

A classical painting of the Nativity scene. The Virgin Mary is seated on the right, holding the infant Jesus. Joseph is seated on the left, looking towards the child. Several shepherds are gathered around, some kneeling in adoration. The scene is set in a stable with straw on the floor. The lighting is warm and focused on the central figures.

Glory to God in the highest!

Christmas 2023

A blue-toned illustration of a night sky with a bright star and a city below. The star is positioned in the upper center, casting a glow. The city below is depicted with various buildings and a prominent tower with a dome. The overall scene is serene and evocative of the Christmas story.

The Birthday of Jesus has arrived!

Let us remember and celebrate.

**Let us make space for Jesus in our lives THIS day
as we celebrate as part of his family.**

The Gospel for Christmas Eve/Day is taken from
Luke 2:1-14.

The Gospel reading for Christmas Day is taken
from St John 1:1-18.

The following slides announce the story of the
birth of Jesus from St Luke.

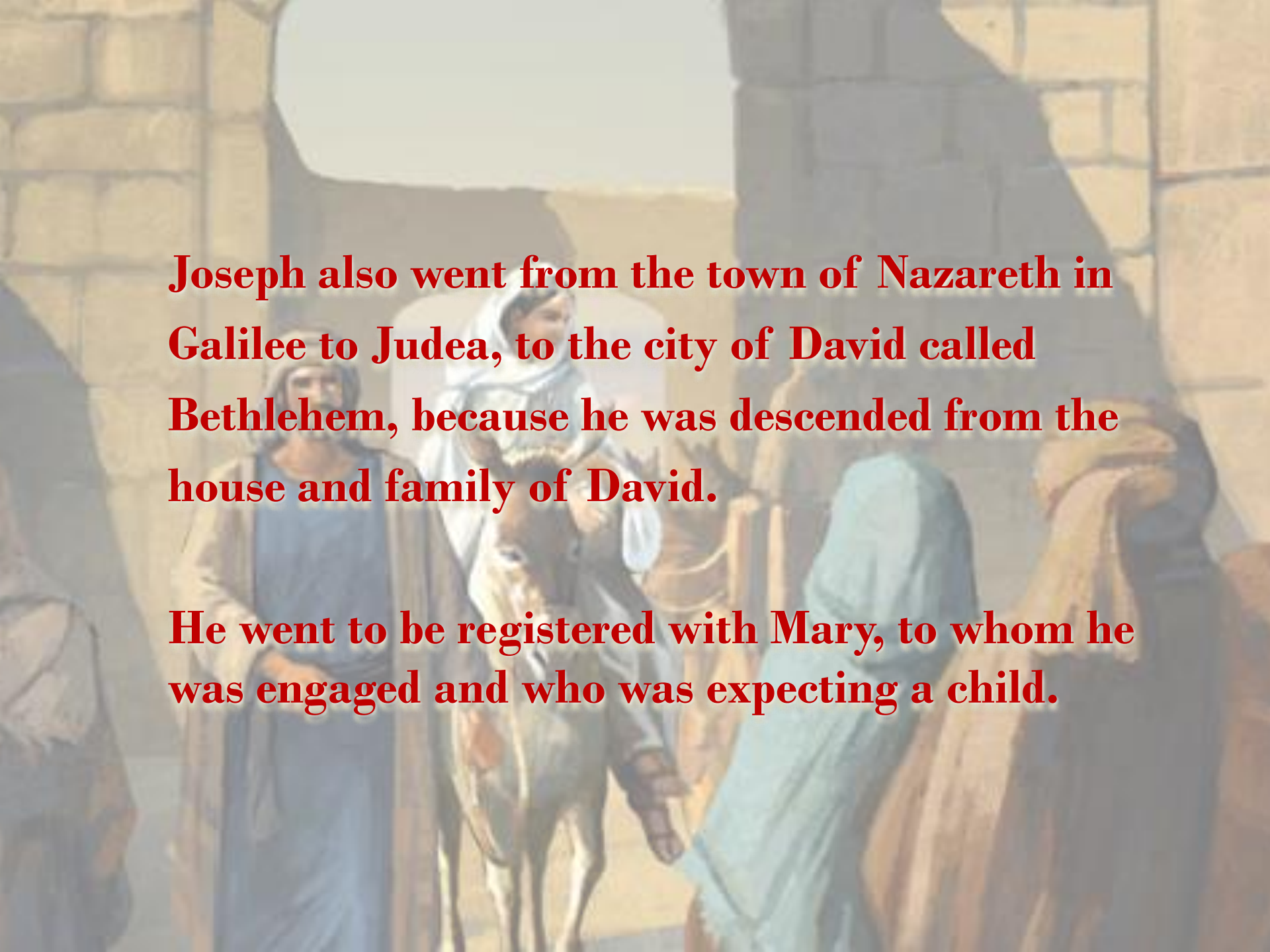
The Birth of Jesus

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered.

This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria.

All went to their own towns to be registered.





Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David.

He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child.

While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.



An angel with large white wings stands in the center, glowing with light. Three shepherds are positioned around the angel, looking up at it with expressions of awe and fear. The shepherds are dressed in traditional, simple clothing. The background is a dark, misty field under a night sky, with a faint glow of light around the angel.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night.

Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified.



But the angel said to them,

‘Do not be afraid; for see — I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord.

This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.





And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

‘Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favours!’

Activity

Draw and write a birthday card for Jesus.

Light a birthday candle on your Christmas cake and sing Away in a Manger before you cut the cake.

Sing Happy Birthday to Jesus before you open your presents.

Consider



How can you make this a really happy Christmas for your family today?

Is there anyone in need whom you could help this Christmas?

Remember to make time for Jesus each day during Christmas!

Praying to Jesus

Pray for the grace to be grateful.

Ask Jesus to give you a sense of wonder.

**Thank God for each person who shows
Gods love to you.**

Thank God for all that you have.

