

## ADVENT 2020

My Dear Friends,

“Unto you is given to know the mystery of the Kingdom of God” – Mark 4.11

The reality of the mystery of Advent is the mystery of love at work in human affairs, and this indeed is something that cannot be explained away by psychological jargon. Love is when considered with care, a potent force and nobody really knows just what it is.

It is hard to understand why men die for one and other; such actions of bravery and sacrifice run contrary to the more natural instinct of self-preservation. It can be difficult to tell or indeed understand why it is that we love certain people. We cannot find a psychological pigeon-hole for the enigma we call affinity.

It follows therefore that if human love is a mystery, then how can we possibly hope to understand or even comprehend Divine love? God so loved us that He entered into His own creation, lived in it as man and died for it upon the Cross at Calvary. He broke in upon humanity at a given point and time in space. We know exactly where this happened, when and importantly how.

However, knowing the facts about a thing or event does not help us solve the mystery behind it. The mystery of the Incarnation is so immense, so great and amazing that no human mind has ever probed the depths of it. We simply cannot grasp it; we can only stand in awe, humility and reverence gazing down at the manger and up at the cross. So please, as we progress through this season of Advent, tread softly the approaches to Christmas for we walk on Holy Ground. Do not rush at it with irrelevant haste. Always remember, that you are moving towards a great mystery, the supreme mystery of Love incarnate.

When in ordered time Christ left this earth we know that he did not abandon us, he is with us in Spirit gently guiding us along the way. The vision that Advent reveals is in two parts, the first allows us to look back and reflect on the first coming of Christ at Bethlehem. The second allows us to focus our minds to the time when Christ will come again. It is in this interval between past and future that we can find meaning for our own lives as Christians.

It is right that we acknowledge and celebrate the certain knowledge by Faith in Christ Jesus as he appeared amongst us the form of flesh and blood and took on our own humanity. He came to show us what life could and should be, He gave us a vision of the foundation upon which all of us can continually build our lives as faithful and steadfast followers of Christ.

As Christians, we are duty bound to proclaim the Good News of the Gospel message, a message of Love, Peace and Hope. Hope, Peace and Love is desperately needed in this dark tragic hour for all humanity. My earnest hope and prayer is that the world might just stop, listen and reflect on its current trajectory to utter destruction and once again turn back to the Kingdom of God.

May God Bless you all.

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