

# MERRY CHRISTMAS

## Catechism of the Catholic Church

### I. LIVING IN THE TRUTH

2465 The Old Testament attests that *God is the source of all truth*. His Word is truth. His Law is truth. His "faithfulness endures to all generations." Since God is "true," the members of his people are called to live in the truth.

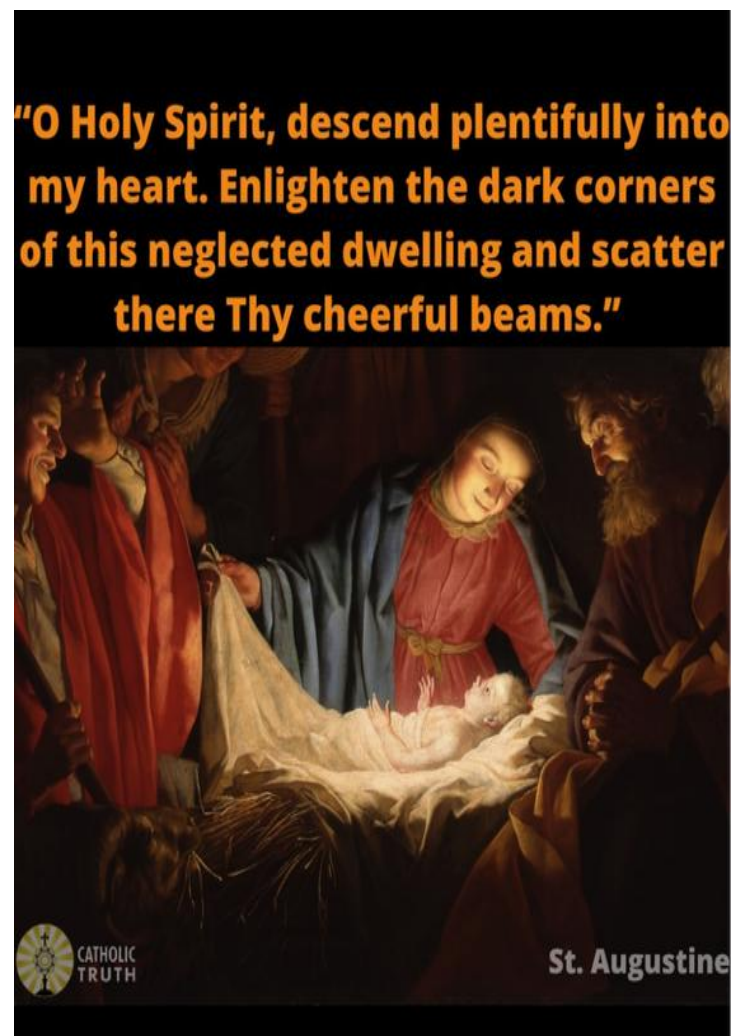
2466 In Jesus Christ, the whole of God's truth has been made manifest. "Full of grace and truth," he came as the "light of the world," he is *the Truth*. "Whoever believes in me may not remain in darkness." The disciple of Jesus continues in his word so as to know "the truth [that] will make you free" and that sanctifies. To follow Jesus is to live in "the Spirit of truth," whom the Father sends in his name and who leads "into all the truth." To his disciples Jesus teaches the unconditional love of truth: "Let what you say be simply 'Yes or No.'"

2467 Man tends by nature toward the truth. He is obliged to honor and bear witness to it: "It is in accordance with their dignity that all men, because they are persons . . . are both impelled by their nature and bound by a moral obligation to seek the truth, especially religious truth. They are also bound to adhere to the truth once they come to know it and direct their whole lives in accordance with the demands of truth."

2468 Truth as uprightness in human action and speech is called *truthfulness*, sincerity, or candor. Truth or truthfulness is the virtue which consists in showing oneself true in deeds and truthful in words, and in guarding against duplicity, dissimulation, and hypocrisy.

2469 "Men could not live with one another if there were not mutual confidence that they were being truthful to one another." The virtue of truth gives another his just due. Truthfulness keeps to the just mean between what ought to be expressed and what ought to be kept secret: it entails honesty and discretion. In justice, "as a matter of honor, one man owes it to another to manifest the truth."

2470 The disciple of Christ consents to "live in the truth," that is, in the simplicity of a life in conformity with the Lord's example, abiding in his truth. "If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not live according to the truth."



# *The Nativity of the Lord*

Feast Day: December 25th

The Nativity of the Lord invites us to enter the holy night of Bethlehem, where God is born among us. In the quiet of a stable, Jesus Christ, true God and true man, comes into the world, wrapped in swaddling clothes and laid in a manger. This moment reveals the depth of God's love: He becomes small so that we might be raised up.

Mary, the gentle Mother of God, welcomes her Son with faith and wonder, treasuring all things in her heart. Saint Joseph stands watch in silent obedience, trusting fully in God's plan. Together, they adore the Child who is the Savior of the world.

The shepherds, humble and poor, are the first to kneel before the newborn King. Their journey reminds us that God draws near to the lowly and invites every heart to come and adore Him. The angels' song of peace still echoes, calling us to receive Christ with joy and gratitude.

In the Nativity, we meet Emmanuel - God with us. As we gaze upon the Infant Jesus, we are invited to lay aside fear, pride, and distraction, and to welcome Him into our hearts. May the light of Christ born in Bethlehem bring peace to our souls and renew our love for God and one another.

Lord Jesus, born in Bethlehem,  
be born anew in our hearts.  
Fill us with Your peace and light,  
and lead us in love and humility.  
Amen.



## *Essential Truths About Jesus*

- Son of God
- Savior
- Emmanuel  
(God with us)
- Light of the World
- Prince of Peace
- Good Shepherd