

# Written By Rev. John & Marilyn Marinelli

# A Gift

## From The God of Eternity

They traveled by light of shining star, From lands both near and very far. To see what God had done, To pay tribute to His Only Son.

Wise men and shepherds and angels too, Made haste to see this "Big To Do". Son of God made Son of Man ... Born of a virgin in Bethlehem.

A little child in a far away land, Known in eternity as "The Great I AM", Came to show us a more excellent way, To live life in abundance every day.

Wrapped in simple swaddling clothes, From holy head to tiny toes, And placed in a manger's stall, Though He be Lord of all.

The Word of God in human flesh, Given to all by Spirit's breath. They called Him, "JESUS of Galilee", A gift from the God of eternity.

# A Christmas Poem

The world wasn't ready The first Christmas day. The people of planet earth Had long since gone astray.

A mighty host of angels Came from everywhere; But only the shepherds Saw them hovering there.

City folk just went their way, Unaware of the angels in the sky. Life went on with laughter, And sorrow and reasoning why.

No time for God's will Or to offer a helping hand... Life was too demanding, And took everything just to stand.

But once the shepherds heard What the Angels had to say, They herald the message All that night and into the day. Jesus was born in Bethlehem, And laid in a straw filled stall... A stranger to the people of earth, Though He be, "Lord of all".

No kingly robe or beautiful crown Was adorned on Christmas day. They were all left behind So He could show us the way.

This birth of God's only Son Echoes through every age... A savior from heaven's glory, To pay sin's awful wage.

Times are not so different Than when Jesus boldly came. People still go their own way Rejecting Him and cursing His name.

But I know deep inside my heart That God sent His only Son So I could win life's battle, And join Him when it's done.

# Wise Men Still Seek Him

Wise men still seek Him Who appeared so long ago. They come now by grace Through faithful hearts aglow

Wise men still seek Him, For He is their "Bread of Life" A sustaining inner strength Through times of sorrow or strife.

> Wise men still seek Him The Christ of Calvary God's only begotten Son Crucified as sin's penalty.

Wise men still seek Him, Jesus, God in human array. King of Kings and Lord of Lords, Born to Earth on Christmas Day.

## For The Joy Set Before Him

I could have lived forever, As a simple mortal man. I could have called 10,000 angels, To help me to stand.

> But I laid down my life Despising the shame. For the joy set before me, Was your life to gain.

I could have stayed in heaven, As the supreme ruler of all things. I could have played among the stars, And listened for the flutter of angel's wings.

> But I laid down my life, Despising the shame. For the joy set before me, Was to know you by name.

I could have sent my armies, To rid the world of sin. I could have destroyed the Earth, As I did way back then.

But I bore the suffering of the cross, Despising the shame. For the joy set before me, Was to take away your pain.

I could have done a lot of things, To make this world right. Or I could have done nothing, And ignored your plight.

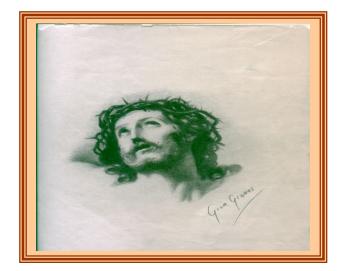
### As I Was On The Cross

I saw you as I was on the cross. Your sadness and your pain. I knew you needed hope, That your life was filled with shame.

I knew you would be weary. And would lose all hope to fear. But, my child, I tell you My salvation will adhere.

For every sorrow, pain and fear, And for every doubtful thought, I died for you that day. Your salvation, I have bought.

### Written By Marilyn Marinelli



### **Easter Is**

Easter Is... When sadness turns into joy. And time seemed to stand still, As we remember Golgotha's hill.

Easter Is.... When darkness gives way to light, And demons have to flee, As the Son of God enters our reality.

Easter Is... When we are buried in baptism, As a symbol of death to sin, And to rise up again to serve Him.

Easter Is... When we die to inward lusts. And His life is born anew, Replacing the old with someone new.

Easter Is... When God and Man are one again. As His Spirit and ours unite, In fellowship, in love and all that is right.

Easter Is.... When our hearts rejoice, In the only begotten Son, And live in the victory He has won.

