

The JOY, HOPE and PEACE offered at Christmas is based on the TRUTH that...

1 – God LOVES us

“This is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life.” – John 3:16

“Consider the Eternal Love God has borne for you, in that, even before our Lord Jesus Christ became Man and suffered on the Cross for you, His Divine Majesty designed your existence and loved you. When did He begin to love you? When He began to be God, and that was never, for He ever was, without beginning and without end. Even so, He always loved you from eternity...[as] He says by His prophet [Jeremiah]...” – St. Francis de Sales, The Eternal Love of God for Us, 17th Century

“I have loved you, my people, with an everlasting love. With unfailing love I have drawn you to myself.” – Jeremiah 31:3

“Even before He made the world, God loved us and chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in His eyes.” – Ephesians 1:4

2 – God is WITH us

“Look! The virgin will conceive a child! She will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel, which means ‘God is with us.’” – Matthew 1:23 [Isaiah 7:14]

“The Word became human and made His home among us. He was full of unfailing love and faithfulness. And we have seen His glory, the glory of the Father’s one and only Son.” – John 1:14

“God has said, ‘I will never fail you.’” – Hebrews 13:5 [Deuteronomy 31:6, 8]

“Be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” – Matthew 28:20

3 – God is FOR us

“God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners.” – Romans 5:8

“If God is for us, who can ever be against us?... Can anything ever separate us from Christ’s love? Does it mean he no longer loves us if we have trouble or calamity, or are persecuted, or hungry, or destitute, or in danger, or threatened with death?... No, despite all these things, overwhelming victory is ours through Christ, who loved us. And I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from God’s love. Neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither our fears for today nor our worries about tomorrow—not even the powers of hell can separate us from God’s love. No power in the sky above or in the earth below—indeed, nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord.” – Romans 8:31-39

“God is working in you, giving you the desire and the power to do what pleases him.” – Philippians 2:13

“When the right time came, God sent his Son, born of a woman... God sent him to buy freedom for us who were slaves to the law, so that he could adopt us as his very own children.” – Galatians 4:4-5

“Surely we ought ever to remember this, and ask fervently: Is it possible that I was loved, and loved so tenderly by my Savior that He should have thought of me individually, and in all these details by which He has drawn me to Himself? With what love and gratitude ought I to use all He has given me?” – St. Francis de Sales, The Love Which Jesus Christ Bears to Us, 17th Century