

## Reflection Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> Week Advent 2021

The founder of the Assumptionists was named Emmanuel, one of the names given to Jesus: *God-is-with-us*. Our founder speaks of God to us in the way he lived his life and devoted himself totally to doing God's will until he came to a complete standstill from utter exhaustion. Even then, during the period of convalescence, he wrote his most inspirational and spiritual works. He shared the dreams of Isaiah wanting to resurrect Christ in the lives of people, both rich and poor, so that they could be brought back from the pit of destruction and create a family where everyone mattered, where there was care and concern for others whatever their past, where no one spoke of peace and justice because there were no injustices or violence in any shape or form. When Pope Francis called the current Synod, he wanted us to come together and speak about our hopes and dreams in a way that will help create a Church just like the one our founder envisaged. A family in which God was the heart and inspiration of everyone; true brothers and sisters of Christ.

### **First Coming** (*Madeleine L'Engle*)

He did not wait till the world was ready,  
till men and nations were at peace.

He came when the Heavens were unsteady,  
and prisoners cried out for release.

He did not wait for the perfect time.  
He came when the need was deep and great.  
He dined with sinners in all their grime,  
turned water into wine.

He did not wait till hearts were pure.  
In joy he came to a tarnished world of sin and doubt.  
To a world like ours, of anguished shame  
he came, and his Light would not go out.

He came to a world which did not mesh,  
to heal its tangles, shield its scorn.  
In the mystery of the Word made Flesh  
the Maker of the stars was born.

We cannot wait till the world is sane  
to raise our songs with joyful voice,  
for to share our grief, to touch our pain,  
He came with Love: Rejoice! Rejoice!