

Note from the Liturgist...

... the **WORD** became flesh and dwelt among us

... the greatest **Gift** of all gifts

Throughout the Advent season, we patiently waited and longed for the coming of our Savior. Today the Church joyfully celebrates the Birth of our Lord Jesus Christ, “**the Word became flesh and dwelt among us.**” God gave His Beloved Son to humanity; Jesus Christ became like us to share to us that divine life which is eternally His in the Blessed Trinity.

Christmas season begins on the 24th of December at the first Vespers of the feast and ends on the feast of the Baptism of the Lord. Christmas day is the first day of the octave of Christmas. Priests wear white vestments to signify joy.

During the Christmas season, we hear exchange of greetings here and there and many send cards and good wishes among family members and friends. These greetings communicate to us the message of joy, hope, love and peace to one another as we celebrate the great solemnity of the Word Incarnate, the Savior of the mankind, born to us.

Christmas season sees a lot of Christmas trees. Christmas trees are standing tall. I’m sure that you have it in your home. The Christmas tree symbolizes the great family tree of Christ which through David and Jesse has its roots in Abraham, the father of the chosen race. Under the Christmas tree, we lay our gifts to remind us that Christmas brought us the priceless gift of grace and of eternal life. For us, the best gift that we lay under our Christmas tree is the presence of family wrapped in love. Yes, we place Christmas ornaments, cards and “lights,” that remind us that Christ is the Light of the world enlightening those who are lost, those who are in the darkness, and those who are in the shadow of death.

Christmas season is also the time of giving gifts. God is the source and the author of gifts giving. On this special day, God himself gave to us the greatest of all gifts, His beloved Son. God wants us to continue giving gifts to others especially to our family members, relatives, friends and to the needy.

May our hearts be always ready to receive the special gift of the love of the infant Jesus this Christmas. May we be ready to share that special gift with the people whom we meet today and everyday

Have a wonderful and blessed Christmas to one and all.

-Ace Tupasi