

## Christmas: Jesus in our homes



If there is a time when we really understand that God comes to live among us, it is at Christmas. We have been preparing for it during the weeks of Advent and have insistently asked the Lord to come and save us - that his light illuminates the darkness of our lives. **We have begged him to come into our world and now he hears us and takes on our human form to give us his life!**

The liturgy of these weeks of preparation and waiting is only the echo of what we are reading in Scripture: the people chosen by God hope for the coming of the Savior. The people are in expectation, the prophets announce, and the last of them, John the Baptist, the *greatest of the children of women*, prepares the way for Jesus. We sing it: he is *the morning that precedes the day*. He is the *lamp announcing the light...*

Naturally, we will experience this waiting at home. One of the precursor signs of the feast of the Nativity is **the crib** we are preparing in our homes. All the characters are in place in a familiar setting to us and it reminds us of the Christmases of our childhood. The Child Jesus will not take his place until midnight, on the evening of December 24<sup>th</sup>. Before that, we will have to wait patiently, as Mary and Joseph did.

And here is Jesus living in our house! Of course, this is only the crib. It is only a representation and an evocation of a distant event becoming singularly close.

Jesus comes to dwell in our homes. He comes to live in our flesh.

**May our hearts rejoice with the joy of the angels who then sang the glory of God!**

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