

Thought for the day – Monday 10th January 2022

By Revd John Marshall

A journey to Egypt

Joseph is told to take Jesus and Mary to Egypt. A deeply significant place. There the family seeking refuge find safety.

In Divine Inspiration The life of Jesus in World poetry, there is a poem that encapsulates the Christmas story. It is written by Ruben Dario from Nicaragua.

Christmas Sonnet

Mary was pale, and Joseph the carpenter also
they saw in the eyes of that pure and lovely face
the heavenly miracle which the star announced
and the martyrdom that was waiting for the lamb.

The shepherds sang very softly, and at the last
a car of archangels left a shining track;
the light of Alderbaran could hardly be seen
and even the morning star was late to appear.

This vision rises within me, and multiplies
in gorgeous detail, in a thousand rich marvels,
because of the sure hope of most divine good

of the Virgin, the Child and outlawed St Joseph,
and I, on my poor donkey, ride towards Egypt
with no star any longer, and far from Bethlehem.

Divine Inspiration Oxford

They must have found a place of safety in Egypt; they must have been welcomed and given a place to live and work; able to stay there until they could return to Nazareth.

How do we welcome those who seek safety with us.