

Search for the Baby

Evangelist Luis Palau tells of a wealthy European family that decided to have their newborn baby baptized. Dozens of guests were invited to the elaborate affair, and they all arrived at the mansion dressed to the nines.

After depositing their elegant wraps on a bed in an upstairs room, the guests were entertained royally.

Soon the time came for the main event – the infant’s baptism. But where was the baby?

No one seemed to know. The child’s governess ran upstairs and returned with a desperate look on her face. Everyone searched around frantically. Finally, someone recalled having seen him asleep on one of the beds.

The baby was buried beneath a pile of coats, jackets and furs. The object of that day’s celebration had been forgotten, neglected and nearly smothered.

The Baby whose birthday we celebrate at Christmas may also be hidden beneath the piles of stuff we load up during the season. We need to enter every Advent asking, “Where’s the Baby?”

Where is the Christ of Christmas? Have we forgotten and neglected Him in the mad days of shopping and in the round of parties that commemorate the season?

It is my prayer that every resident, associate and visitor to our centers will find Jesus at the center of our celebration.

– Beecher Hunter