

## Homily for Christmas Morning

### *Why did God become Man?*

Gospel: *Luke 2: 15-20*

Homilist: Deacon Rick Moser

December 25, 2017

Christmas 2012, my homily at the Children's Mass

"Why did God become a Man? Little girl said, "Because He was born a boy, duh!"

Tell you a story.

Man on the Northfork. Good man but didn't understand the idea about God becoming man.

Christmas, his wife and son went to midnight Mass.

It was a terrible night. Snow, windy, freezing cold, maybe it was last year!

He sat by the fireplace to read a book.

He heard a thud by the window, then another and another.

He went to the window but didn't see anything.

He went to the door; he saw several chickadees on the ground, flapping their wings.

They tried to fly through the window to get by the warm fire.

He decided that he couldn't let the birds freeze, so he opened the barn door and turned on the light. But the birds didn't fly in.

He poured bird seed on the ground; but they still didn't fly in.

He tried to pick up the birds but they flew away from him;

He caught one but it pecked his hand.

He got pretty frustrated.

Then he thought, "If I were only a bird, if only I had feathers, then they would follow me, then I could feed them and lead them into the warm barn where there is food.

Then, he got into his truck and drove into town to join his wife and son at Mass.

### **Suddenly, he realized why God became man.**

We needed a God that has skin just like us. We look at that stained-glass window.

There are three real people

One of them is also really God, as well as man.

Now we have a God with skin; we have a God with five senses. Jesus has a human soul, in addition to His Divine Soul, His Divinity.

He has a human body, a human will (and a Divine Will).

He has a human intellect and must learn as we do.

### **On that first Early Christmas morning:**

- ★ Jesus see His Mother for the very first time - with human eyes
- ★ He has known her for all eternity.
- ★ Now, He can now touch her face with His Human hands; perhaps feel her tears of joy.
- ★ He can smell her sweetness, her Sanctity
- ★ Though she nourished Him with her body for nine months, now He can nurse at her breast and share that intimacy with her.
- ★ He can hear her sweet voice as she says, "I love you, Jesus!"
- ★ His Mother can hear His voice, his sounds for the first time and feel His touch.
- ★ A voice that will later dispel demons, forgive sins, raise the dead, heal the sick, give sight

to the blind.

- ★ A touch that will later cure lepers and heal all sicknesses.
- ★ He is a God who must learn to walk and learn to talk

### **We have a God with feelings, Human Feelings & Human Experience**

- ★ He shed tears as He sees the face of His Mother and will shed tears over the future of Jerusalem and at the tomb of Lazarus.
- ★ He will shed tears of blood in the Garden of Olives.
- ★ Jesus feels comfort and warmth in the arms of His Mother.
- ★ He feels Her love through her tender touches.
- ★ He feels safe as he looks into the eyes of Joseph.
- ★ He is a God who can be tempted

### **We have a God who knows**

- ★ Being a refugee
- ★ Who knows extreme hunger and extreme thirst
- ★ Who knows homelessness
- ★ A God who knows poverty
- ★ Who knows betrayal
- ★ A God who has felt just anger
- ★ Who knows the loss of a parent
- ★ A God who can love and can cry at the death of a friend
- ★ A God who knows abandonment
- ★ Who knows false accusations
- ★ Who has been sentenced to death
- ★ A God who knows each and every person who has ever lived, everyone who lives now and everyone who will ever live. A God who loves each and every one of them. A God who created each and every one of them and a God who wants to spend each and every moment of eternity with each one of us.
- ★ We have a God who is here; a God who is present; a God who lives inside each one of us.
- ★ A God who lives in our hearts and a God who takes us into His heart.
- ★ A God who became man so that we can share in His Divinity.

As we leave the Church after Mass with the **INCARNATE** Christ in our bodies and the Holy Spirit in our souls, **we are the Body of of the Incarnate God, Jesus Christ**

- ★ We don't replace Christ's Body
- ★ We don't represent Christ's Body
- ★ We ARE Christ's Body
- ★ and as we travel through this earthly life,
- ★ He HAS COME TO TRAVEL WITH US.
- ★ and if we stay with Him, we are guaranteed to arrive safely at our final destination: the everlasting life of heaven, in the Father's house.