



Madonna and Child
—sichel—

Christ Born Anew

By Cora H. Matson Dolson
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Above the cradle bends a woman's head,
And lips say holy grace.
The halo that a Star of Bethlehem shed
Encircles her young face.

Thoughts of world quests
those wee feet may pursue,
Set heart to beating wild,
for Christ unto the earth is
born anew
With each new little child.



SITE OF TEMPLE,
JERUSALEM.
(NOW OCCUPIED BY
MOSQUE OF OMAR)

The Message of Christmas

By CARDINAL GIBBONS.

TODAY the whole Christian world prostrates itself in adoration around the crib of Bethlehem and rehearses in accents of love a history which precedes all time and will endure throughout eternity. If asked to explain the rapturous influence which controls us we have no other words than the evangel of joy which the angel gave unto earth, "For this day is born unto you a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord."

The blessings resulting from our Christian civilization are poured out so regularly and abundantly on the intellectual, moral and social world, like the sunlight and the air of heaven and the fruits of the earth, that they have ceased to excite any surprise, except to those who visit lands where the religion of Christ is little known.

Before the advent of Christ the whole world, with the exception of the secluded Roman province of Palestine, was buried in idolatry. Men worshipped the sun and moon and stars of heaven. They worshipped everything except God only, to whom alone divine homage is due. Christ, the Light of the World, proclaimed unto all men in its fullness the truth which had hitherto been hidden in Judea. He taught mankind to know the one true God, a God existing from eternity unto eternity, a God who created all things by his power, who governs all things by his wisdom and whose superintending providence watches over the affairs of nations as well as of men. "without whom not even a sparrow falls to the ground."

The message of Christmas day is intended for all men, for all times, for all conditions of existence. Only by stern adhesion to the principles therein contained can individuals and nations hope to share in that peace which has been promised to men of good will. To violate them is to reverse the order established by God, and disorder is the synonym for sin and strife.

The Greatest Gift.

Christmas stands for one thing—our Father's wondrous love to us, his erring and unworthy children, in sending his only begotten Son into this world to die for our sins and to rise again to be our Deliverer each day from sin and selfishness.

Jesus Christ himself is the great Christmas gift. The only true way to keep Christmas is by first of all accepting for ourselves this wondrous gift of our Heavenly Father and then to show our appreciation of this wondrous gift by giving ourselves and all that we have for others.

It is a true instinct that leads us to give to others Christmas presents, but too often in following out this instinct we give these Christmas gifts to the wrong persons. We give to those who already have too much and forget those who have not enough.

God gave his great gift to the needy, to those who had nothing to return for his gift. Let us follow him. Let us find the needy and give to them out of our abundance. Every one who is in comfortable circumstances should find some family that is really in need some family where there will be little Christmas brightness unless others come to their help and give to this family a real Christmas, including a good Christmas dinner and some appropriate gift to every member of the family down to the youngest child.

Don't do it through some society. What is most needed is living and sympathetic personal contact between rich and poor. Do this and you will have as merry a Christmas as you ever knew.—Rev. R. A. Torrey.

CHRISTMAS SONG.

By EDMUND HAMILTON SEARS.

Calm on the listening ear of night
Come heaven's melodious strains
Where wild Judea stretches far
Her silver mantled plains;
Celestial choirs from courts above
Shed sacred glories there,
And angels with their sparkling lyres
Make music on the air.

The answering hills of Palestine
Send back the glad reply
And greet from all their holy heights
The day spring from on high.
O'er the blue depths of Galilee
There comes a holier calm,
And Sharon waves in solemn praise
Her silent groves of palm.

"Glory to God!" The lofty strain
The realm of ether fills.
How sweeps the song of solemn joy
O'er Judah's sacred hills!
"Glory to God!" The sounding skies
Loud with their anthems ring.
"Peace on the earth, good will to men,
From heaven's eternal King."

Light on thy hills, Jerusalem!
The Saviour now is born.
More bright on Bethlehem's joyous plains

Breaks the first Christmas morn,
And brighter on Moriah's brow,
Crowned with her temple spires,
Which first proclaim the newborn light
Clothed with its orient fires.

This day shall Christian lips be mute
And Christian hearts be cold?
Oh, catch the anthem that from heaven
O'er Judah's mountains rolled
When nightly burst from seraph harps
The high and solemn lay,
"Glory to God; on earth be peace;
Salvation comes today!"

The Madonna of the Grotto



IN religious symbolism from very early times red and blue were sacred to the Mother of Christ. Red expressed heavenly love and aspiration; blue, truth, constancy, purity. In pictures representing the Assumption the Virgin is clad in white. In pictures termed the Immaculate Conception she is arrayed in white. This subject was not treated in early art.

Groceries.

Groceries.

Fruits, Confectionery and FINE GROCERIES.
FOR THE HOLIDAY TRADE.

Oranges, Lemons and Bananas are standard all season fruits. We are now receiving new crop Florida and California Valencia varieties of sweet fruit at 30c, 40c, 50c and 60c per dozen. Lemons 30c and 40c per dozen. Bananas 15c, 20c and 25c per dozen. Nice Grape Fruit at 5c each.

New crop California Prunes 12c, 15c and 18c per pound. New Evaporated Peaches 10c, 12c and 15c. Apricots 18c, 20 and 25c per pound. All fine fruit.

Creamery Butter from the Fox River (Illinois) Creameries. Finest Meadow Gold Brand 42c per pound.

New crop California Walnuts and Almonds, Coconuts, Celery, Cranberries, Sweet Potatoes, Oysters direct from the shell—We do not handle any Baltimore tub Oysters.

Evaporated and Dried Corn, very fine, new goods, 15c and 25c lb.

We are always ready to fill orders for our own make of Mince Meat. It is the only goods on the market that has the full portion of beef in it and in general merit far above any other brand.

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Buy some of our fine cheese and compare it with other goods.

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