



inspired designs

Reading 1 — Is 7:10-14

Responsorial Psalm — Ps 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6.

Reading 2 — Rom 1:1-7

Gospel — Mt 1:18-24

This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about.

When his mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found with child through the Holy Spirit.

Joseph her husband, since he was a righteous man, yet unwilling to expose her to shame, decided to divorce her quietly.

Such was his intention when, behold,

the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said,

“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.”

All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet:

Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,

and they shall name him Emmanuel, which means “God is with us.”

When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him

and took his wife into his home.

Discussion Points:

In those times, it was common for people to be wed, and then live apart for up to a year while the spouse prepared the home for the bride. Discuss why Joseph may have chosen a quiet divorce when he discovered she was with child. (This may be a hard discussion to have with children.)

What does it mean to be righteous? How would this affect the decisions Joseph would have made?

How would you react if an angel of the Lord came to deliver a special message just for you?

**Pray on this for today:
that you can trust in the works of God
with absolute faith in His plan.
He will not work into your life any trial that
is not yours to bear.**