**They made known the message that had been told them about this child**

**FRIDAY JANUARY 1 (Lk 2,16-21)**

To evangelize is to report good news. To invent is not to evangelize. The angel comes from heaven to report to the shepherds the event that happened in Bethlehem and its meaning. Fact and meaning must be one: “*The angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Messiah and Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.” (Lk 2,10-12).* The shepherds go to Bethlehem and report what the angel had revealed to them. Evangelizing is repeating what we have heard and seen. Jesus repeats what he heard from the Father: *Jesus cried out and said, "Whoever believes in me believes not only in me but also in the one who sent me, and whoever sees me sees the one who sent me. I came into the world as light, so that everyone who believes in me might not remain in darkness. And if anyone hears my words and does not observe them, I do not condemn him, for I did not come to condemn the world but to save the world. Whoever rejects me and does not accept my words has something to judge him: the word that I spoke, it will condemn him on the last day, because I did not speak on my own, but the Father who sent me commanded me what to say and speak. And I know that his commandment is eternal life. So what I say, I say as the Father told me." (Jn 12,44-50).* For reporting and repeating to be perfect, the events must be lived in the Holy Spirit, who is the Spirit of the truth of fact and meaning.

Luke collects what Christ Jesus did and taught with the highest diligence and shrewdness and refers everything to Theophilus: Since many have undertaken to compile a narrative of the events that have been fulfilled among us, just as those who were eyewitnesses from the beginning and ministers of the word have handed them down to us, I too have decided, after investigating everything accurately anew, to write it down in an orderly sequence for you, most excellent Theophilus, so that you may realize the certainty of the teachings you have received. *(Lk 1,1-4). In the first book, Theophilus, I dealt with all that Jesus did and taught until the day he was taken up, after giving instructions through the holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. (Act 1,1-2).* Things are received with supreme diligence in the Holy Spirit, and they are reported, and repeated, with supreme diligence in the Holy Spirit. John the Evangelist relates the great signs of Jesus and their purpose: “N*ow Jesus did many other signs in the presence of (his) disciples that are not written in this book. But these are written that you may (come to) believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through this belief you may have life in his name.” (Jn 20,30-31).* The reference is in the fact and in its full understanding: *What was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we looked upon and touched with our hands concerns the Word of life - for the life was made visible; we have seen it and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was made visible to us - what we have seen and heard we proclaim now to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; for our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ. We are writing this so that our joy may be complete. (1Jn 1,1-4).*

*So they went in haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the infant lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known the message that had been told them about this child. All who heard it were amazed by what had been told them by the shepherds. And Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart. Then the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, just as it had been told to them. When eight days were completed for his circumcision, he was named Jesus, the name given him by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.*

In order to relate the mystery of Christ Jesus, one must become the mystery of His mystery by placing themselves at His service. We become the mystery of Christ Jesus by becoming the mystery of the Church, placing ourselves at her service. Whoever does not become a mystery will never be able to relate the mystery.

Mother of the Redemption, Angels, and Saints, make us the mystery of Christ Jesus and of the Church.