

## Christmas 2017 – Children’s Mass

What’s something amazing?

Did anything happen to you this past year that amazed you?

Some people might say a trip to Disney World is amazing. I’ve never been there. Is it?

Fireworks can be pretty amazing, right? Other things?

I know there are some of you who welcomed a new brother or sister into your family. That’s pretty amazing, right. Max, have you had a chance to hold Mayley yet? That’s pretty amazing right? Katherine, what about baby Gus? Even though he cries sometimes, he’s still pretty amazing, right?

Mary and Joseph were new parents with Jesus, weren’t they? I bet they were pretty amazed. That usually happens with new parents. I friend of mine, when she had her first baby, wrote to me and said that she had a hard time getting anything done, because she kept getting distracted by her new born son—holding him, looking at him, loving him—and she forgot the other things that she needed to do.

So, when we look at the manger scene, everything is quiet and nice, but that doesn’t mean it’s not something amazing. New babies are like that.

Sometimes it’s the quietest scenes that hold the most amazement. But we only get it if we stop and let it sink in.

There’s even more amazement happening at the manger scene that just a new baby and new parents.

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One of the things that can amaze us is if we go camping or something at we have a chance to look at the night sky and notice how many stars there are. Too many to count!

We can be amazed that God could create not just stars, but galaxies and solar systems and black holes and everything.

On Christmas, if we stop to think about it, the God who has involved in the creation of the heavens and the earth, becomes human just like us.

That those two things could come together—creation of the heavens and the earth and the miracle of a newborn baby—I think that is more amazing than anything.

Wow! God must really love us to want to be one of us. What are we going to do about that? What should our amazement lead us to?

The first thing is to remember it, I think, to let it keep being amazing to us. That’s what we call giving God praise and glory. We do that in church, but we can do that outside in nature, in our rooms at home, and especially in our hearts

The second thing is to not be shy about telling others about how amazing God is and how amazing the Christmas story is. It’s worth sharing, right? It’s worth helping others remember so that they can be amazed, too: Classmates, friends, little brothers and sisters—whoever is willing to listen.