
From the Pastor's Desk.....

In the Church's documents Advent is described as "a period for devout and joyful expectation". With only a few days to go before Christmas, this 'expectation' is heightened as we prepare to celebrate the birthday of the Lord. But what is our expectation, what do we hope for, what does the birth of this child mean for us and our world?

Our Christian faith informs us that all the hopes and dreams of all humanity are discovered in the gift of Jesus, of whose birth we celebrate at Christmas. The beautiful custom of exchanging gifts during Christmas is but a pale reflection of the priceless gift that is Jesus: God's gift of himself. Jesus is our Emmanuel: "God-is-with-us". God, who existed before time began, is born in time; born to save us from our sins so that we in turn will be born anew in Christ.

In today's gospel we have two expectant parents: Mary and Joseph. What was their expectation as they prepared for the birth of their son? We can only speculate. But surely Mary and Joseph were well aware that this was no ordinary child. Like Mary and Joseph, we too have our part to play in bringing Christ into our world.

***Peace & blessings,
Gerard***