

## The world needs the light of Jesus

Dear Faith and Light communities,

First of all, BEST WISHES to each one of the Faith and Light communities around the world. May the light of Jesus illuminate your life and the boat of your community.



We, the Faith and Light family, love to celebrate events and birthdays, and we always look forward to meetings and fiestas. The joy and desire to be together is an essential part of our lives. This is the fruit of the Holy Spirit, because the human tendency is sometimes to withdraw into ourselves or into our homes, without stopping to look at our problems. The Spirit urges us to come out of ourselves and come together to share moments of celebration. So I hope that you will live this feast to the fullest and give it the honour it deserves!

**To celebrate the Feast of Light is to recognise and honour Jesus as our light.** There is no greater light than Jesus himself. And in Him we discover God's immense love for each and every one of us, in a unique and unequalled way. In a way then, it is also a renewal of our faith and our commitment. We reaffirm our desire to continue to trust in Jesus and to follow him within a Faith and Light community. We open our hands again and say to him: here I am, Lord, with what I am and what I have, with my gifts and my frailties, but here I am.

To celebrate the Feast of Light is also to be one with the whole international family of Faith and Light, and to realise once again that we are not alone. We form Faith and Light with people from five continents, from different cultures and languages, but who are moving forward together in the same boat in the midst of the storm, as in sunshine.

To celebrate the Feast of Light is to remember the importance of Christian unity and to pray for it. At Faith and Light, we live this unity and we know it, because there are communities from different Christian families. We are united by Jesus. What brings us together is much greater than what sets us apart. We work for unity and communion so that we can be a light at the heart of a world marked by too many divisions, tensions and conflicts.

**Finally, the celebration of the Feast of Light invites us to ask ourselves: how can we be Light today in the midst of the world?** How can we bring a little hope to so many people who have none? Sometimes the darkness is so great that there is no light anywhere. In our celebration, we cannot forget the places devastated by war, marked by violence, exploitation and abuse, addiction, lack of respect for life, mental illness and so much other suffering. Let's also think of those who are alone, those who find no meaning in their existence, or those who suffer harassment... All these people have a deep need for light.

I wish you a wonderful Feast of Light, celebrated with intensity, trust in Jesus and great joy.

Kind regards to everyone, we are united in Jesus.

Salamanca, 27 January 2025

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