

Christmas 2009 [c]

QUEEN OF PEACE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY
GAINESVILLE, FLORIDA
Rev. Jeff McGowan

1ST READING: ISAIAH 9: 1-6

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shown.. for a child is born to us, a son is given to us, upon his shoulder all dominion rests.

PSALM 96

Today is born our Savior, Christ the Lord.

2ND READING: TITUS 2: 11-14

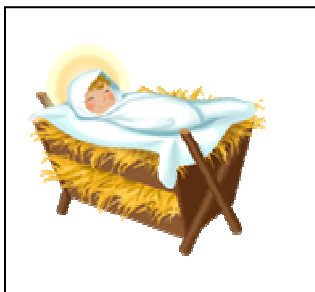
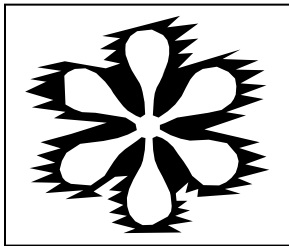
The grace of God has appeared, saving all...

GOSPEL: LUKE 2: 1-14

You have nothing to fear!

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Children's Mass



Children, I want to see if you know something special about reading a book. If you are reading and see a star like this: * which is called an asterisk, do you know what it means? Let me show you. The star up here means that you will see another star down here at the bottom of the page. The star at the bottom of the page explains something about what is said by the star at the top of the page.

Now let me show you something about another star. See that star at the top of the Christmas tree? That star is like an asterisk. It tells us to look down below. See what is here?

This is a figure of a little baby that tells us
Jesus was born. God became our brother and ever
since then, he is as near to us as we are to ourselves.
Our brother Jesus says:

I AM THERE. I AM WITH YOU. I AM YOUR LIFE. I AM YOUR TIME. I AM
THERE IN THE GLOOM OF YOUR DAILY ROUTINE. I AM YOUR JOY. *



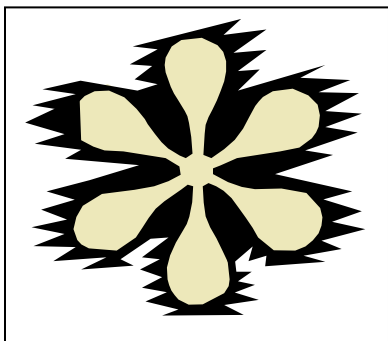
DO NOT BE AFRAID TO BE HAPPY.



It is Christmas. Light the candles, they have
more right to exist than the darkness. It is Christmas
that is not a passing mood; it is Christmas that lasts
forever. He has made the night bright. He changes
our entire outlook on life.*

We use lots of stars on our Christmas decorations. When you see a star
on trees, on cards, or in windows, or in the sky on a starry night, let each star
remind you to look down and smile. God is not far off in the sky. God has come
to earth to be with us. Jesus is our brother. He is God and he is our brother who
lives with us. He is our Savior who loves us.

Every Christmas star is a reminder. Each one tells you to look down to see
the Savior who is with you. When you read books that have little stars called
asterisks, remember the Christmas star. Each star tells you that you will see
even more when you look down for another star. When you see Jesus, you need
to know the Good News: *



**Do not be
afraid to be
happy**