



## Contemplative Outreach Ireland

Silence Solitude Simplicity Service

[www.coi.ie](http://www.coi.ie)

*In an unlikely place unimaginable hope was born.*

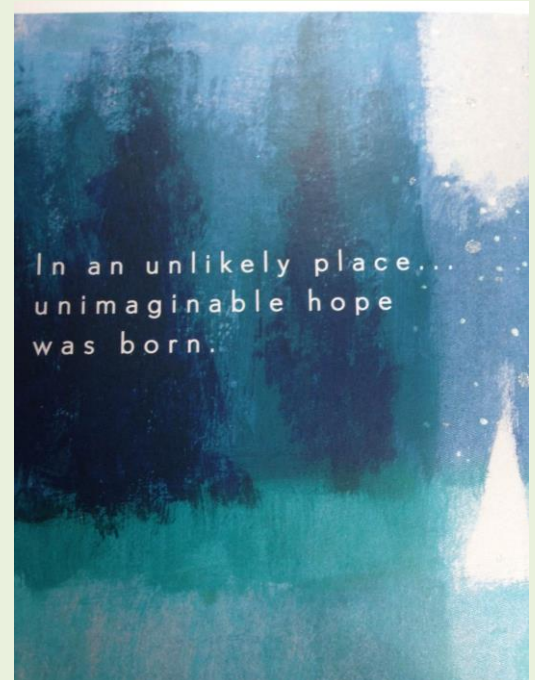
*Dear friends in Contemplative Outreach.*

Jesus was born in a stable at Bethlehem, of Mary, a teenage girl, under the watchful care of Joseph.

For the Christian, spiritual power is always hidden inside of powerlessness, just as God was hidden and yet revealed in a defenceless baby.

In T.S Elliot's poem 'Journey of The Magi' the Magi ask themselves this question "Were we lead all that way for Birth or Death"?

The birth of Jesus in utter poverty seemed to them like death- their death! When they returned to their kingdoms they were no longer at ease there; they had understood somehow that spiritual power is always hidden inside of powerlessness, and they no longer wanted their power as Magi; they no longer wanted to live in "the old dispensation" after experiencing the New.



As we contemplate the Nativity scene this Christmas, may it be given to each one of us to understand the mystery of powerlessness in our own lives.

When the world was dark and the city was quiet you came. You crept in beside us, and no one knew, except the few who dared to believe that God might do something different.

Jesus, will you come into our lives if we open them to you, and do something different this Christmas?

Maranatha, .... Come Lord Jesus

*Happy Christmas to you all.*

*The Core Group. Contemplative Outreach Ireland.*