

## INTO THE DEEP

Master of Arts in Pastoral Studies Newsletter

"Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch" (Luke 5:4).

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## ADVENT / CHRISTMA: WISHES

## THE MIRACLE OF THE INCARNATION

"The birth of this Son, who at the same time ushers in the turning-point of the age, the redemption of the world, is hearkening to the prayer of a human being. It takes place as the response to the cry that a human being had made to the Lord. Prayer does not go into a vacuum; nor is it merely something like a kind of psycho-therapy which we use to gather our spiritual forces together and try to bring them once more into balance; nor is it a kind of pious fiction to exercise and calm our souls. It is heard and hearkened to.

God therefore is Someone who has the power, the ability, the will and the patience to listen to people. He is so great that He can be present even for those who are small. And though the world is bound by firm ordinances, it is not such as to be withdrawn from the power and love that is God's power. God can answer."

Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger / Pope Benedict XVI in *Ministers of Your Joy* 

A BLESSED ADVENT AND A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL OF OUR MAPS FAMILY! THANK YOU FOR MAKING MAPS SO GREAT!