



*And a little
child shall
lead them.*

Isaiah 11:6

Behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

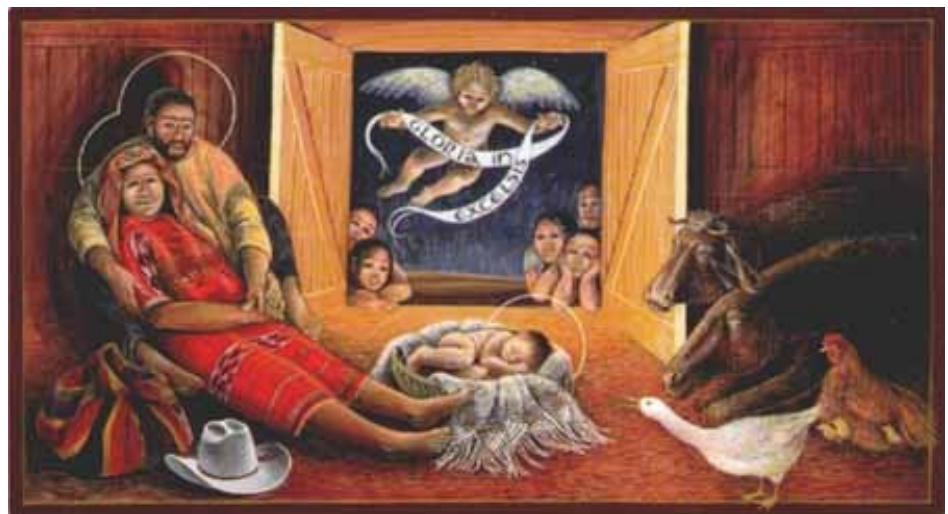
Luke 2:10-11

Oh come, let us adore Him!

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Oh come, let us adore Him,

Christ the Lord!



John Giuliani, *Guatemalan Nativity*, 1990s

The first Christmas at 27A Baggot St - House of Mercy, 1827

On Christmas Day 1827, a dinner of roast beef and plum pudding was served to the poor children of the neighbourhood, a custom that would continue.

Assisted by many Protestant women friends, Catherine was at her element in the midst of the festivities. All the skills of hospitality and solicitude she had developed at the Callaghan's were now put to maximum use at Baggot Street, even though she did not yet reside there.

Mary Sullivan, *The Path of Mercy*, 2012, p. 68.

Lord, in this holy season of prayer and song and laughter, we praise you for the great wonders you have sent us: for shining star and angel's song, for infant's cry in lowly manger. We praise you for the Word made flesh in a little Child. We behold his glory, and are bathed in his radiance.

Be with us as we sing the ironies of Christmas, the incomprehensible comprehended, the poetry made hard fact, the helpless Babe who cracks the world asunder. We kneel before you shepherds, innkeepers, wisemen. Help us to rise bigger than we are. Amen.

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