

Fr. Paul J. Cuddy



On the Right Side

A Christmas Meditation

Following is the text of "A Christmas Meditation," first published in the Courier-Journal, Wednesday, Dec. 21, 1977.

Adeste Fidelis!
When God gave
His Only Begotten Son
to us (John 1),
He could not have given
a Greater Gift.
Through His Spirit, may we
be sensitive to those
who need to be remembered:
the sick and aged,
the people in nursing homes,
prisons, hospitals,
rooming houses:
uneasy sinners,
striving saints.

Natum videte Regem angelorum.
The highlight of Christmas
for us, of course,
is Holy Mass.
There Christ again
becomes Incarnate,
not in a cave
nor on Calvary
nor from the Virgin's womb
but on a paten
and in a cup
from the sacred hands and words
of His consecrated priest.

Deum de Deo, Lumen de Lumine:
As we adore the Divine Presence
and receive Him into ourselves
may we go forth from Mass
not in the smug selfness
of fabled Narcissus,
but emptying self of self
and filled with Him
Who by grace makes us
a paler incarnation:
sensitive to those
who need to be remembered:
the sick and aged,
the people in nursing homes,
prisons, hospitals,
rooming houses:
uneasy sinners,
striving saints

**Gloria in excelsis Deo
Nos cum prole Pia
Benedicat Virgo Maria!**



HELLO

The joy of Christmas is in the giving. May you enjoy as much pleasure as you give to others.

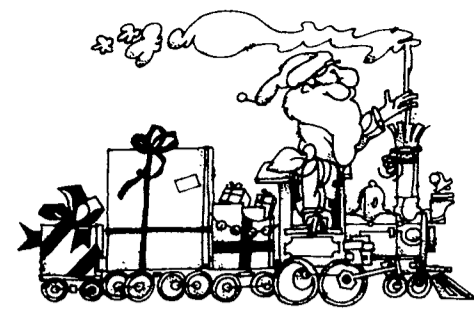
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