

**The Following Collect, Epistle & Gospel will be read during the Eucharist today in the personal Chapel of the Presiding Archbishop of the Australian Church of Antioch, The Most Reverend Frank Bugge.**

**Christmas Day.**

**Intent - Incarnation of the Redeemer.**

*The same Collect, Epistle and Gospel shall be used until New Years Day.*

**The Collect.**

O Father, grant us vision and wisdom to understand Holy Things, and we thank you for the Messenger you sent to earth, to teach us the knowledge of the mysteries and Spiritual love, and we ask that you grant us the strength to follow in this teachers footsteps, and open ourselves to your guidance, O Holy, God of all the Ages. Amen.

**The Epistle for Christmas Day is from the words of the Holy Prophet Mani.**

Many are the marvels of the nativity of the Master Jesus. He came down to the physical plane and lived as one of us. He acted like a shepherd to the sheep, which is very apt as we stray like sheep from our proper evolving path of spiritual development. He faced anything but an easy life, and few would care to take on the load the Avatar Jesus did. In spite of the nature of the incarnation facing him he came willingly to enlighten us. To gain true value from this sacrifice, let us seek to follow all the lessons he set for us, that we may also join him in the halls of higher learning.

**Here Endeth the Epistle.**

**The Gospel for Christmas Day is from the Book of Luke.**

There came a decree from Caesar that a census be taken of all the people living in the lands under the Roman rule. Each had to be enrolled in their own city. Joseph went to Judea, to the city of Bethlehem to be enrolled taking with him Mary his wife. At this stage Mary was late in her pregnancy, and was ready to give birth at any time. Because of all the masses of people converging upon the towns, there was no room at any place of abode. Joseph and Mary were forced to take the only shelter available which was the stables. Here the Avatar was born, and at the time of his birth many people were informed all over the land, in many different ways. Those with any psychic talents at this time recorded that the Heavens rejoiced with Angelic singing.

**Praise Be to Thee O Christ.**