

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISHES OF

ASSUMPTION
9040 95 AVENUE NW
EDMONTON AB T6C 1Z3



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RESURRECTION
10555 50A STREET NW
EDMONTON, AB T6A 2C8

*When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another,
“Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place,
which the Lord has made known to us.”
So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.*

Luke 2:15-16

St. John Paul II, in his Christmas catechesis of 1978 said,

Man is the being who seeks God.

We are not stones that do not speak. We are rather like the Christmas rose that seeks the sun, that turns its head upwards to that alone which can give it life. But it is not the rays of the natural sun that we seek, but the light of the Only-Begotten Son, who shone in darkness to the humble shepherds that first Christmas night. They sought what the angel had announced to them, and they ran “in haste” to see the great fulfillment of what was spoken to them.

We seek because we wish to find. Our life is a seeking, a restlessness that desires only to rest at last in what it has “found”. And what alone can give us the true rest of our restless hearts? It is the quiet repose in the presence of our Saviour and our Lord. The tranquility of finding the source and fulfillment of all our hopes and desires.

Let us make haste to contemplate the Christ-child this Christmas with the humble shepherds:

How was Christ born? How did he come into the world? Why did he come into the world?

He came into the world in order that men may be able to find him; those who look for him.

Just as the shepherds found him in the cave at Bethlehem.

I will say even more. Jesus came into the world to reveal the whole dignity and nobility of the search for God, which is the deepest need of the human soul, and to meet the search halfway.

Pope St. John Paul II

I wish you the peace and joy of the presence of the Christ-Child this Christmas.

Fr. Philip Creurer
Pastor