## CHRISTMAS – STORY OF UNIMAGINABLE LOVE

The story of the birth of Jesus Christ, though it has been told for more than 2000 years continues to inspire. No doubt, Jesus was born as the Promised Messiah, the Saviour and the Redeemer of God's people, he was born to suffer and to die.

Beloved People of God, the story of his birth brings hope and gives joy. The simplicity of his birth, the chosen and the accepted vulnerability of the all-powerful God, speaks of unimaginable love. We must not forget this story – the story of God's sacrificial generosity. This story comes alive whenever and wherever love is demonstrated, and kindness is shown, and care is given. It comes alive whenever and wherever charity is in action.

We are all invited into this open-ended story. We are all branches of this same 'Tree'. God is our source and sustenance. It is about how we continue with the writing and telling of this same story of love through our lives and in the lives of others. It is about how others will continue after us to further this story based on what we have impacted on them, what we made them see, how we made them feel or not. This story of Christmas - God's Story - needs not be distorted. It is the story of Emmanuel – the God who is with us!

## MY HEARTFELT GRATITUDE

I use this opportunity to express my heartfelt gratitude to you all for the various ways, places and times that you have lived out this story of unimaginable love, sacrifice and generosity, throughout the year that is coming to an end, here in the parish and beyond.

I thank you especially for your gifts to me as parishioners – the Christmas offering. I appreciate the many cards, the heartfelt prayers, the kind words and private gifts therein. They are all sources of encouragement.

May God bless and reward you more than you dare to ask and beyond your imagination. May God meet you at the various points of your need.

## I WISH YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND AN AMAZING NEW YEAR!!

Fr. Ted

All to Jesus - Through Mary our Mother

4th Sunday of Advent (B)

24th December 2023