



Dear Friends,

As we enter the final days of Advent, the Church turns our attention to St. Joseph, the quiet, but heroic man of deep faith and obedient to God. In today's Gospel, Joseph faces a moment of deep confusion and fear. Learning that Mary is with child, he plans to dismiss her quietly.

But an angel appears to him in a dream and reveals God's plan, ***"Joseph, son of David,***

do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home. For it is through the Holy Spirit

that this child has been conceived in her.

She will bear a son and you are to name

him Jesus,

because he will save his people from their sins."

What Joseph learns is at the heart of Christmas itself: this child is Emmanuel, "God is with us." God does not remain distant. He enters into our human story, into uncertainty, and struggle. Joseph's response is a powerful lesson for us in these final days before Christmas. ***"When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home."*** He does exactly what the angel told him. He trusts. He obeys. He becomes the guardian of the Savior.

The Fourth Sunday of Advent invites us to reflect that we, like Joseph, are called to welcome Christ not only with words but with faithful action. Our preparations for Christmas may include decorations, gifts and plans for family gatherings - but today the Church reminds us that the most important preparation is the readiness of our hearts. Are we making room for God's will in our lives, even when it surprises us?

As we light the final candle of the Advent wreath, which symbolizes "love", we rejoice that the waiting for the birth of Christ is almost over. The humble faith of Joseph teaches us that God often works in quiet, hidden ways, and that true greatness is found in trustful obedience. May these final days of Advent deepen our faith, calm our hearts, and help us prepare a humble dwelling place for Emmanuel in our heart.

Peace,

Fr. Krzysztof Kardzis