
FAMILLE MARIANISTE

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Dear Members of the Marianist Family,

During this season of preparation, we say to you and to all people of good will, “peace be with you.”

This December 25 will be the first celebration of the incarnation in the 21st century. Now more than ever, the world needs to hear the Good News of Jesus Christ. Some 2000 years ago Mary became pregnant with the Word. Mary was the daughter of a colonized, humiliated and impoverished people. She longed for the justice and freedom promised her people. Yet she rejected the way of violence, choosing instead to present to the world the Prince of Peace.

In recent years and months, the world seems to have become more hostile to the poor and to all people who seek to create a world where God’s reign is fully visible. Acts of terrible violence seem to be on the increase along with oppressive actions of governments against their own people.

In the midst of this reality Mary, in the heart of the Church, seeks to present another way, the way of her Son and His message of peace, hope and solidarity with all suffering and impoverished people.

With Mary, we long to praise God and announce the reality of God’s presence among all people. The Word becomes flesh in the 21st century. This Word calls us to be fully human, to be in solidarity with all who suffer and to bring all things to completion through our individual works, our common mission and through the building of a vibrant Marianist Family.

The Marianist Family, like the Church, stands as a sacramental sign that hope conquers despair, peace conquers war, and that true peace is rooted firmly in justice and dialogue.

Let us all remember the words of Mary in response to the reality of the incarnation. “My soul magnifies the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.” Let us commit ourselves, more than ever, to be among those peacemakers whom God calls his children. May this Christmas bring the world, the Church and the Marianist Family closer to the reality of God’s reign.

The World Council of the Marianist Family,

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