

Fr. O'Connor's Christmas Homily 2021

Do you want this Christmas to be different? Do you really want to savor this feast? Well to begin with can you imagine God entering human flesh? Can you imagine God becoming human flesh? It's easy to say, but imagine it. This tiny child, God in the flesh is our most intimate connection to God.

A young woman gives birth to our Savior – a humble birth, a crying baby. How can we enter into this simple, profound mystery? What's at the heart of it? God reaching out, God humbling Himself. Love reaching out to enfold us.

This celebration will have lasting effect when you enter this Christmas mystery with your imagination, unless you pray with your imagination. Christmas is all about memory and imagination. Let your imagination flow. Let it carry you into this holy night, this wondrous birth. Imagine, the sounds of the baby crying, the angels singing, the looks on the face of Mary, and Joseph, on the faces of the shepherds. Imagine the smell of the hay and the smoke of the fire, the cold of the night, the darkness.

Imagine God in heaven, the Blessed Trinity. We had gone far away but God won't settle for that. He thinks to Himself, "How can I reach these creatures, how can I touch them with my love? How can I pour my joy into their hearts?"

So let's take this journey. Come to Him. Allow God to fill you with joy, with peace, with love.

In moments He will embrace you in the Holy Eucharist. O Come let us adore Him.

Continue to let your imagination lead you into the embrace of this Christmas Child – Jesus.