



Daily Reflections

March 19, 2019

Scripture

Matthew 1: 16-24

Jacob was the father of Joseph, the husband of Mary.
Of her was born Jesus who is called the Christ.
Now this is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about.
When his mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph,
but before they lived together,
she was found with child through the Holy Spirit.
Joseph her husband, since he was a righteous man,
yet unwilling to expose her to shame,
decided to divorce her quietly.
Such was his intention when, behold,
the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said,
"Joseph, son of David,
do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home.
For it is through the Holy Spirit
that this child has been conceived in her.
She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus,
because he will save his people from their sins."
When Joseph awoke,
he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him
and took his wife into his home.

Our Scripture Reflection

Although scripture provides precious little information about Joseph, the picture that it paints can be described by one word...Obedience. In fact, Joseph is always incredibly obedient to God even when it costs him dearly. How can he be that way? Joseph is obedient because he is, first and foremost, humble. But you knew that already, didn't you?

Food for your Journey

This much is certain: The greatest thing each person can do is to give himself to God utterly and unconditionally -- weakness, fears and all. For God loves obedience more than good intentions or second-best offerings, which are all too often made under the guise of weakness.

--Søren Kierkegaard, *Spiritual Writings: A New Translation and Selection* (Harper Collins, 2010).

A Prayer from the Heart

Dear God, St. Joseph was a simple man from humble origins who was revealed to be a giant in the faith. He was completely obedient to Your will because he had surrendered his life to You. Help me to follow his example. During my Lenten journey may I grow in my ability to discern and follow Your will for me. May I learn to trust You in all things. Amen