

January 6, 2008
December 24, 2007
Matthew 1:1-25

In this gospel passage, we are given a clear picture of the genealogy of Christ's birth. The church in her wisdom presents a backdrop of the birth of Jesus so as to gain a historical understanding of His ancestry for two reasons. First, this birth represents God's fulfillment of the Old Testament prophets who foretold the coming of the Messiah; secondly, the Incarnation points to Christ being born in the "fullness of time." At the precise moment Jesus is born--to save the people from their sins. We are also reminded beautifully how God's salvific plan was designed to have Christ in our midst to show us the way to the Father. He incorporates the holy angel to deliver the good news to the humble Joseph, and chooses the holy, handmaiden Mary as the container of the uncontainable.