

Liturgical Year: Christmas

Out of love, the eternal Son of God became man to save us from sin and death.

Chapter Summary

An angel appeared to shepherds to announce the Good News of the Savior's Birth. The circumstances of Jesus' Birth reveal the true meaning of Christmas: out of love, the eternal Son of God became man to save us from sin. The field where the angel appeared to the shepherds is known as the Shepherds' Field and was mentioned in a prophecy by the prophet Micah. This prophecy revealed Jesus as the Lamb of God. Certain church decorations, such as poinsettias and holly, also reveal the true meaning of Christmas.

Keeping Christ in Christmas

What is the true meaning of Christmas? This is the question that many popular Christmas movies ask. Most, if not all, get the answer wrong. It's not about finding what it means to *you*. There is a correct answer. The true meaning of Christmas is that out of love, Jesus, who is God Himself, became man to save us from sin.

It's difficult to keep the true meaning of Christmas in mind. There are many competing voices and distractions that attempt to lull us into shallow materialism and base comforts. We have to be vigilant and make conscious efforts to keep it in mind.

We set the example for our children about what Christmas means. *Starting* to celebrate Christmas on Christmas Day, rather than the first day of December, is a countercultural precedent we can set. Putting up Christmas decorations and keeping them up from December 24 through at least the Christmas octave is another beautiful reminder.

Above all, we must conform ourselves to Christ's example. In giving of ourselves, our time, and our treasure during Christmas, we are reminded of Christ giving Himself for our salvation.

For more family faith formation resources, go to the parent portal.

