
Merry Christmas, united in Jesus !



Merry Christmas !

Not the big neon lights in the streets and department stores, which blind and dull the senses. But that of the little candle lit in the middle of this cot, which reminds us that God really is in the middle of our nights.

Merry Christmas !

Not in the big, excessive gifts, but in the small details of each day, and in giving generously of myself, my time and my life.

Merry Christmas !

Not the pomp and circumstance, the television advertisements and gigantic posters, but the Angel's announcement to the shepherds, which gave them real inner joy, so that they left what they were doing to set out in search of the child who had just been born.

Merry Christmas !

Not that of the powerful and self-confident, who support their throne with money, violence and lies, but that of the Magi from the East, who trusted in the light of a star and placed their trust in God rather than in their own wisdom.

Merry Christmas !

Not of meals and dinners full of everything and empty of what's important, not of ostentation and luxury, but of sharing what we have and a table full of hugs and listening, forgiveness and gratitude.

Merry Christmas !

To all the men and women who are looking for Jesus at this time and every day of their lives.

To all the Faith and Light communities in the world, may you celebrate a true Christmas, with your eyes, hands and heart wide open. God loves us so much that one day he went down in history, just like us. Can there be any greater joy?

Raúl Izquierdo Garcia
International coordinator

Christmas letter

But now, Lord, what do I look for?
My hope is in you. (Ps 39,7)

The times in which we live are marked by profound expectations :

- ◆ in places affected by conflict and war, we long for peace,
- ◆ where poverty and misery still reign, we hope for bread and dignity,
- ◆ in front of exclusion and violence, we expect solidarity and forgiveness.

You, Lord, are our hope, for you alone can change our heart and the course of history.

In this time before us, make each one of us pilgrims of hope, capable of cherishing our expectations.

May the coming Jubilee be for us and our Faith and Light communities an opportunity to become a sign of hope and reconciliation in our world today.

Enable us, by drawing on your Word that enlightens and gives peace, to recognise your presence among the humble and the poor.

Help us to break down the walls of division so that we can welcome you where, even today, you are manifesting yourself in the world.

May the Lord renew our hope and give us his peace.

Merry Christmas to you all.

Don Marco Bove,
International chaplain

