

The announcement of the birth of Jesus

²⁶In the sixth month, the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town of Galilee called Nazareth. He was sent ²⁷to a young virgin who was betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the family of David; and the virgin's name was Mary.

²⁸The angel came to her and said:

—Rejoice, full of grace, the Lord is with you.

²⁹Mary was troubled at these words, wondering what this greeting could mean.

³⁰But the angel said:

—Do not fear, Mary, for God has looked kindly on you. ³¹You shall conceive and bear a son and you shall call him Jesus. ³²He will be great and shall rightly be called Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the kingdom of David, his ancestor; he will rule over the people of Jacob forever ³³and his reign shall have no end.

³⁴Then Mary said to the angel:

—How can this be if I am a virgin?

³⁵And the angel said to her:

—The Holy Spirit will come upon you and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore, the holy child to be born shall be called Son of God. ³⁶Even your relative Elizabeth is expecting a son in her old age, although she was unable to have a child, and she is now in her sixth month. ³⁷With God nothing is impossible.

³⁸Then Mary said:

—I am the handmaid of the Lord, let it be done to me as you have said.

And the angel left her.

THE CONCISE BIBLE

Christian Community Bible

Catholic Pastoral Edition

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A division of Claretian Communications, Inc.

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Claretian Publications is a pastoral endeavor of the Claretian Missionaries in the Philippines. It aims to promote a renewed spirituality rooted in the process of total liberation and solidarity in response to the needs, challenges and pastoral demands of the Church today.

Originally published by

Ediciones Mensajero, Spain