

4th Week of Advent – Year A

Do you like super-glue?

- I use super-glue to fix lots of things
- I even lost a screw once and used superglue instead of the screw
- Super glue can fix a lot of things but -
- One thing even the best glue cannot fix is a broken promise

God made a promise in our 1st reading: “A virgin shall be with child and bear a son”

- God does not break His promises
- BUT – How He fulfills His promises can be surprising

Gospel

“Before Mary and Joseph lived together, she was found to be with child through the power of the Holy Spirit”

- Who could have guessed that the promise of Isaiah would be fulfilled by the Son of the Virgin would ACTUALLY being God Himself?
- When God moves, God moves - & He moves wherever He wants to
whenever He wants to
however He wants to

If that brings you trouble – deal with it!

Joseph wasn't too pleased Mary was pregnant

She visits her cousin Elizabeth and comes back 3 mos. preg

Would you be pleased? I don't think so!

BUT – when we have trouble, GOD COMES

When we have trouble, GOD IS WITH US

Just ask Joseph – in the midst of his doubt & anger

In the midst of his trouble

God was with him

The idea of Emmanuel, God with us, becomes very real to Joseph

And it should be very real to us too

God tells Isaiah ‘His name is Emmanuel’

Angel tells Joseph ‘His name is Jesus’

What is so important about a name?

(must be important since)

Jesus renames Simon → Peter “Rock”

“And upon this rock I will build my church”

He's named Jesus for a reason J means Lord Saves

Because He is Emmanuel → God with us

Emmanuel is with us now

God fulfilled the promise to Isaiah – A virgin gives birth to a Son

The Son is ‘God with us’

But that is not a one-time event

Look around the room and see “God with us” next to you

And KNOW that YOU can be Emmanuel for them too