



Christ for the World Chapel
JFK International Airport
Terminal 4, 4th Floor



News from the Port
Christmas 2012 – Vol. 2

A Message from Pastor Romeo Dabee

Grace and peace to you in the name of Jesus - our newborn King !

Allow me to take you back some 2,000+ years ago. It is just another long, cold and lonely night for the shepherds on the Judean countryside. They are just ordinary working people who had no idea that the most life-changing event in all of history is about to surround them. Without warning, the heavens break open in a display of outer space glory and there in the sight of the shepherds, angels hovered and the messenger announces the word from God.

“Do not be afraid,” the messengers proclaim. “Listen up, we bring you good news of great joy and it would be for all people everywhere. To you is born, in the City of David, a Savior, who is the anointed, the Lord!” (Lk. 2:11) The shepherds are shaken out of their boots but they had enough nerve and courage to race to Bethlehem to witness the greatest miracle of all.

Can you image the lively chatter as the shepherds rushed down the hillside: “What will he be like? Will he be a King, dressed in royal garb and surrounded by servants? Will he be the general of the great army which will free our land from the oppressors?” But when they reached the stable - probably out of breath from the journey, they were flabbergasted - surprised to discover that the Savior of the world was a baby. A simple baby? That can't be right - What is God thinking sending a baby?

It doesn't make much sense at all because babies are weak and helpless. The reality is that they cannot accomplish much on their own except for making a “mess.” But, don't ever take a baby for granted since they change everything... Just watch an affectionate grandparent and you will see how life is changed. My own father is a prime example. According to my mother, “You should see how much your father has changed. Your nephew Dominick has made a completely new man out of him.”

The Christ-child is no exception. This child changed the world by his appearance. The coming of Jesus into the world announces the most wonderful news ever imagined. The coming of Jesus announces good news of great joy to all as God's love is made manifest for the shepherds to see and for us to experience today as well.

In these days when cowardice, cruelty, violence, hatred and despair seems to surround us, the good news of Christ-child brings hope! Hope comes to us because God's love reaches down to lift us up. Like the shepherds in the field that night, we too are looking for a Savior to conquer all - And that Savior has been born to us for in Jesus comes salvation, not condemnation - renewal, not revenge - peace, not punishment.

So, let us join the heavenly chorus and sing: “Glory to the newborn King; peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled.”

JFK Airport Community Minister

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Romeo K. Dabee'.

Who We Are and What We Offer

Christ for the World Chapel began ministry at the Airport in 1964 as the JFK Protestant Chapel. The ministry was established by the Council of Churches of the City of New York (then, The Protestant Council).

Housed in a stunning A-frame structure, the Chapel was set between Our Lady of the Skies Roman Catholic Chapel and the International Synagogue at the JFK Tri-Faith Plaza.

Today, four chapels stand side by side in testimony of our mutual commitment to an interfaith religious presence and cooperation at America's Gateway to the World.

An Ecumenical Ministry of the Council of Churches of the City of New York provides a number of ministry opportunities which include:

- A place of solace - The Chapel is open for prayer and meditation from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m. every day of the year.
- Weekly Wednesday Worship at 12:30 p.m.
- Bible Study Groups for airport employees
- Departure and Return Services for Church groups traveling internationally (advance arrangement required)
- Religious Conferences
- Pastoral Counseling (by appointment)
- Weddings
- Baptism, Dedications of children and business
- Memorial Services for airport employees
- Special Interfaith Services for Dr. Martin Luther King Day and September 11th Memorial in collaboration with the other Chapels at JFK International Airport.

JFK Airport Round-Up

New Procedures for 4th Floor Check-in Area

In advance of the new 4th floor Passenger Screening Checkpoint, which is scheduled to open in early March, the management of JFKIAT has put new restrictions into place thus limiting the check-in area to only ticketed passengers. However, anyone desirous of worshipping or using the Chapel, or for anyone visiting our office, kindly indicate to the attendant that you would like to use the Chapel and you will be allowed pass through the check-in area.

Our 2012 Christmas Concert at JFK Airport

Thanks to talented and gifted singers and musicians from The Ashley Band of Pilgrim Church, New Jersey, The RCA Singers of Cambria Heights, Queens, The St. Peter's Lutheran Choir of Brooklyn and The Christian Cultural Center (C3 Youth Choir - pictured below) of Brooklyn, we were able to bring joy and hope to the airport community. This year's concert was held in partnership with American Airlines and Westfield Concessions Management of T8, on Saturday, December 15th from 2 to 6pm.



For more up-to-date information, visit us at www.ChristfortheWorldChapel.org, call our office at 718-656-5693 or stop by the Chapel at JFK International Airport, Terminal 4, 4th floor.