

Welcome to 'Wake Up Call' your weekly email support from



THE INNSIDE STORY

Have you noticed how it is possible to be very close to something but still miss it? People who wear glasses sometimes look for them whilst the glasses are perched on top of their head. Actors in pantomimes deliberately wind up the audience with the 'he is behind you' routine where everyone except the person closest to the villain can see him.

Millions of people this December will come very close to Christmas and miss it. Christmas is a commercial festival – nothing wrong with that – we need to buy and sell. Christmas is a social festival – we meet with friends and family. Christmas is a holiday – hopefully.

This innkeeper at Bethlehem was not a bad man. He even tried to find a place for the late arriving couple with the donkey. Business was booming because of the census and he was extremely busy. Nothing wrong with that either. He was going about his legitimate business. But he missed a unique, momentous world-changing event which was happening right on his doorstep. His business occupied his mind and he lost a chance to participate in the birth of an era.

There is nothing wrong with being busy. There is no need to feel guilty about doing well or managing a thriving concern. The mistake is letting the busy-ness blind us to the momentous significance of Christmas. The innkeeper had no idea; we have no excuse, so lets not miss it this time around. Lets not find room, but make room for the couple, the donkey and most importantly, the baby. These moments pass.

WORK WELL
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National Director
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Here is a relevant reading for the Dec. 10 Wake Up Call
Luke 2: 1-7

In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world.

(This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.)

And everyone went to his own town to register.

So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David.

He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child.

While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born,

and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.