



God's Spirit on the city

Day 6

[22 May]

Drawing near to Mary... stay watchful

"Don't be afraid to take Mary as your wife" said the angel to Joseph. Today, it's to us the angel calls, so that the Spirit may come on this eve of Pentecost. To "be without fear" is characteristic of Love.

Take Mary as your wife ...

It's to open space within oneself so that the Holy Spirit will teach us all things.

It's to welcome the Spirit, guided by one who is full of grace.

It's to let the way mark itself out so that the Holy Spirit can lead us to Jesus Christ.

It's to choose the path of fecundity, in the Spirit of the living God.

It's to create space within ourselves so that Jesus Christ will come, and come again, in us.

Where Christ is, there is Mary, Mother of God, Mother of the Church.

Where the Spirit is, God is at work.

"Here is your Mother!"

Let's not be afraid to receive her.

Let's stay watchful so that we can welcome.

Welcome the will of God.

Welcome the gift of Christ on the cross, giving the ultimate gift of his life.

Welcome the gift of grace in the fullness of the Spirit.

Welcome into oneself and welcome into the Church the call to Sanctity

THE WORD AS THE WAY

Mt 1:18-25 (© NRSVCE)

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: "Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us."

When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

WORDS TO PRAY

Be glorified, Holy Spirit, because your arrival at Pentecost is the celebration of life. Pentecost bring us the comfort of your love, nurtures our joy and revives our trust in you.

Bless you, because you deliver us from our fears and anxieties. You come to espouse the poverty of our hearts and to guide us along the path of freedom. Too often prisoners of fear and paralyzed by anxiety, help us to dwell in hope, our souls yearning for you, so that we may be fruitful witnesses of your love.

Grant us, O Father, trust and self-abandonment, so that we can launch ourselves into your arms and your infinite mercy. Put on our lips the name that belongs to you alone: Abba.