

Listen With Your Heart

Thursday, December 18, 2014
3rd Week of Advent



“Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid.” (Matthew 1:20)

Have you ever been afraid? What were your feelings of the unknown? In our Gospel story today we read and listen to the words that the angel is saying to Joseph: “Do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife. She is to have a baby and it is by the Holy Spirit that she has conceived.” What can be more unnatural than this—having a baby by the Holy Spirit? Joseph must have been in a state of disbelief. Did he hear correctly? What and how would we have responded? Ignore the request? Try to put it out of mind? Get on our knees and ask God to get rid of what is being asked because we know it is only a dream. In time all of this will disappear and life will go back the way it was.

Just like Joseph God will ask each of us to be or do something that is beyond our expectations. Will we be willing to say YES to the call wherever it might take us? Let us ask God to speak to our heart and give us the grace to be open to the future. Advent is a time of silence and renewal as we await the birth of Jesus. Let the word of Christ dwell in our heart so new inner life will blossom forth on Christmas Day.

Prayer:

Jesus is Emmanuel, God with us. Speak Lord we are listening.

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Jeremiah 23: 5-8

Psalm 72: 1-2, 12-13, 18-19

Matthew 1: 18-25