## THE DAY JESUS VISITED THE CHILDREN AT CHRISTMAS

AND ON THIS VISIT, JESUS CONFIRMED CHRISTMAS DISTORTIONS AMONG CHILDREN.

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Children's story that integrates with the natural fantasy and creativity of children and young people, entertaining, educating and adding to the development of character, moral values, citizenship, ecological awareness, family values, culture, knowledge, spirituality, respect for educators, encouragement to study, order and discipline. This book is for children and young people who enjoy intelligent, sensitive, cultural, educational readings and themes of social reality. It is a book with largest literary content, a better reading exercise.

## Synopsis:

The book tells the story of Jesus hearing from the archangel St. Gabriel the account of his birth and the life of his mother St. Mary and his father St. Joseph. And, as it was Christmas Eve, the archangels suggested to Jesus a visit to the temporal world of the men to follow how his birth was celebrated, especially among children. And on this visit, they made, Jesus and his archangels came across the distortions of Christmas among men and, consequently, among children. Fewer people celebrated the date as the birth of the baby Jesus. Children, for the most part, saw Christmas as the date of getting a lot of presents, and men as a date of overeating. They saw how the poor are forgotten by Santa Claus, the character who wins the spotlight on decorations and on Christmas Day. But they also saw many good examples of children and adults acting touched by the Holy Spirit. As sent by God the Father to leave a will to be followed by men for a life of peace and faith and eternal salvation, Jesus acts to reverse this picture by becoming closer and friend to Santa Claus.

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## **Dedication**

I dedicate this work to all those who reserve part of their lives to educate children in some way, as a mission and a belief that in them is the hope of a better world.

In special to parents, teachers and grandparents, the basic triangle of early childhood education.

I thank God for the child that He still allows to exist in me.

João José da Costa

The celebration of another Christmas was approaching...

In the world, everyone was looking forward to December 25th. In particular, the children...

Everyone was expected to know the reasons for this celebration - the date of birth of the child Jesus, son of God.

In the heavens, Jesus rested on a rock while admiring the beauty of the flowers in the gardens of paradise, the multicolored birds that graced the heavens, the animals that meekly grazed on the fresh dew-wet grass.

With Him were the archangels St. Michael, St. Gabriel, and St. Raphael.

The Catholic Church considers these three powerful archangels intercessors between men, Jesus and God, his Father and our Father as well.

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During the hardships and troubles of daily life, they often counsel and assist people, and bring their prayers to the Lord God and His son Jesus.

For this reason, when we pray, we should include prayers to these archangels, close friends of Jesus.

"Jesus, we are nearing another anniversary of your birth, Lord!". The archangel St. Michael said.

"And how does our Master feel?". The archangel Saint Gabriel asked.

"I am sure men are already preparing to celebrate this great date, Lord!". The archangel St. Raphael concluded.

Jesus looked at His three great helpers with a smile on his face. He kept looking at them for a few more minutes and answered:

"My great allies and faithful collaborators! I was, at this very moment, recapping the moments and the story of My birth, told by My Mother Mary and my Father of the temporal world Joseph. However, I would like to hear again the story of My birth told by the faithful Archangel Gabriel once that he was a witness and acted at this time in my life".

St. Michael and St. Raphael settled next to Jesus and turned their eyes to St. Gabriel. And, like a movie in their minds, everyone was able to review these moments and the story of the birth of the baby Jesus.

And the Archangel and Saint Gabriel, was very proud that Jesus had chosen him to tell the story of His birth, sat before them and began to speak:

In the small village of Nazareth lived a woman named Mary and a man named Joseph. Nazareth was located 25 km from the Sea of Galilee. Nazareth was a small village in both Galilee and Judea not so important and it had a population of approximately two thousand.

Nazarene means 'from the village of Nazareth'.

The houses were made of stone and some of its poorer inhabitants lived in caverns. Nazareth was known as the 'flower of Galilee' because of its flowering gardens, carefully cared for by its inhabitants, and the carefully built houses carved in stone. Located on a hill 350 meters from the Mediterranean Sea, the city was surrounded by other higher hills.

The village of Nazareth was a small settlement of no more than 30,000 square meters, 200 meters long and 150 meters wide.

The houses were usually composed of a single room, linked to a hand-dug cave due to the fragility of the rocks of the place.

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In this cave, the inhabitants kept the food and water, because they were humid and maintained a relatively low temperature.

Its inhabitants lived off family crafts and herding goats and sheep, as well as other small animal creations. It was a simple and poor city.

Maria was a young woman who dedicated her life to helping others in need, especially the elderly and orphaned children.

By selling cheese and woolen fabrics she made on the loom, thanks to the milk and wool provided by the goats from her family's sheep,

Maria shared what little she gained with the poor of her dear Nazareth.

In addition to dividing her food and earnings, Maria took care of the hygiene and health of several seniors. She was admired and known to everyone in little Nazareth.

Joseph was a very good man, too. He was the best carpenter in little Nazareth. And he often worked for people in need for nothing, such as beds, chairs, and tables, and repaired roofs for them.

And this great kindness of Joseph and Mary brought them together at an opportunity.

Maria was treating a sick old woman, giving her food, cleaning her little house, and doing her laundry. The old lady had no other family member and was very dependent on Mary's kindness. One day a man named Joseph knocked on the door of this old lady's house. Mary answered the door, asking:

"Good afternoon! Who are you?".

"My name is José and I'm looking for Mrs. Sofia".

"She's in bed, sir! But can I help you with anything?". Maria asked.

"Well, I believe so. I just came to bring this recliner so that she can stand at her doorstep, sunbathe, see the neighbors. I am a carpenter". Joseph answered.

"And does she need to pay you for this service, sir?". Maria wanted to know.

"Absolutely! It's a gift from me to this lady!". Joseph answered.

"And does the young girl live here?". Joseph asked.

"No sir! I am helping the old lady in her food, cleaning the house and doing her laundry. She is like a second mother to me". Maria answered.

At this moment the two looked at each other with much respect and admiration and immediately discovered that they had been born for each other.

They would be united in love of neighbor and in the exercise of kindness to their fellow men. Soon, they got engaged and made wedding plans.

Mary was an Israelite woman, known as Mary of Nazareth, and her parents were St. Joachim and St. Anne. Mary was a woman of great humility.

Her existence was like any other young woman in Nazareth: tidying up the house, caring for younger siblings, helping with herding goats and sheep, making woolen fabrics on the loom, among other household chores.

Joseph, also known as Joseph of Nazareth or Joseph Carpenter, was an authentically just and kind man in good deeds and words.

Thus, he was a man known and respected for his sense of justice, his kindness and love of neighbor, and his ability as a carpenter.

Mary became engaged to Joseph and made the marriage commitment by sealing a lifelong love.

(Tip: If you are curious to see a photo of the angel Gabriel announcing to Mary that she will give birth to Jesus and offered her white lilies, search in the Internet!).

Mary learns from the angel Gabriel that she will have a son named Jesus.

When she asks how it would be possible, given that she was still a virgin and single, Gabriel states that the Holy Spirit will come upon her and that no word from God will be impossible. Maria then said in response:

"I am the Lord's servant. May it be done to me according to your word". Mary said. Then the angel left her.

Mary, having already been betrothed to Joseph, conceived miraculously without marital relations with anyone through the Holy Spirit.

For the couple, this was a dramatic moment, since when Joseph became aware that his wife was pregnant with a child that was not his own, he felt disappointed and decided to break up with her, but without exposing her publicly.

However, a mystical experience happened. An Angel appeared to Joseph in a dream and told him that Mary's baby was the Son of God. The angel told Joseph to marry Mary and to call the baby Jesus. Jesus would be the Savior of the world.

Joseph obeyed the angel; he turned back and recognized the baby Jesus as his rightful son. And the birth of Jesus happened nine months later. When Mary was close to giving birth, she and her husband Joseph traveled from Nazareth to Joseph's ancestral land in Bethlehem to register for the census.

(The census or population census is a statistical study of a population, periodically promoted by the rulers of a city or country, which enables the collection of various information, such as the number of men, women, children and elderly, where and how they live, people, profession, among other things).

Maria goes in and gives birth and, unable to find a place to stay, the couple takes refuge with the newborn in a manger.

The birth of Jesus, also called the Nativity, took place in Bethlehem in the Roman province of Judea of a still virgin mother in a simple manger.

An angel visited the nearby shepherds and brought them the good news:

Today a Savior was born in the city of David, who is the Lord Christ!".

The angel says they will find the child wrapped in cloth and lying in a manger.

The shepherds ran to the stable in Bethlehem and there met Mary, Joseph and Jesus.

They repeated what they heard from the angel and then returned to their flocks. Mary and Joseph later took Jesus to Jerusalem to perform a Jewish ritual before returning to Nazareth.

To the angel is joined by a multitude of the heavenly militia that sings: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

(Tip: If you are curious to see a photo of Joseph with his son on his lap, baby Jesus, search in the Internet!).

The angel's message to Joseph included the origin of the name Jesus and acquired words of salvation when the angel instructed Joseph: "And you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins".

Angels proclaimed Him savior of all people, and shepherds came to worship him. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary His mother; and they knelt down and paid Him homage. They came from the East to worship the Christ, born 'King of the Jews'. Their names were Melchior, Balthazar and Gaspar.

(Tip: If your ate curious to see a phot of the Wise Men studying astronomy, when they saw a star and went to the region where Jesus Christ was born, search in the Internet!).

So, the Wise Men, knowing that it was the birth of a king, went to the palace of the cruel king Herod in Jerusalem in Judea. They asked the king about the child.

This one said nothing to know. Herod alarmed and feeling threatened, asked the Wise Men to find Him, if they found Him, he would love Him too, though his intentions were to kill Him. Herod questioned his counselors where the Messiah would be born and they replied that it would be in Bethlehem, King David's homeland.

By the time the Wise Men reached the boy's place, it had been some time because of the distance traveled.

The star guided them and hovered over the manger where the baby Jesus was.

The Wise Men offered three gifts to the baby Jesus: gold, incense and myrrh.

Gold represented royalty.

Incense represented faith.

The myrrh represented the cure for Jesus' wounds.

(Incense - from Latin: "incendere" which means to burn - is composed of aromatic plant-derived materials that release scented smoke when burned. It is used in religious ceremonies, purification rituals, meditation, to create a state of spirit and eliminate any bad odor). (Myrrh is a plant, also known as Arabic myrrh, which has medicinal properties. The gift given by the Magi aimed to protect the delicate skin of the newly born baby Jesus and heal his wounds).

The birth of Jesus proclaimed the 'King of the Jews' provoked the wrath of King Herod, who was threatened in his power.

Herod, furious, ordered his soldiers to kill all the children of Bethlehem under two years old, an episode known as the "Massacre of the Innocents".

In a dream, the Wise Men were warned by God that Herod intended to kill Jesus whom he saw as a rival. And so, they returned home without telling him where to find the boy.

In a dream, an angel then asked Joseph to flee with his family to Egypt. So, Jesus' family managed to escape to Egypt and, after Herod died, returned to Nazareth.

(Tip: If you are curious to see Mary and Joseph fled to Egypt to save their son Jesus, search in the Internet!).

(Tip: If you are curious to see the Star of Bethlehem revealed the birthplace of Jesus for the three Wise Men, search in the Internet!).

Because of its importance to Christians and humanity, the date of His birth is commemorated in all countries of Catholic religion and in other countries, among resident Catholics.

(Tip: I you are curious to see a photo of Joseph the carpenter teaching the craft to young Jesus, search in the Internet!).

Mary was determined by God to be the mother of His redeeming son by her merits of a holy person touched by the Holy Spirit, being chosen and blessed among all women. And for forming a marriage with Joseph, equally, a just, kind and charitable man.

Jesus sighed deeply after hearing Archangel Gabriel relive the story of his birth. He knew how to tell this story like no one else and always brought a fact that had not been stressed.

After reviewing and meditating on the birth of the Messiah Jesus, the archangels surprised Jesus with these questions:

"Lord! Why don't we go visit the children next Christmas and see how they and their parents celebrate Your birth?".

Jesus once again laughed at the suggestion of His archangels, saying:

"From the heavens where I live, I can see everything and feel everything that goes on in the life and hearts of men, women and children anytime I want! Especially when they pray to me!".

"But, Jesus. We could visit the kids as simple humans and feel this reality more closely!". The archangels insisted.

Jesus, in respect of friendship and in recognition of the dedication of the archangels, answered:

"It's ok! We will do as you wish. We'll go a few days before Christmas, and we'll be right back on Christmas Day! But there is a condition!".

"What, Lord?". The archangels answered with one voice.

"We will separate and visit the humans alone, each one on one side, following the paths we choose!". Jesus answered.

"That's fine, Lord. We may have a broader understanding of how adults and especially children celebrate Your birth!". Archangel Raphael answered, with the concurrence of St. Michael and St. Gabriel.

The choice of places to be visited by Jesus and Hiss archangels followed a logical procedure - they would visit countries with the largest number of Christians in the world and, in these countries, their biggest cities.

And that's how the countries chosen were: The United States, Mexico, Italy, France, Brazil, Russia, England and the Philippines.

As Jesus and the archangels St. Michael, St. Gabriel, and St. Raphael are much sought at this time of year by millions of Christians around the world, for all sorts of prayers and demands, they could not long be absent from the heavens where they lived.

So, they decided that they would only be 48 hours in their chosen locations.

Archangel St. Michael went to the United States and England, Archangel St. Gabriel went to France and Italy, Archangel St. Raphael went to Russia and the Philippines, and Jesus went to Brazil and Mexico.

Thus, on December 23, 48 hours before Christmas, Jesus and the archangels arrived at their destination. The journey from heaven to these locations took less than 1 second.

Before they arrived, from above they could see the biggest cities of these countries illuminated by hundreds of Christmas decorations and they were very happy!

"Surely the birth of Jesus was strongly present in all these cities!". They thought.

When they arrived, everyone tried to dress and behave like normal men, walking along the illuminated avenues and decorated with various motifs.

But soon something caught the attention of Jesus and his archangels! They did not see images and homage to the birthday boy of the day - Jesus!

On the contrary, what they saw most was the figure of an old and robust man with long white beards, wearing a red outfit and hat. He seemed like a good person and very friendly. He laughed all the time and said: "Ho, ho, ho!".

Jesus certainly knew the legend of this famous character and considered him an ally in love, happiness and peace among men. After all, Jesus loves everyone who is good and does good for children. Jesus knew he was the legendary Santa Claus.

"Santa Claus, Jesus?". St. Michael said.

"I've heard about him!". St. Gabriel said.

"I've seen him before!". St. Raphael said.

Jesus reminded the legend of this character to his archangels.

"My faithful archangels! I will tell you the legend of this centenary character and very famous and loved among men, women and children!".

Santa Claus lives in his house in Lapland, Finland. It is a country where it snows a lot.

And Santa is aided by several elves: Shinny Upatree was one of the elves helping Santa Claus. He is his oldest friend and co-founder of the secret village in Lapland. This secret village is called Santa Claus Village. In the village has several workshops and toy factories. And in the village, there are also houses where hundreds of elves live, also known as goblins. They help Santa Claus in his gigantic work.

Back in the village of Santa Claus, each elf takes care of a function.

Some elves take care of Santa's reindeer and keeping his sleigh in good condition. The sleigh should always be ready to fly through the skies on Christmas Eve.

Other elves help keep his list of children to receive gifts up to date. Some elves guard the secret location of Santa Claus Village.

The elves are playful and mischievous. Some elves make sudden appearances for children in the days before Christmas. They do this to keep an eye on each child and see if they are behaving well and obeying their parents.

They are believed to be Santa's secret agents!

No one has really ever seen Santa Claus Village, because the passage is a secret that is known only to Santa Claus Christmas and his elves.

But some people say it is somewhere on Korvatunturi mountain in the Savukoski municipality of Lapland, which is on the border between Russia and Finland.

Elves help design toys and process requests for children that are sent to Santa Claus. The most popular names of Santa's helper elves are: Alabaster Snowball is the list administrator of the children who will receive gifts.

Evergreen Bushy is the inventor of the toy making machine.

Pepper Minstix is the guardian of the secret where Santa Claus Village is located.

Sugarplum Mary, known as Mary of Christmas, is Santa's assistant and helps in the kitchen, preparing thousands of meals every day for the elves.

Wunorse Openslae, designed Santa's sleigh and is responsible for its maintenance. He also cares for the reindeer and believes his sleigh reaches speeds faster than the Christmas tree lights.

And there are many other elves with strange names for us, such as: Askasleikir, Bjugnakraekir, Faldafeykir, Gattathefur, Giljagaur, Gluggagaegir, Ketkrokur, Kertasnikir, Pottasleikir, Skyrjarmur, Stufur, Bvorusalengir, Bjugaljurir, Bjugnur, Laekjaraegir, Raudur, Redda, Sledda, Steingrimur, Syrjusleikir, Tifill and Tutur.

Jesus turned into a wanderer, wearing simple clothes and walking along the avenues and streets of Mexico City and Rio de Janeiro.

Similarly, their archangels acted in New York, London, Paris, Rome, Moscow and Manila.

Jesus was delighted how men had prepared to celebrate His birthday!

But soon Jesus felt that something was happening and that He was not expecting. He didn't see His image anywhere. Amid the lights and decorations, He always saw the presence of Santa Claus, the reindeer, the sleigh.

In some places, He saw decorations with a lot of snow, despite the heat that was in these cities. But He saw neither a picture of Him nor a reference to His birthday. Elsewhere, He saw the reproduction of His birth in the crib in the form of Christmas cribs.

That's when Jesus walked into a luxury mall and saw the famous Santa Claus sitting in a large chair surrounded by happy, smiling children.

But before that, the mall's security guards tried to block Jesus' entry, thinking that He was there to beg and disturb customers. Jesus looked at each of them with a deep and serene, long gaze.

Then the security guards changed their minds and saw that this man was a good person and His gaze shone like an angel's, despite His simple, shabby clothes. Thus, they allowed their entry.

Seeing that man standing in front of him, Santa asked:

"My good man! Who are you? How can I help you?".

"I am a very grateful man for all you do for the happiness of my children!". Jesus said.

"Thank you very much! But where are your children? Have they delivered their Christmas gift orders to me yet?". Santa Claus answered.

"My children are everywhere. A lot of them did get their holiday gift orders! But millions of them did not! They don't have access to Santa Claus!". Jesus answered.

"What a pity! This really is a big social problem!". Santa Claus answered.

"Perhaps, more a matter of lack of generosity, kind heart and selfishness of men!". Jesus answered.

"And what do children ask more for Christmas, sir?". Jesus asked.

"Toys! Many toys! Some even order food. But most of them want toys!". Santa Claus answered. "And, Santa Claus, do they know what Christmas is indeed? That is, what is Christmas for them?". Jesus wanted to know.

"Ah! This they know very well! Christmas for most of them is the date of getting lots of toys and eating lots of delicious foods!". Santa answered laughing: "Ho, ho, ho!".

"And you, Santa Claus. Do you know what Christmas is? That is, what is celebrated at Christmas?". Jesus asked.

"Certainly, sir! Christmas is the date on which Jesus Christ was born, and on this day the birth of the baby Jesus in Bethlehem is celebrated!". Santa Claus answered correctly.

## And he completed:

"And for me, it's a very good date! I am invited to welcome children in various places and thus I can have a better Christmas! Ho, ho, ho!".

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"Very good, very good!". Jesus said, walking away. He still had many places to visit.

In a shopping center window of a religious supply store, He saw and made fun of a poster that showed that the birthday boy was forgotten by everyone and who shone at Christmas was His admired friend Santa Claus. It was as a silent protest.

But Jesus did not know what sadness was, nor was He jealous of Santa Claus. On the contrary, He was grateful to him. In a way, it represented an act of love.

Jesus was used to hearing emotions, feelings and reports of joy and sadness, peace and war, love and hate, health and disease, harmony and violence, among many other subjects in the prayers of men.

Returning the next day to the same place, Jesus found Santa Claus's chair empty and a line of

children, carrying little cards in their hands, waiting sad and desolate.

It wasn't sure if Santa Claus would come this afternoon or not. The information is that he was very sick, with fever and bedridden. Perhaps a serious virus had taken Santa Claus out of the Christmas scene.

A few seconds later, Jesus knocked on Santa's door.

An old lady opened the door and asked:

"Who are you? Do you want something like water or food?".

"No, my kind lady. I just came to visit my friend Santa Claus. Tell him it's the wanderer who talked to him yesterday at the mall". Jesus answered.

After a few moments, the old lady returned, asking Jesus to come in.

"What are you doing here, sir? How did you find out about my house?". Santa Claus asked in a low voice and showing to be very weak.

"I just came to touch your forehead and say a prayer! There are a lot of kids waiting for your return to give you their cards!". Jesus answered.

After touching Santa Claus's burning fever brow, Jesus simply said:

"Now get up! You are healed!".

Santa Claus immediately felt good and willing to work. His devoted wife confirmed that the disease no longer abated him.

He quickly dressed in his Santa Claus clothes, heading for the mall, where a huge red chair and a line of children were waiting for him.

Santa Claus still had time to ask:

"Are you a healer?".

"Well, if it heals many people from all kinds of soul and body ailments, I can say: Yes, I am a healer!". Jesus answered.

Jesus withdrew mysteriously and quickly just as He arrived. By the time they reached the mall, the children were already discouraged by Santa Claus's long wait and were beginning to retreat when they heard the ringing of bells and Santa Claus's famous laugh: "Ho, ho, ho!".

And they all returned happily to the line. The good old man was back to fulfill another mission this Christmas.

On Christmas Eve, Jesus visited a neighborhood where very poor children lived and for whom Santa Claus did not visit or deliver gifts. Talking with them, Jesus heard of a poor boy named Fiote, who helped his mother with expenses by picking up cans, cardboard and plastic from household waste:

"I really admire the kids who get so many gifts from Santa Claus. They must surely be very good and special children to have so much merit and recognition from Santa Claus! I keep thinking and reflecting how I could be better for one day to get a gift from Santa Claus, too! Ah! I walk so much searching for trash that maybe Santa Claus looks for me and can't find me!".

Jesus stroked his head and hugged him, saying:

"My son! But this Christmas it will be different for you. Santa Claus will come visit all the poor children in this community!".

That night, before departing back to heaven, Jesus dressed as Santa Claus and with a bag, where there was only one toy, knocked from door to door in the slum houses.

Soon the news spread through the poor community and hundreds of children surrounded Santa Claus Jesus.

Patiently, Jesus attended one by one, asking no questions about the name and age of the children. Then He would put His hands in the little toy bag and take a gift with their names and a toy appropriate for their age and according to their wishes.

"Wow! I got the little train I wanted so much!". A boy said.

"And I, the talking and walking doll I dreamed of winning!". A girl said.

The children soon realized that such a small bag could not fit so many toys, there were hundreds of them and questioned the mysterious Santa Claus:

"Are you a magician?". One of the children asked.

"You're too skinny to be Santa Claus!". Another child asked.

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"Magic? Maybe, let's say so! I have already multiplied bread and fish to satisfy the hunger of thousands of people crossing the desert!". Jesus answered, laughing at the children: "Ho, ho, ho!".

"Am I too thin? Well, my walk has been very long for over 2000 years and I am always with men, sharing with them many sacrifices and sufferings!". Jesus answered, once again smiling at the children.

And Jesus withdrew from the poor community. Returning to their homes with gifts from the saint Santa Claus, the children saw their parents surprised.

"Son! Look! Someone left this basket full of delicious stuff for our Christmas! This can only be a miracle!".

"Mother! It can only be the magical Santa Claus who is here!". The son answered.

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When everyone went out to see the mysterious Santa Claus once more, He was gone.

Before leaving, Jesus last visited his friend Santa Claus. He was still at the mall. And Jesus asked him:

"My dear and allied friend! Can I ask for a gift for Santa Claus too?".

"Certainly, sir! I am grateful to you for healing me on such an important day". Santa Claus answered.

"I ask that as you receive each child and pick up your cards, simply remind each child: Do not forget that tomorrow we will celebrate the birth of baby Jesus, son of God! Simply this. This is the best birthday gift I could get on my birthday!".

Santa Claus looked at Jesus. He saw a luminous halo over His head. His costumes were no longer shabby. Jesus looked at him, gave him his loving goodbye hands, and levitated leaving the mall to heaven.

Santa Claus was astonished and thought:

"It cannot be! It cannot be! It sure is a hallucination caused by the high fever I had! This man who was with me was Jesus!".

It was time to leave. Jesus called for his archangels and together they set out for the heavens, arriving less than 1 second later.

Santa Claus answered Jesus' request. And each time he received a child and took his card, he said:

"Remember that tomorrow is the day to celebrate the birth of baby Jesus. He is the birthday boy who cannot be forgotten at Christmas! He is the Son of God, our Heavenly Father!".

For his part, Santa learned that he had to work together with Jesus, and for his part, Jesus blessed Santa's work. They became great friends and partners for the holiday parties!

Santa Claus began to educate the children about the true reason for Christmas, stressing the importance of this date so that the birthday boy the baby Jesus - is not forgotten.

Jesus also left three prayers for Santa to give to the children at every Christmas Eve request, saying:

"Dear Santa Claus, give these three important prayers so that children can connect with Me and My Mother Mary, whenever they want, as to thank for the blessings they have received in life or to share with us their sufferings, aches, illnesses, worries, afflictions and dreams".

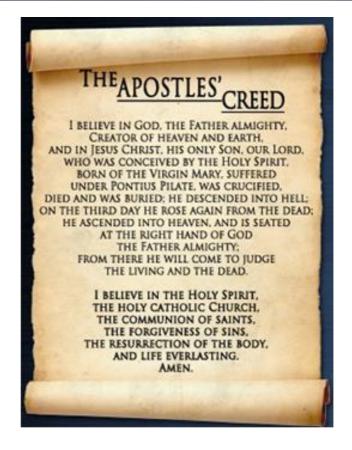
"In the heavens we do not communicate over the Internet, mobile phone, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, WhatsApp and other means used in the temporal world. The only way for men and

children to communicate with God the Father, with Me, with My parents, St. Mary and St. Joseph, with the other saints, and with the archangels and angels, is through faith and prayer! And finally, tell the children that the greater the faith, the greater the signal of transmission and the better the connection with us!". Jesus concluded, certain that today's children understand this language better.



Our Father who art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy Name.
Thy kingdom come.
Thy will be done,
On earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
As we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever.

Amen.



And reinforcing what Jesus had asked, Pope Francis sent Santa Claus and all men, women, and children the following Christmas message on December 18, 2014:

Thristmas is always a noisy party. However, silence is necessary to hear the voice of love. Thristmas is you, when you are willing to be reborn every day and let God penetrate your soul. The Christmas pine is you, when with its strength, resists the winds and difficulties of life. You are the decoration of Thristmas when your virtues are colors that adorn your life. You are the Christmas bell when you call, congregate, gather. The Christmas light is you when with a life of kindness, patience, joy and generosity you can be light to light the way of others. You are the angel of Christmas when you can chant and

sing your message of peace, justice and love. You are the guiding star of Thristmas when you can bring someone to the Lord. You will be the wise men when you can give your best, indistinctly to everyone. It's Christmas music when you get your inner harmony too. The Christmas gift is you when you can behave yourself as a true friend and brother to any human being. The Christmas card is you, when kindness is written in the soving gesture of your hands. You will be the Merry Christmas vows when you forgive, restoring peace again, even at the cost of your own sacrifice. You are the Christmas supper, when you are filled with bread and hope, any needy by your side. You are Christmas Eve when conscious, humble, far from noise and great celebration, silently receive the Savior of the

## World. A very Merry Christmas to all who seek to resemble this Christmas. Pope Francis

Back in heaven on Christmas Day, Jesus talked with the archangels St. Gabriel, St. Michael, and St. Raphael about what he saw and what He felt in His quick journey into the temporal world of men. He also asked them to comment on their visits and how they felt the Christmas spirit among men, women and children.

And the archangels' comments were similar:

"I saw exciting demonstrations of faith and legitimate celebrations for your birthday, Lord! The churches were crowded with believers and many houses reproduced in cribs the moment of your birth in the manger. But in spite of all these demonstrations, I felt that they did not represent an important portion of Christians, Lord. The largest portion were Christians celebrating Christmas with the concern of hearty dinners and bountiful drinks. Worse, they do not educate

their children about the importance and significance of the date. So, most children think Christmas is the date to ask friend Santa Claus for a lot of gifts and they ignore that the date is to celebrate the birth of baby Jesus, son of God the Father, and how this is and will be important in their lives".

"On the other hand, I saw many children donating their toys to poor children. I saw daddies and moms alike handing out toys and food on Christmas Eve to poor children. And these children, men and women, did this in Your honor Lord, touched that they were by the Holy Spirit".

"I have seen prayers in many families of thanksgiving for the graces and blessings offered in the coming year. But this scene, unfortunately, could be seen in very few homes, Lord. In most homes the atmosphere was one of parties without any genuine Christmas spirit, with drinks at ease. In almost none of the houses could I see poor people being invited to share Christmas dinner".

"But there are many men, women and children who turn, at least on this date, to the poor, especially children, by sponsoring Santa Claus's visits to poor communities. But even in this case, we did not see many initiatives to show that the date referred to the birth of the baby Jesus. It seems that the material side is strongly gaining ground over the spiritual side of Christmas!".

"At dawn I could see that simple men and children scoured the rubbish of their homes for recyclables and considered Christmas the best time of year to collect paper, cardboard, aluminum cans and glass bottles. For these wretches, this was the best part of Christmas, while inside many homes, luxury and excess dominated the environment".

"I was happy when I visited orphanages, nursing homes, hospitals, and other social centers and found that many Christians preferred to share dinner and celebrations with orphaned children, sick people, the helpless elderly".

At one point, Jesus interrupted the archangels' accounts:

"My faithful archangels. These comments are enough. They are not and have never been news to me! My Father and I know what happens in the world of men. We know and see all things. The secrets of every heart. Our eyes are everywhere, contemplating what is done good and evil. We are together in all the ways that men go, and nothing is hidden from our eyes".

"But I had one with meeting Santa Claus. He, though part of the material world of men, is nonetheless our ally in the love of children. Therefore, he deserves our respect and blessing. And he will fulfill the requests I made as a birthday present for sure!".

"Requests, Lord! What would the Lord and Master of all men, son of the Father God creator of the entire universe, depend on being attended by Santa Claus?". The archangels wanted to know.

Jesus gave a slight smile after the question and with His serene air, bright eyes, answered:

"We are celebrating another birthday of mine. And God the Father sent me into the world of men to leave a will that could be the spiritual guide to a life of peace and faith and eternal salvation to those who follow Him. Whoever follows the commandments will remain in God and God in him. And one of the targets of this will is the lost sheep, the stray, the crippled, the sick people. As a Shepherd, it is up to Me and God the Father to take care of our sheep, rescue them, heal them. And one of the ways to do this is at Christmas, rescuing the true spiritual values and the celebration of my birth as an inspiration for reading and following the testament that God the Father made me convey. This was to motivate Santa Claus's collaboration! That's what I did!

"And that is why I knelt before Santa Claus and also asked for a gift on my next birthday!".

"From heaven I'll be watching whether or not Santa Claus has reserved this gift for me!".

Jesus finished with His serene smile and glance that conveyed peace, as always. And the faithful archangels answered with one voice: AMEN! ((Amen, Hebrew word meaning 'so be it').

## The End

Cities visited by the archangels St. Gabriel, St. Michael and St. Raphael, where they found few references to the birthday of Jesus and many references to Santa Claus.

(Tip: If you are curious to see Christmas decoration in the following cities, search in the Internet!).

Christmas in New York, Christmas in Paris, Christmas in London, Christmas in Moscow, Christmas in Italy, Christmas in Philippines.