



Prot. SG 372/2024

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE OF THE SUPERIOR GENERAL

Dear brothers,

Happy Christmas to you all!

Let us approach the Christmas of 2024 as pilgrims of hope and enter the jubilee year 2025 through Christ, “the door” (Jn 10:9)) to walk into the depth of God’s love. The jubilee of the Foundation of the Congregation has been a Kairos for the Congregation to refresh our charismatic spirit and our call to be “missionary mystics” in the Church today. The Lord invites us now to be renewed in hope through “a genuine personal encounter with Christ Jesus “our hope” (1 Tim 1:1).

The tradition of celebrating Jubilees, initiated by Pope Boniface VIII in 1300, has consistently been an invitation to personal penance, forgiveness, and renewal of Christian life. With indulgences tied to Jubilee pilgrimages, these years became special moments of grace and spiritual growth. Pope Paul II later institutionalized the interval of 25 years for Jubilees in 1470.

You must be remembering the great jubilee of incarnation in 2000 with the theme “Christ Yesterday, Today, and Forever” highlighting the gift of God’s mercy and love as well as the need for a renewed commitment to evangelization. The extraordinary Jubilee year of mercy in 2015 was a providential moment to receive God’s mercy and become merciful persons in a global context of wounded and wounding relationships among humans and with nature.

Now in 2025, we are offered the opportunity to walk together with Christ at the center as pilgrims of hope in the world. At Christmas, the Word became flesh and dwelt among us giving hope to human longing for meaning and a sure path for our pilgrimage on earth. In the paschal mystery of our Lord, we find a reason to live and to die as children of God looking forward beyond the earthly sojourn.

In the midst of various forms of death and suffering that surround us robbing human life of its beauty and dignity, we need the light of hope arising from faith and love to hold on. Technological advancement has made life easier, but not more joyful and meaningful. Creation is paying a heavy toll for uncurbed human greed. The scandals and counter witness of the trusted children of the Church have questioned her credibility. Our contemporary scenario is a cradle for the birth of hope for humanity in the incarnation of life and love in visible forms, the Word to take flesh in our human lives.

Dear brothers, our Founder enjoyed contemplating Christ who preached, prayed, suffered, and died for us. Let us fix our gaze on the face of the Incarnate Word in the crib of Bethlehem, in Jesus of Nazareth who proclaimed the Good News, suffered, died, and is Risen. When his merciful countenance falls on us, we will be renewed in his mercy and love and become with our faces radiating hope to others wherever we are sent in mission.

At this holy season, let us find our place close to the Heart of our Blessed Mother, who welcomed and tendered the Son of God born for us. May her maternal intercession inspire us to embrace our call as missionary disciples and engage with the Jubilee Year 2025 to bring forth a new springtime of life as pilgrims of hope.

Happy Christmas 2024!



Fr. Mathew Vattamattam, CMF
Superior General



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