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A Child Is Born . . .

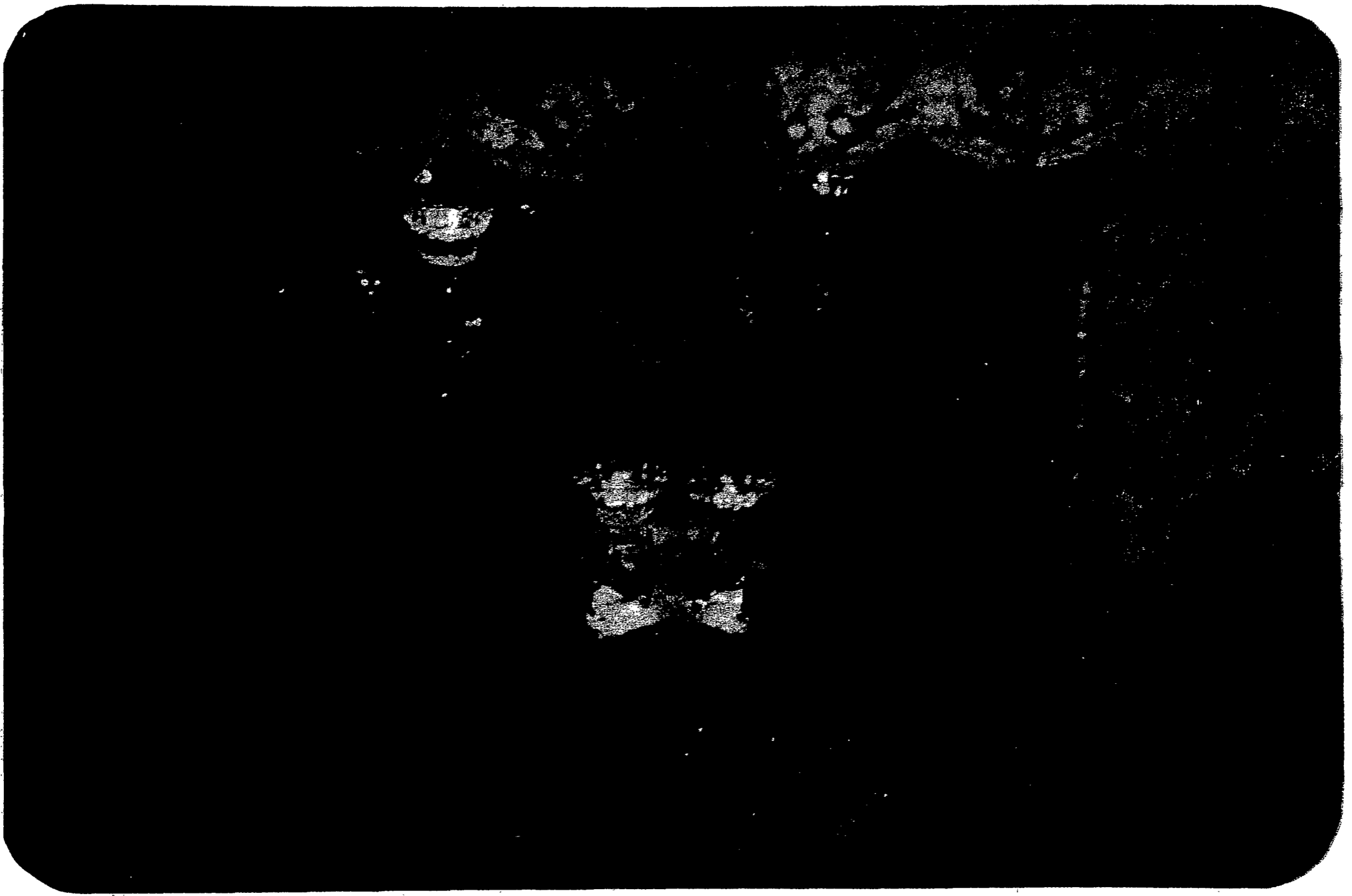


Photo by Father Michael Biondi, CSB

The spot in Bethlehem where tradition has it that Jesus Christ was born. (More on Photo Page 2)

A Christmas Wish . . .

My dear People:

When left to our own devices, we human beings can be a sad lot. We come to another December. The days grow colder and darker as the sun gives less of its power to the earth. We worry about having enough fuel to warm our homes. We hope that enough electricity will be produced to light our lamps. The prophets of doom fill us with a sense of frustration.

But, thank God, we have not been left on our own. As Christians, we come to the cold dark days of December with renewed joy because of the birth of

Christmas, 1977

Christ, the Son of God. On the first Sunday of Advent, we as a Church pray:

Father in heaven,
our hearts desire the warmth of your love,
and our minds are searching for the light of your Word.
Increase our longing for Christ our Savior
and give us the strength to grow in love,
that the dawn of his coming
may find us rejoicing in his presence
and welcoming the light of his truth.

On the eve of Christmas, 1977, I wish each of you

love and light. May you be filled anew with the life of Christ; and with renewed hope, may you continue to work for a better world, as we wait for His coming again in glory.

Devotedly yours in Christ,

+ Most Reverend Joseph L. Hogan, D.D.
Bishop of Rochester