**Matthew 1:18-25 p.965 of the Church Bibles**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

**Glory to you O Lord**

**18**This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: his mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. **19**Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

**20**But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, ‘Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. **21**She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.’

**22**All this took place to fulfil what the Lord had said through the prophet: **23**‘The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel’ (which means ‘God with us’).

**24**When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. **25**But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.

This is the Gospel of the Lord

**Praise to you O Christ**