



## My Christmas Message 2018, By Robert G. Borelli

This year's message focuses on the Nativity and why a display of the Nativity should be the center piece of your Christmas decorations and not be put in some corner of a room. It is well to note that it is uniquely in prominence in all of our Churches all over the world during this Christmas Season. But there is more to the display of the nativity than the obvious birth of Jesus. There is the significance of baby Jesus opening His arms and welcoming us and I will address this later in my message. But I begin by acknowledging that most of our Catholic sisters and brothers are living in abnormal times. We humans, for the most part, are a logical thinking species but often we are adversely influenced by outside sources. So I will imagine that there will be some amongst us that will struggle with the facts that people are leaving our Church and walking away from our Catholic Teachings. Adding to this, is that Christ's own Church hierarchy is under attack, and unfortunately, for deserving offences. We must accept that we are indeed in troubling times. We may look down into a Nativity display, focus on the little baby wrapped in swaddling clothes lying on a bed of hay, and wonder how can this innocent helpless baby be the savior of our world of today? But we will be wrong to ask this. For it is not written that the Christ Child would save us but it would be Christ the King that would save us. What is missing in our conversations is the fact that this King's Kingdom, in His own words, is not of this world. So what does this baby really represent to us Christians and why do I ask that it be the center piece of your Christmas Celebration? Here is why: With the birth of Baby Jesus, God put an end to His old book and opened a new one. And how better to start a new book than with a new beginning? And how better to start a new beginning than with a new beautiful baby Jesus. So it is in this time, this Christmas, in our homes, that we can put the Nativity of Baby Jesus prominently displayed in our Christmas decorations. We can look at Baby Jesus in all His innocence, reaching his arms out to us, asking us to pick him up, hold Him close, and begin a new journey with Him to reset our faith. We have had voices of disturbances in previous chapters of God's new book and they were put to rest. Today's naysayers and their disruptive noise, will be put to rest as well. Jesus Christ's life on this earth is our story, "The Greatest Story Ever Told". We know what this Baby will become. He will become "The Teacher", our Teacher. His lessons have not changed nor have they been diminished nor compromised. They are the way of the Truth that Jesus came to testify to. We need to just follow His Lessons, nothing else. Mindful that in our time, we are only in the first few chapters of God's new book, but all our answers on how to live a life as to be able to enter into the Kingdom of God, have been written in the first chapter of God's new book. All we need to do is to set ourselves on the path of our faith and follow those written words. We can pray for the naysayers to leave their darkness and come into the light for the Truth is also written for them. But it is for us, the believers, the true Trustees of Christ's Church on earth, that today need to pick up Baby Jesus. We need to hold him close to our heart, our mind, and our soul, and restart our own journey of faith. And God's textbook way to begin this journey is written in the first words of a familiar Hymn. "Let there be Peace on Earth and Let it Begin with Me"

My wishes to all for a Peaceful, and Blessed, and a Merry Christmas.

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