

# Christmas: January 5th

**Gospel text (Jn 1,43-51): (...) When Jesus saw Nathanael coming, he said of him, «Here comes an Israelite, a true one; there is nothing false in him». Nathanael (...) answered, «Master, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!». But Jesus replied, «(...) Truly, I say to you, you will see the heavens opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man».**

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## *The simplicity is God's mark*

EDITORIAL TEAM evangeli.net (based on texts by Benedict XVI)

*(Città del Vaticano, Vatican)*

Today —in the middle of the Christmas' season— Nathaniel appears, Jesus' disciple, an uncomplicated man, "there is no duplicity in him". Simplicity! God's mark is simplicity. The sign given by the Angels during the Holy Night is neither prodigious nor spectacular: they will only see a baby, wrapped in cloths, needing mother care; a baby born in a stable and lying down in a crib.

Simplicity is God's mark: God's sign is the Child: he makes himself small for our sake. This is his way of reigning. He doesn't come with external power and grandiosity. He comes as a defenseless child, who needs our help. He doesn't want to overwhelm us by his strength. He avoids our fear in front of his grandeur. He wants nothing but our love, by which we spontaneously learn to penetrate his feelings, his mind and his will.

—O Lord, you made yourself small so that we can understand you, welcome you and love you! Let's learn to live with Him!