

Rectoría de San Juan de Dios
Christmas Eve-Cycle B
Is 9, 1-3.5-6; Ps 96; Tit 2, 11-14; Lk 2, 1-14
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Let Us Accept Our Human Condition

We hear Luke precisely describe the historical moment in which God intervenes in human history: *when Caesar Augustus ordered a census and Quirinius was governor of Syria*; and the way in which God is born: *during a journey, without even the basic necessities of a family, wrapped in swaddling clothes and laid in a manger.*

Jesus is born into our human condition. This is the great mystery to live—man does not need any way other than his own condition in order to be saved. God was not wrong about the creation of the world and man, neither was He wrong on a night like tonight, to take on our human condition. His plan of love for us, still valid, is one of the subjects that we approach tonight: to confirm one more time that God comes to save us in our poverty, in our need of Him, in the reality of our human condition.

When the world awaits the salvation that comes from above, from the outside, or—as is heard in this stage of our development—only from the advance of technology, God refers us again to our human condition, to the essence of our humanity: beings in a relationship and loving dialogue with Him that is the beginning of all life and of eternity.

We draw near to the new Manger of Bethlehem on this Holy Night from the history of our family life, in the family place, at home, to return to believing in the human person, for often we have been mutually disappointed or

have discovered a man so outside of himself, generating so much violence, that it seems as if that man has turned into a wolf. We want to place our confidence in our human condition because it is through this condition that God saves us.

Let us follow these three ideas:

1-Let us reclaim our imperial sign.

As in the prophecy of Isaiah, through our human condition we carry a sign reflective of Jesus on our shoulders: “Wonder Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace.” What is our sign? With what sign do we contribute to reencountering the value that the Creator gave to humanity?

In this sign that we can discover today in the intimacy of our prayer and our gift to God, the essential content of humanity endures.

2- Let us manifest the grace that defines.

If the grace of God has been manifested, we can help make God’s favor visible. When the world is lacking definitions to understand itself and to continue, we can be master examples of human conduct before God, purifying our own life and making clear that the life of religion is the only way to come to the meeting with God.

3-Let us place our bets on the human person.

Entering into His universe, entering into His history as God did in the life of Mary, we bet on the human person from the paradox of disarmament and poverty. This is the image that we contemplate in the Manger: that God saves from below—here ends all pride or pretense of domination. God wants to save like that, from the marginalized.

We can take in the luminous reflection of the Child in every human being because each of us has been made by Him; we bear the marks of His handiwork; perhaps this will be a good task at Christmas, to find in our condition, fragile and dependent on God, the man and the family that God wants to love and save.