

O Holy Night



Peace be with you today and always.
Marcy's Beauty Salon
Joe & Marcy Salons
& Day, Night, Weddings & More

Joseph and Mary: A Story of Devotion

With all the wonder of Christmas, one of history's most beautiful love stories is often overlooked: the devotion shown by Joseph toward Mary, the mother of Jesus.

The Gospel accounts don't tell us very much about Joseph, other than that he was a "just man," who did not wish to expose Mary to reproach when she was found to be with child. In keeping with Jewish tradition of the time, he planned to divorce her quietly, before the required two witnesses, and avoid a public scandal.

But, before he had time to act, his bitter disappointment with Mary was turned to joy. An angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, Matthew tells us, and said to the troubled man, "Do not be afraid, Joseph, Son of David, to take to thee Mary thy wife, for that which is begotten in her is of the Holy Spirit. And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name Jesus, for he shall save his people from their sins."

All his life, Joseph had

heard about the Messiah, who was to come and redeem Israel.

Now, a messenger from God was telling him that Mary, his betrothed, was to be the mother of the Messiah! And, Joseph was to be her husband!

Joseph instantly set aside any past doubts and misgivings, the Gospel tells us, and "did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him." From that moment, the portrait of Joseph in scripture is that of a faithful companion to Mary.

It is Joseph who searches for lodgings in Bethlehem when it becomes apparent that Mary's time has come.

It is Joseph who is at her side when she brings forth the infant Jesus, under the gaze of the creatures of the stable.

And, it is Joseph who names the infant Jesus, as he had been commanded.

And, when the scheming Herod threatens the infant's life, Joseph is the one who is warned to take the mother and child into Egypt. Matthew tells us that "He arose, and took the child and his mother by night, and withdrew into Egypt." Mary and Joseph remained there with Jesus until Herod's death, when the angel again appeared to Joseph. Again, he obeyed without question and took his wife and the child Jesus back to Israel, to resume the life that had been interrupted.

In Nazareth, where Mary and Joseph settled down with the young Jesus, the carpenter continued in his devotion to his family. When Jesus was twelve and became separated from them while on a visit to Jerusalem, Joseph and Mary searched for Him for three days. How their hearts must have ached as they combed the city. Mary even remembered with the young Jesus: "Behold, is sorrow thy father and I have been seeking thee."

St. Luke tells us that the boy Jesus returned to Nazareth with Mary and Joseph and was subject to them. He even followed Joseph's trade as a carpenter before beginning His ministry.

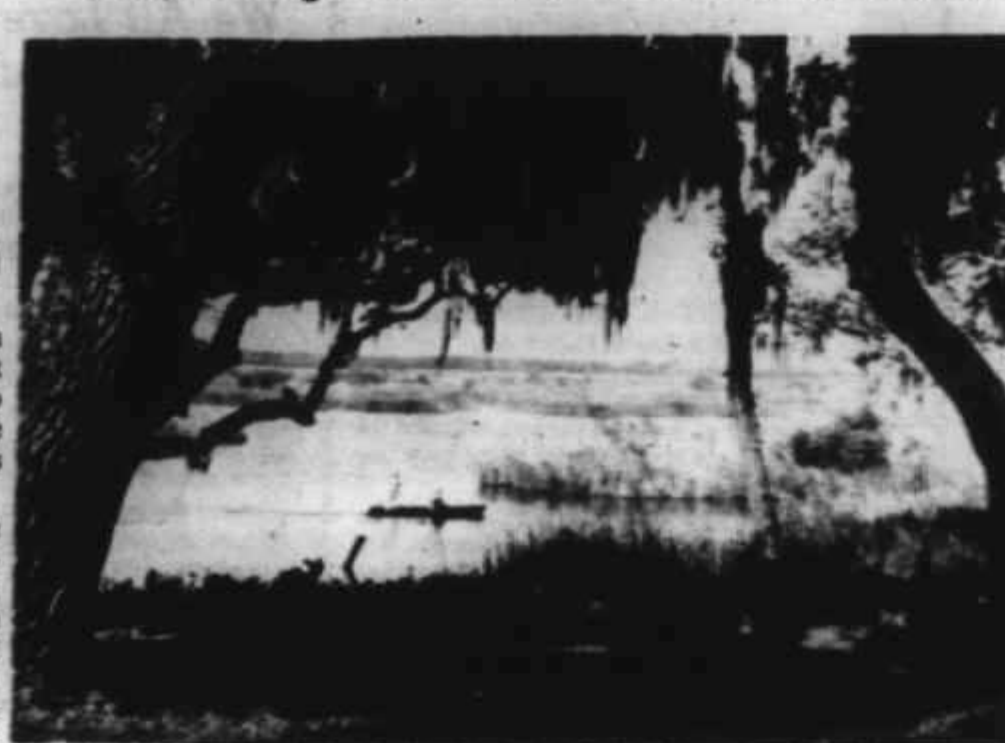
Tradition has it that Joseph died before that ministry began. But, the love and devotion of the humble carpenter for his young wife and her Son shine before us as we celebrate this holy season.

Birth defects strike 1 of every 12 infants born each year in the United States, says the March of Dimes. One infant is born every other minute with physical or mental damage.



Wishing you serenity and happiness this Christmas and always.
Lipperdt Exxon Service Station
Mr. & Mrs. Wayne Lipperdt and Family
& Employees
EAGLE LAKE

Beautiful Eagle Lake - Before The Nutria Invasion



Beautiful Eagle Lake was once one of the most picturesque settings in the entire state and some areas of the lake still are, but generally, the scenic beauty has changed drastically with the introduction of nutria into the lake to control rabbits. The nutria multiplied and ate most of the foliage and grasses that held together many large floating islands that provided fishing and hunting unexcelled in the state. Today, the beautiful lake still borders the lake, but the entire surface is clear and free of vegetation.

Legend Of The Lake Keeps "Bobbin' Up"

(Continued from page two)

that had heretofore been printed here. In the book under the heading, "Legends of Texas," written by E. W. Winkler, Libraries of the University of Texas, is taken from the first daily newspaper in Texas, the Morning Star, Houston, June 13, 1839. Vol. 1, No. 58, which is now reprinted in the Richmond Telegram. A week after the Morning Star printed the legend, the Telegram and Texas Register reprinted it June 19, 1839. A few typographical errors have been corrected in this reprinting and some of the original punctuation has been redistributed. The legend of how Eagle Lake got its name has persisted down to the present day, but this version is probably the oldest that we shall find. A version with many changes has been published in the American Sketch Book (Texas Pioneer Magazine), Austin. The article in which it is embodied is unsigned, but the legend itself is said to be "from the pen" of Mrs. F. A. Darden. (Mrs. F. A. Darden), and it is apparently quoted from some other publication. According to this version, one of the lovers, Soneto, was old and feeble, the other, Gray Cloud, was youthful and bold. The tree that the rivals climbed was cottonwood. Gray Cloud reached the nest first and had grasped one of the eaglets to bring it down when he was assailed by the fierce parent eagle. Soneto seized the opportunity to hurl his opponent to the ground a hundred feet below. Out in the lake were the Indians watching the contest from their canoes. When she first saw her lover's fate, the maiden, Forest Flower, began the death chant; then she leaped into the water and was drowned. Later the two

lovers were buried side by side at the foot of the tree.

The Eagle Lake Headlight, according to its editor, Bruce McCarty, printed in 1903, a version of the legend written by Mrs. Emma Duke, now dead. A year later, another version in verse form, "written for the Eagle Lake Chamber of Commerce" by Mrs. H. W. Carothers, formerly of Eagle Lake, but now of Houston, and printed in a folio leaflet for popular distribution was sent to me by the mayor of Eagle Lake, Louis Landis, who is Oldright fellow at the University of Texas and whose home is at Eagle Lake.

(Continued on page 5)

Heritage House Auxil. Forms Memorial Fund

The Heritage House Auxiliary announces that it has established a Heritage House Auxiliary Memorial Fund with proceeds in the fund to be used directly for the benefit of the residents of the nursing home.

Persons wishing to send memorials may address them to the Heritage House Auxiliary, 280 Heritage Lane, Eagle Lake, Texas 77434. Attn: Memorial Fund.

The Christmas Tree
In Germany, the Tannenbaum, or Christmas tree, is decorated with hand-carved toys amidst great secrecy. On Christmas Eve, lighted candles are placed on the tree, to the delight of youngsters.

Legend Of Eagle Lake

(Continued from page four)

mon grape grows so abundantly or abounds so spontaneously.

A large sycamore tree is shown on the west shore of the lake where a large eagle, the Falso Washingtonian, built her nest. The remains of the nest are there, consisting of the branches of trees and tufts of grass, which hang fully 110 feet from the surface of the lake below. The bird was called by the inhabitants of the country the king eagle, and its nest was considered inaccessible. The "king eagle's nest" and "eagle's water wave" were

proverbial phrases with the various tribes of Indians in western Texas.

The daughter of an Indian chief - a beautiful dark-eyed girl - was wooed by two young warriors of equal pretensions to consideration among the Indians. Each was anxious to obtain the hand of the fawn-like damsel of the woods, and each no doubt, loved with all the ardor and fervency, simplicity and sincerity, of a rude youth of the forest. To say which should become the husband of his daughter was a great perplexity to the mind of the maiden's father. He had his political interests to strengthen and his views to carry out, as have greater men in greater nations. After many cogitations he resolved upon the following plan by which

the suitors themselves could give a decision.

It was in the summer season, and the "great eagle" had hatched her young. The old Chief's plan was no more nor less than that the young man of the two in question who could bring him the forest, to say which should become the husband of his daughter was a great perplexity to the mind of the maiden's father. He had his political interests to strengthen and his views to carry out, as have greater men in greater nations. After many cogitations he resolved upon the following plan by which

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JOY
Time to wish you a Merry Christmas!
SHOE TREE
Shirley and Wilford Lundberg
Eagle Lake



Merry Christmas
We've drummed up a great holiday for you!
Fink's Variety Store
Betty and Bill Fink and Employees
Eagle Lake

Happy Holidays

The peace of Christmas touches even the most humble of His creatures.

Eagle Lake Implement Co.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles D. Stephens
Mr. and Mrs. Draper Stephens
and Employees - Eagle Lake

Legend Of Eagle Lake

(Continued from page four)

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Season's Greetings

Pleasing our customers pleases us too! Merry Christmas!

East Main Mobil Service

Eagle Lake

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

We're ringing out how glad we are to have you as our friends and we extend our sincere good wishes for a very merry Christmas to you and your family. It's been a pleasure serving you.

SCOTT'S SNACK SHACK

Mrs. T. W. Scott
Tommy and Colleen Scott
& Employees
EAGLE LAKE

The Makings Of A Good Christmas...

(By the Rev. Melburn Shiley, pastor of First Baptist Church of Eagle Lake)

Since God is first of all responsible for Christmas, we must look to Him to see what makes for a good Christmas.

Christmas is a celebration of the birth of Christ. For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son, John 3:16.

Christ came to identify with mankind and become one with us. He was tempted in all points like as we, and yet was without sin. His victory over temptation made possible his death in payment for our sins.

What a gift! Christ came that we might spend eternity with God in heaven by receiving His gift of forgiveness.

For it is also to be a season for giving. Giving ourselves to Christ is the best gift. It is by giving ourselves to Him that we receive His gift of forgiveness and eternal life.

To be in the spirit of Christmas we also want to give to others. He said, "In as much as you have done it unto the least of these... you have done it unto me."

We can also live in gratitude for the thoughts of past Christmas joy. This may involve our childhood. We are led to give thanks for those who have brought us such joy.

We find our highest happiness at Christmas in making of it the season to be pleasing to Him. "Joy to the world; the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King!"

was regarded with superstitious veneration by every tribe of Indians to whom was related the hapless story. One in every seven moons the young men and maidens assembled to consecrate the spot, and each time they erected a conical of flowers in their memory. Thus Eagle Lake took name by which it is known and will ever be.

One night Santa Claus was putting out presents under the tree. When he was gone, I woke Robbie up. Then we

woke Mom and Dad. Soon we went down to open our presents. I got a candy cane, a bear, a doll and a cat. That

PEACE ON EARTH

In this season of remembrance of the birth of the Holy Child, let family and friends be joined together in communal love and praise unto His name.

A Blessed, Happy Christmas to All!

J. F. Miller Ford Inc.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim F. Miller and Employees

406 E. Main • Eagle Lake • Ph. 234-2535

Shimek Gets A&M Award



Bruce Anthony Shimek, left, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence C. Shimek of Garwood, is among five agricultural students at Texas A&M University who received a \$6000 Moorman Manufacturing Company Scholarship, given to transfer students with outstanding academic and leadership abilities. Majoring in agricultural economics, Bruce is soon here receiving the scholarship during a recent banquet from Jim Dodson, district sales manager of the livestock feed company, headquartered in Quincy, Illinois.

Christmas Thoughts
By ELPS Third Graders

One night Santa Claus was putting out presents under the tree. When he was gone, I woke Robbie up. Then we

woke Mom and Dad. Soon we went down to open our presents. I got a candy cane, a bear, a doll and a cat. That

morning we went to our Mema's house and opened our presents there. Then we played with them because Mom and Dad had to go to Houston. We had to take some toys and play with them. When they came back we were very noisy, but we calmed down. It was a good Christmas. Kristi Klockman.

Last Christmas Eve we had a big tree. We had some mistletoe, too. We had candy canes on the tree. My two big brothers came and my big sister came too. We had mashed potatoes, cranberry sauce, turkey to eat and tea to drink. When we were finished eating, we opened our gifts. Then we all talked for a while. Then my two big brothers and my big sister went home. Then I played with my toys. Mary Dell Wolfe.

Peace on Earth

Let us remember, above all, the true meaning of Christmas day.

ERNEST H. MOORE, REALTOR
Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Moore
Columbus, Texas

Peace on Earth

may Peace dwell within your hearts bringing bountiful joy to you and yours this most beautiful of seasons... Christmas.

K. R. Abel & Son, Inc.

Kenneth and Joan Abel Route 1, Eagle Lake

PEACE

Wishing you serenity and happiness this Christmas and always.

Lipperdt Exxon Service Station

Mr. & Mrs. Wayne Lipperdt and Family
& Employees
EAGLE LAKE

HAPPY YULETIDE

It's freezing and snowing
And cold winds are blowing
Still there's no better place to be
Than laughing and talking
And playing and walking
Around the outdoor Christmas tree!

EAGLE LAKE DRUGS & GRILL

Mary Jo and Les Evers and Employees

702 South McCarty Eagle Lake Phone 234-2502

Season's Greetings

Pleasing our customers pleases us too! Merry Christmas!

East Main Mobil Service

Eagle Lake

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