



The Meaning of the Incarnation

RCIA

December 17, 2019

In the beginning was the Word,

And the Word was with God,

And the Word was God.

He was in the beginning with God.

All things came to be through him,

And without him nothing came to be...

And the Word became flesh

And made his dwelling among us.

John 1:1-3; 14



Table Sharing

**Based on the whole RCIA
experience so far, why did
God become incarnate?**

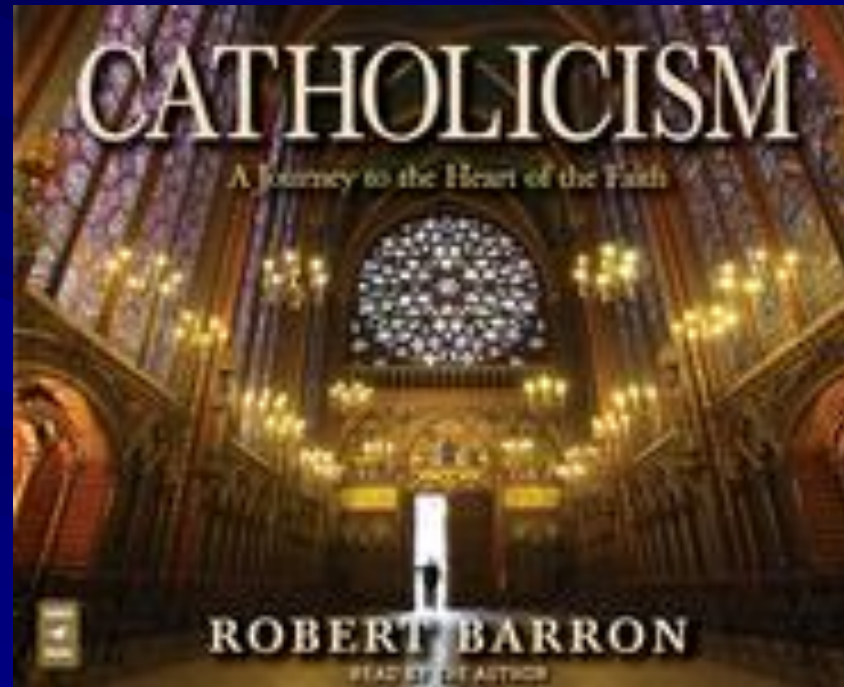
Jesus is God

His divine nature is the same as that of the Father. The Council of Nicea in 325 AD defined that He is "one in substance [homoousios] with the Father" - consubstantial.

Jesus is Man

His human nature is the same as ours, for he had a human body and a human soul. He was like us in all things except that He was without sin, even though He was tempted as we are. (Hebrews 4:15)

So what's the real meaning of the Incarnation?



Chapter 1

10:30 minutes

In Jesus, divinity and humanity meet. In other words, what the heart aches for – real union with God – is realized, personally and completely, in Him. What Israel of the Old Testament gestured toward through the holy temple, the preaching of the prophets, law and covenant – real reconciliation with God – is, in Jesus, an established fact.

Bishop Robert Barron, *Letter to a Suffering Church*



Incarnation is not ***past tense***.

Through the mystery of the Incarnation, the presence of God is found in our midst – especially in our “blind alleys”, when we feel imprisoned, and in our times of need.

**Unless Jesus is born in our heart,
for us it's as if**

He was never born at all.

At present we see indistinctly, as
in a mirror, but then face to face.
At present I know partially; then
I shall know fully, as I am fully
known. So faith, hope, love
remain, these three; but the
greatest of these is love.

I Cor. 13: 12-13

