



Daily Reflections

December 30, 2016

Scripture

Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23

When the magi had departed, behold,
the angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said,
"Rise, take the child and his mother, flee to Egypt,
and stay there until I tell you.

Herod is going to search for the child to destroy him."

Joseph rose and took the child and his mother by night
and departed for Egypt.

He stayed there until the death of Herod,
that what the Lord had said through the prophet might be fulfilled,
Out of Egypt I called my son.

When Herod had died, behold,

the angel of the Lord appeared in a dream
to Joseph in Egypt and said,

"Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel,
for those who sought the child's life are dead."

He rose, took the child and his mother,
and went to the land of Israel.
But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea
in place of his father Herod,
he was afraid to go back there.
And because he had been warned in a dream,
he departed for the region of Galilee.
He went and dwelt in a town called Nazareth,
so that what had been spoken through the prophets
might be fulfilled,
He shall be called a Nazorean.

Our Scripture Reflection

Today we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family. The Bible gives us the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph as the model for family life today. And what do they teach us? That even though evil exists in our world, the family that prays and shares faith together, stays together. The family that strives to live the way of holiness can endure all things.

Food for your Journey

A new year is approaching;
What does it hold for me?
It may bring joy or sorrow;
Oh, God, what shall it be?
Sometimes my heart is anxious -
I think that I should know
The way into the future -
Each step that I will go.
But you, in your great wisdom
Must plan for me my all
Lest as your child I falter
And miss your perfect call.
Dear Lord, I pray for guidance

In all I say and do,
And then the year upcoming
Will truly honor you!

-Mildred M. Smith, as quoted in Philip Dunn, *Prayer: Language of the Soul* (New York: Daybreak Books, 1998), 79.

Prayer from the Heart

Dear Jesus, Please watch over and protect my family and keep us close to You and each other. Amen.

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