



## CHRISTMAS DAY - THE BIRTH OF JESUS

### John 1.1-14

May I begin this Christmas reflection by hoping that the truth of God becoming a man still means much to you, and that you will love reading this extraordinary passage, John 1.1-14.

Maybe like you, I am rather entranced by this passage, though in many ways its like a beautiful white snowflake. As I try and capture the heart of this ‘snowflake’ I shiver, aware that there is something vivid, vast and alive that takes you and I beyond our lives, but is also impossible to capture!

The invitation within this passage is to discover a new vision of God, a new understanding of grace, which goes beyond our familiar expectations of God. Somehow within this reading there is an enormity and ubiquity that can make you wonder about an immense God with such power to touch our hearts – Happy Christmas.

John 1.14

#### God hands Himself over to the world

When Moses ‘bumps’ into God at the Burning Bush, in the Sinai desert, he seems understandably keen to know His name. God’s answer is, “I am who I am”. I’ve always found God’s reply slightly amusing, but more importantly, God’s reply clearly establishes a relationship with Moses, and from then on with anyone who wishes to know God. This significant step by God of telling us His name, shows that He chooses to enter into a relationship with you and I. God has chosen

to make Himself accessible to you and I.

After giving his divine name in the Sinai desert, God has taken another monumental step of giving himself to you by entering into ‘your’ world. So in this famous passage of scripture John is not only opening up to you an immense God, but also His incomprehensible closeness, which becomes even clearer when He places His life in our hands and hearts during Holy Communion.

On this extraordinary day when love once again comes knocking at your door, let us pray to the Lord to help us to continue to discover the God-with-us, and the beauty of faith in the Christ-child who longs for your companionship and friendship.

Happy Christmas.

***Stephen***

**Adella says** – I would invite people to wear Christmas jumpers to the Christmas Morning Service, or to wear a red or green jumper or top.

**Cycle of Prayer in the Swansea Region** – we will pray for Tabernacle, Mumbles

*Christmas Greetings from Friends who have donated to  
'HANDS UP FOR DOWNS'*

This appeal will remain open until early January if you would like to make a donation.