

## KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS – STATE BULLETIN

### CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE – December 2025

***“For us men and for our salvation he [Jesus] came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary and became man.” (Nicene Creed, 325 AD)***

Worthy Brothers Knights and Fellow Chaplains,

These words, which we proclaim every Sunday at Holy Mass, form the basis of the Christmas feast we are now preparing for as we enter this Advent season. I would like to share a few thoughts on this amazing statement of our Faith.

The Paschal Mystery of Jesus' passion, death and resurrection are the very center of our Faith. God so loves us that he willingly assumed the punishment of death that rightly belongs to us because of our sins. Yet, before the Just One laid down His life for the unjust, He showed us the lengths to which He is willing to go to draw us to Himself.

The mystery of the Incarnation and Birth of Jesus is the proclamation of God's desire to be near us. Jesus gave up the glory that was His in the Divine Presence of the Trinity to take on the lowliness of our human flesh! He became a baby: needy, dependent, vulnerable and weak so that he might be like us in all things but sin. As a baby, he drew the lowly and the mighty to him; the seekers and the suffering; the fearful and the repentant! With the exception of Herod, no one fears a baby! On the contrary, we are drawn to him: to hold him, protect him, to love him!

In His humanity, Jesus makes God accessible to us. Though we can never possess God fully, we can approach Him with all our weakness, imperfection and unworthiness. He wants us to come to Him and allow Him to show us the depth of His love. It is this baby who with his human body, will touch the sick, expel the demons, comfort the hopeless and challenge the self-righteous. It is with this human body that he will offer the ONLY sacrifice that has the power to conquer sin and destroy the power of death. It is in this body that He carries our humanity to heaven, opening up the assurance that we too, in our own glorified bodies, will one day share in the everlasting glory of the Trinity! And all this because ***“...he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary and became man.”***

And then, that we might experience His closeness in this life and be prepared to welcome Him when he comes in glory, He left us the gift of His Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity in the Holy Eucharist. In Holy Communion we caress Mary's Baby Boy and are healed and redeemed by the God who took flesh in her womb!

I invite you to ponder this wondrous mystery in these days of Advent. In so doing, we prepare not only to celebrate worthily Jesus' first coming, but also to be prepared for His coming again in Glory. Meditating on the God who made Himself present to us in the humanity of Jesus, might we not also be able to better recognize Him in the flesh of our brothers and sisters in need?

Blessed Advent and a Joyous Christmas to All!

Vivat Jesu!

Fr. Dan