

The Christmas Crib: Its Meaning Today

Fr. Antonio Maria Rosales, OFM

Abstract

All too often, the meaning and symbolic significance of the Christmas crib is overlooked as the hustle and bustle of the Christmas season usually gets in the way of the consciousness of people. In contemplating the profound relevance of the crib in our contemporary times, this article brings to our attention three important considerations. First, it discusses the crib's historicity, especially in the context of the Franciscan tradition. Second, it reflects on the sublime mystery of self-emptying that the Triune God has done through the incarnation. Lastly, Fr. Tony points us to the values of simplicity and love inherently manifest in the crib that should inspire us to acts of service and compassion towards others.