

12/18/20

On a cold Christmas Eve in 1818 Joseph Mohr — pastor of the St. Nicholas parish church in Oberndorf, Austria — walked 3 kilometers to the home of his friend Franz Gruber. In his hand was a poem he had written two years before; he hoped that Franz, the church's choirmaster and organist, might compose a tune for the words to be sung at Midnight mass THAT VERY NIGHT! In just a few short hours, Gruber wrote the beloved melody which has been declared "the most popular Christmas song ever," and "Silent Night" was born.



Fr. Mohr sang it that night with his guitar and within a few years, arrangements of the carol appeared in other churches and folk singers started taking it on tours around Europe. In Austria, "Stille Nacht" is considered a national treasure and traditionally may not be played publicly until Christmas Eve. Today over 300 translations of it exist worldwide!

Written after the Napoleonic wars had just ended, "Silent Night" is an expression of wonder and deep reflection at the birth of the Christ child — and our spiritual longing forPEACE.....

This year — more than EVER — we are yearning for peace within ourselves, our country and our world.

Take a few minutes and give your spirit a "peace-full" treat by [clicking on this link...](#)

May peace fill your heart this Christmas and all new year long!

