

—

It's Christmas!

By Chiara Lubich





The store windows are all decorated with golden ornaments, small Christmas trees, sales on precious gifts.

At night, the streets shine with hanging lights or stars of Bethlehem; the trees lining the sidewalks, their boughs full of red, blue or white lights, create a surreal effect in the boulevards...

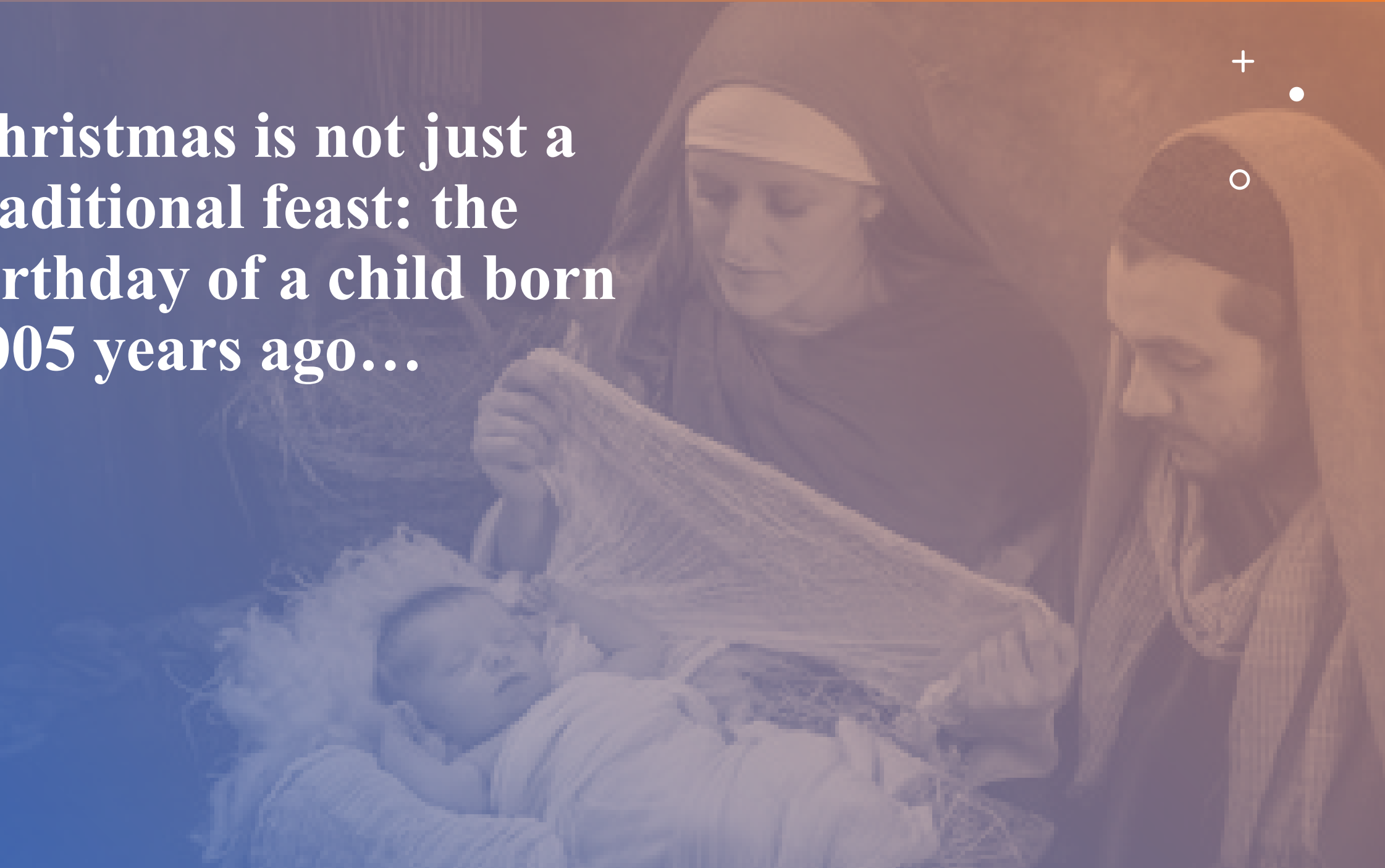


**There is an
atmosphere of
expectation.**

**Everyone is
touched by it...**



**Christmas is not just a
traditional feast: the
birthday of a child born
2005 years ago...**





**Christmas is alive!
Not only in churches with
manger scenes,**



**but among people
in this climate of
joy, friendship,
and goodness that
it brings with it
each year.**





**And yet, the world
is still overwhelmed
by huge problems:**

**poverty to the point
of famine,**

**the earthquake
victims in Pakistan,**



**dozens of wars,
terrorism, hate between
cultures, but also among
groups and between
people...**





We need Love.



**We need Jesus to come
back with power.**



**Baby Jesus is
always the
immense gift of
the Father to
humanity, even
though not
everyone
recognizes him.**

We have to offer our thanks to the Father also for them. We need to celebrate Christmas and renew our faith in the Infant-God who came to save us,



to create a new family of brothers and sisters united by love, extended all over the world.



Let's look around us... so that this love may reach everyone, but especially those who are in pain, who are most in need,



**all those who
are alone,**



poor,



small and ill....



— **May the communion with them of affection and goods make a family shine forth of true brothers and sisters who celebrate Christmas together**



and continue even beyond it.

The background is a complex, abstract composition of numerous thin, overlapping lines that swirl and curve across the frame. The color palette is rich and varied, featuring deep reds, vibrant oranges, and soft purples, all set against a dark, almost black, background. The lines appear to have a slight glow, giving the overall effect a sense of dynamic energy and movement. The text is centered horizontally and vertically, standing out clearly against the busy, colorful background.

Who can resist the power of love?



**In preparing for
Christmas, let us
display gestures
which bring about
concrete action.**

They will be remedies to problems that may seem small, but applied on a vast scale, they can be light and solutions for the serious problems of the world.





**Merry
Christmas
to all of you!**

