak those words. They do not write a letter or post it online. They go themselves. In person. Because in matters of love, distance is unbearable. Love does not speak through a mediator. Love must come itself. And THAT is the mystery we celebrate today.

God did not love us from a distance. To free us, He came close—to share our life and to carry what we could not. So, God came Himself. He took on our flesh. He entered our world. He stepped into our life. And here is the wonder of it all: Christmas is God loving us so much that, He would rather leave heaven and come for us ... than have heaven without us. Pause for a moment, and consider this: We did not have to exist ... You did not have to exist. You did not have to be here. There is only one reason why you are. From all eternity, God looked upon you and said, “I do not want a universe without you in it.” And now we understand what Christmas truly is. It is God saying, “I love you too much to remain far from you.”

And because God comes to remove everything that separates us from Him—everything that gets in the way of love ... Christmas is not about more. It is about less. Which means ... that the greatest gift Jesus gives... ... is what He comes to take away. We often think of Christmas as a season that adds more joy, more light, and more hope to our lives. But before Jesus gives us anything, He comes to make room, because our hearts are often carrying more than they can hold. He comes to lift what weighs us down, to quiet what troubles us, and to give our hearts room to breathe. He does not come to demand more from us. He comes because we are already carrying enough. And by removing what weights us down, he leaves us ... the gift of peace. A peace deep enough to hold us.

Tonight / today God does not ask us to climb up to Him. He comes down to us. And if we let Him, He will take what we no longer need to carry ... and give us what we have been longing for all along: stillness, light, and a love that remains. So tonight, let us not rush past the manger. Let us stand still long enough to receive what God gives ... ... and to release what has been weighing our hearts down. For this is the miracle of Christmas: God has come for us. God has come to us. And God remains with us. May His nearness quiet your heart, His presence fill your home, and His love rest upon you and those you love. AND may God bless you and your family, this season. Merry Christmas.