



True Life in God Newsletter

"I come to restore My Vineyard & be happy..."

CHRISTMAS 2005



[The Nativity, March 25, 1996](#)

Joyous Christmas Greetings!



Icon from modern Greek

"Ever since a dark Judean cave opened itself to receive the Light of the World from the womb of the Virgin Mary, our Lord Jesus Christ has been in our midst calling us to the fullness of life in Him. He speaks to us through Holy Scripture, the ministry of His Church and in sometimes extraordinary ways."

Priest-monk Joseph, Ukrainian Greek Catholic Holy Transfiguration Monastery, Redwood Valley, California, U.S.A.

(An excerpt from his article in *True Life in God*, Vol. 6, page XIV)

What is Christmas?

Here we are talking about the salvation of mankind and of the Incarnation of Christ, the Son of God, who became the new Adam, assuming all that is human, and by this assumption saved and deified man. He came to reconcile us to the Father after the Fall. He became man in order to deliver us from death and corruption and make us the sons and daughters of God and gods by participation. So why did God become man which He was not before? It was to make man god. God desired this so much that Jesus came out of the bosom of the Father without separation, and

descended and came to earth for that reason.

He did not come as a Judge to judge the world, not yet, but He came to save it after the Fall. So through the Incarnation of Christ, we, who are corruptible matter are able to partake His divinity and of His Kingdom if we observe His commandments and His Law. Thus the Word became flesh.

So let Christmas take its real place in our heart and out of respect for our priceless ransom let us love our Lord and Master who paid it. Let us welcome His love and we will know that if He had not wanted to save us after having redeemed us, He would not have descended on earth at all. He would not have been sacrificed because of us. But he did it by His own free will and because of the infinite Love He has for each one of us. But man has distorted the meaning of Christmas. This is what the Lord said once on the 24th December 1991, the eve of Christ's birth...

“...today I come with peace-terms and a Message of Love, but the peace I am offering is blasphemed by the earth and the Love I am giving them is mocked and jeered in the Eve of My Birth; mankind is celebrating these days without My Holy Name; My Holy Name has been abolished and they take the day of My Birth as a great holiday of leisure, worshipping idols...I have warned the world?”

In this message Christ shows us how much He is offended by our indifference and by our deviating His Birth into trivial things, celebrating Christmas in the wrong way and without remembering the real reason. For many people celebrate much more the Christmas tree, and the exchange of gifts, and the food, eating until sick, going on holidays and amusing themselves to folly, instead of adoring Jesus as the first shepherds did in the manger.

The Lord says: **“...Satan is deceiving the world once more with the same lie he deceived Eve? that they too can be God ¹ and are self-sufficient and do not need Me...”** [June 1, 2002](#)

The world today, our Lord says, refuses the glory of God and prefers to live as if there is no God, for the world is paying no attention to God's Law or precepts. The world refuses to give glory to God and instead glorifies itself, playing God.

Jesus said: **“...they are doing all these things because they have never known either the Father or Myself...all they do is wither their soul for they snapped their navel string attached to Me and that nourished their soul...they are heading willingly into the eternal fires...”** [July 25/26, 1989](#)

As you see from these messages, God is not pleased, especially when it comes to Christmas time when one should be living Christmas the right way and giving glory to God and remembering Jesus as our Savior who redeemed us.

Vassula

[1](#) [2](#) Th 2:4, Ez 28:2



Silent was the night
And then the angels sang

Greek Orthodox Christmas Prayer



God is with us!
Understand this, O nations, and submit yourselves!
For God is with us.

Hear this, even to the farthest bounds of the earth.
For God is with us.

If you rise up again in your might, you will be overthrown.
For God is with us.

The Lord shall destroy all who take counsel together,
and the word which you speak shall not abide with you.
For God is with us.

For we do not fear your terror, and we are not troubled.
For God is with us.

But we will ascribe holiness to the Lord our God,
and Him will we hold in awesome fear.
For God is with us.

And if I put my trust in Him, He shall be my sanctification.
For God is with us.

I will set my hope on Him, and through Him I shall be saved
I, I and the children whom God has given me.
For God is with us.

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;
those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness - on them



a light has shined.
For God is with us.

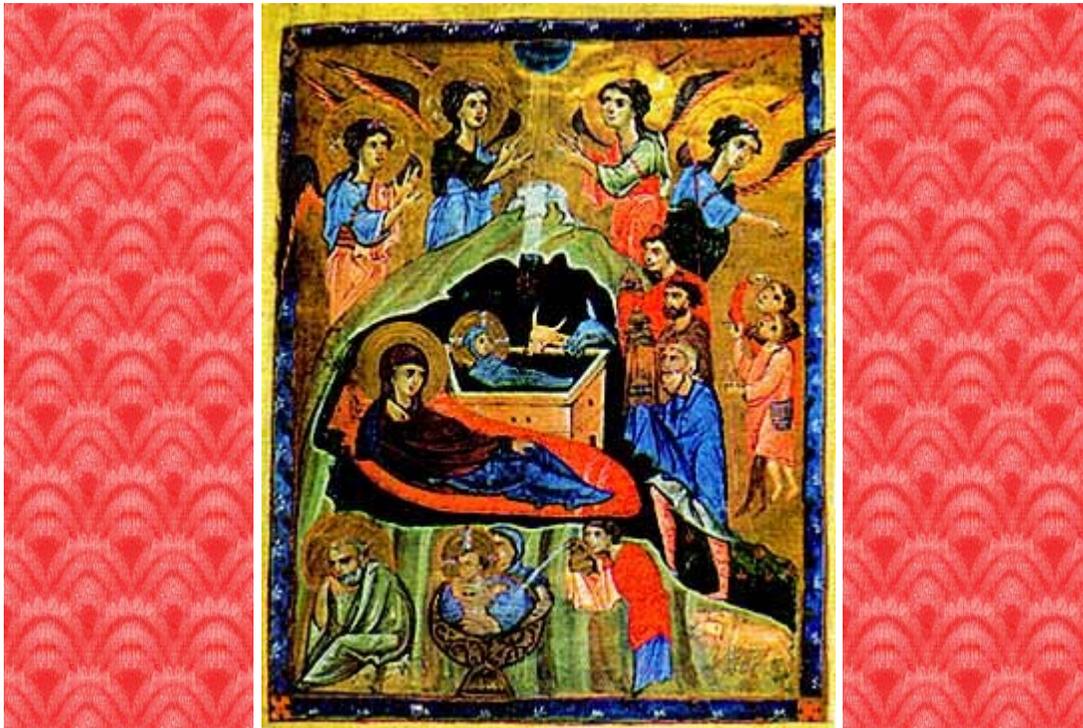
For unto us a Child is born; to us a Son is given.
For God is with us.

And the government shall be upon His shoulder,
and of His peace there will be no end.
For God is with us.

And His name shall be called the Messenger of Great Counsel,
Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, the Everlasting Father,
the Prince of Peace, the Father of the World to Come.

Glory to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.
Now and Forever and to the ages of ages, Amen.

God is with us!
Understand this, O nations, and submit yourselves!
For God is with us.
Amen.



Icon from Medieval times

A Prayer from the Catholic Liturgy of the Hours

God, our Father,
Through Christ your Son
The hope of eternal life dawned on our world.
Give us the light of faith that we may always
Acknowledge Him as our Redeemer
And come to the glory of His Kingdom,
Where he lives and reigns with you and
The Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

Our Wish for You!

We, the True Life in God e-Newsletter Team, wish you a Blessed Christmas Season filled with peace of heart and an ever urgent desire to spread the joy of the True Life in God messages. He comes all the way to the door of our heart and knocks especially loudly this time of year.

If we contemplate His messages this time of year it can be especially fruitful in generating the warmth and broadness of heart we all need. So that our heart growing warm can generate a fire of love for God and others. Before we can warm other hearts we need His warmth in our own.

We can only get this warmth by becoming quiet and intimate with God. During Christmas let us all try to remember His presence through the **"We/Us"** ? let us take Jesus with us to our family gatherings, our church, our outings even when we go to shop for gifts. Let us remember Him as much as we can this Christmas. Merry Christmas!



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"we, us"