

PARISH OF ST.FELIX, FELIXSTOWE

THE YEAR OF THE WORD

First Week, beginning December 1st 2019
This week we read St.Matthew Chapter One

KEY PASSAGE ST.MATTHEW 1:18-25

This is how Jesus Christ came to be born. His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, but before they came to live together she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. her husband Joseph , being a man of honour and wanting to spare her publicity, decided to divorce her informally. He had made up his mind to do this, when the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said 'Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because she has conceived what is in her by the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son and you must name him Jesus, because he is the one who is to save the people from their sins.' Now all this took place to fulfill the words spoken by the Lord through the prophet: *The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son and they will call him Immanuel.*

POINTS TO CONSIDER

- * The Virgin Birth - that Jesus had no earthly father - is clearly taught here. Are we ready to humbly accept the miraculous workings of God, or do we always demand rational explanations? Are we ready to trust the divine teaching?
- * Joseph, wrongly thinking that Mary had cheated on him, did not give way to anger and indignation. He remained kindly and considerate. Do we need to learn this lesson from him?
- * The angel told Joseph not to be afraid. Do we need to learn to trust in God's goodness, and not be afraid?