



Christmas Message



My dear Sisters,

As we celebrate the birth of Jesus this Christmas, our hearts overflow with gratitude as this year holds deep significance for us, the Sisters of St. Paul of Chartres. We have journeyed through the grace-filled Jubilee Year and the meaningful experience of our 49th General Chapter. We are truly thankful for your prayers, your presence, and your unwavering support. Across nations and communities, you have stood as faithful sentinels, lifting us in prayer and surrounding us with love. Your unity expressed through joyful respect and the richness of our diversity is a powerful sign of hope for the poor, for the Church, and for the world. Let us give thanks to the Lord for the wonders He continues to work in our Congregation.

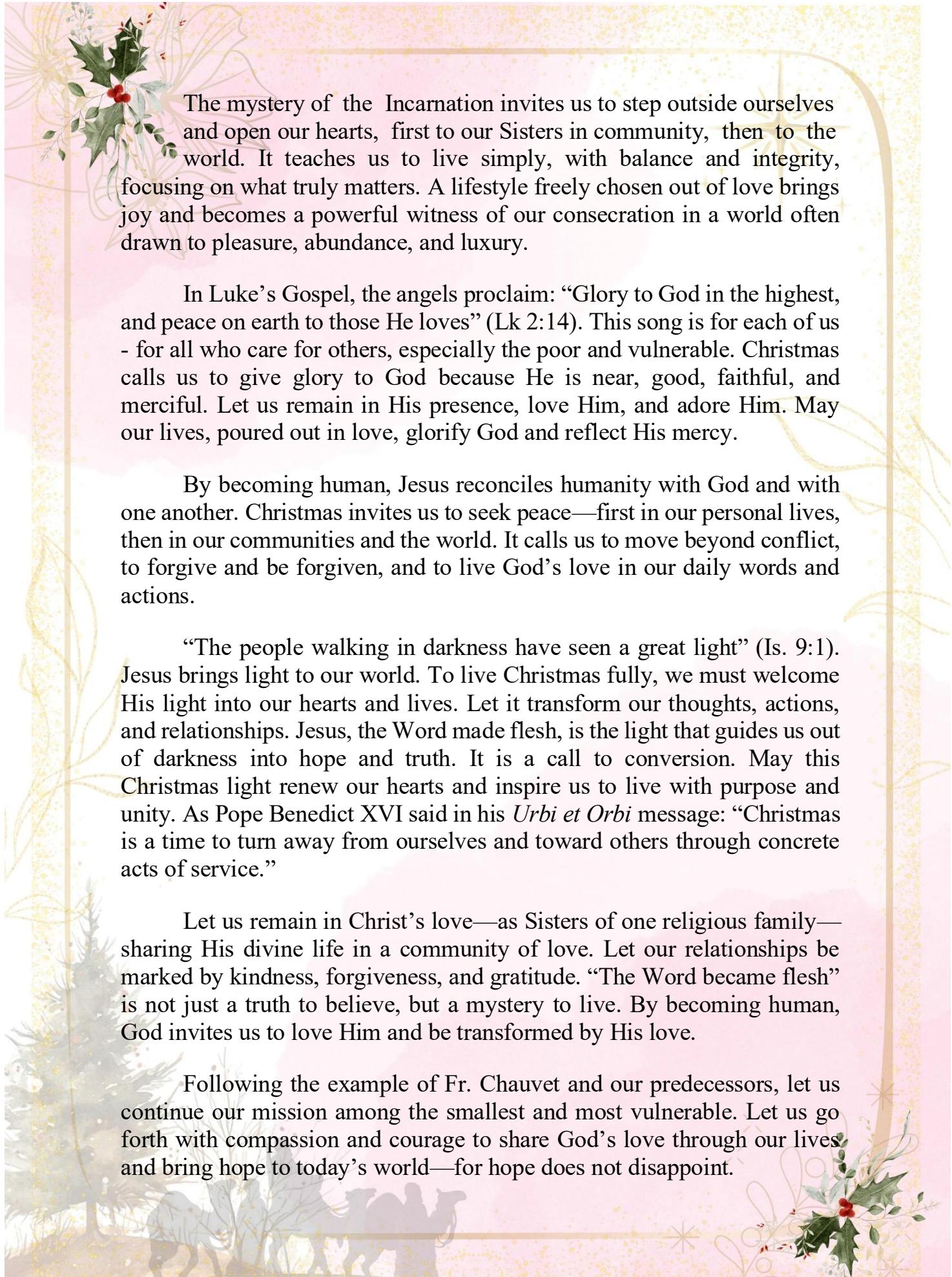
God, who is love and full of mercy, unfolds His plan throughout history. “God so loved the world that He sent His only Son.” Out of this love, He came to dwell among us, sharing in our human limitations and fragility. Born in the humble form of a tiny child laid in a manger, Jesus is the living sign of God’s desire to save us.

Christmas is not only a celebration of Christ’s birth; it is a profound revelation of divine love poured out upon the poor and the forgotten. As expressed in *Dilexi te of His Holiness, Pope Leon XIV*, this love lifts the lowly, comforts the suffering, and calls all Christians to reflect the heart of Christ. The newborn Jesus, wrapped in cloth and lying in a manger, identifies with the most humble and says to each of us: “I have loved you. I came for you.” His birth is a powerful sign that God never abandons us.



The Pope’s message urges us to imitate this love through concrete actions, like the Good Samaritan. Let us not turn away from the needs of our Sisters or the poor. Fr. Louis

Chauvet, our founder, deeply cared for the poor and sought to lift them up with hope: “Whatever you did for one of the least of these, you did for me” (Mt. 25:40) Christ, Emmanuel - God with us shares our joys, our pains, our limits. He walks with us and understands us.



The mystery of the Incarnation invites us to step outside ourselves and open our hearts, first to our Sisters in community, then to the world. It teaches us to live simply, with balance and integrity, focusing on what truly matters. A lifestyle freely chosen out of love brings joy and becomes a powerful witness of our consecration in a world often drawn to pleasure, abundance, and luxury.

In Luke's Gospel, the angels proclaim: "Glory to God in the highest, and peace on earth to those He loves" (Lk 2:14). This song is for each of us - for all who care for others, especially the poor and vulnerable. Christmas calls us to give glory to God because He is near, good, faithful, and merciful. Let us remain in His presence, love Him, and adore Him. May our lives, poured out in love, glorify God and reflect His mercy.

By becoming human, Jesus reconciles humanity with God and with one another. Christmas invites us to seek peace—first in our personal lives, then in our communities and the world. It calls us to move beyond conflict, to forgive and be forgiven, and to live God's love in our daily words and actions.

"The people walking in darkness have seen a great light" (Is. 9:1). Jesus brings light to our world. To live Christmas fully, we must welcome His light into our hearts and lives. Let it transform our thoughts, actions, and relationships. Jesus, the Word made flesh, is the light that guides us out of darkness into hope and truth. It is a call to conversion. May this Christmas light renew our hearts and inspire us to live with purpose and unity. As Pope Benedict XVI said in his *Urbi et Orbi* message: "Christmas is a time to turn away from ourselves and toward others through concrete acts of service."

Let us remain in Christ's love—as Sisters of one religious family—sharing His divine life in a community of love. Let our relationships be marked by kindness, forgiveness, and gratitude. "The Word became flesh" is not just a truth to believe, but a mystery to live. By becoming human, God invites us to love Him and be transformed by His love.

Following the example of Fr. Chauvet and our predecessors, let us continue our mission among the smallest and most vulnerable. Let us go forth with compassion and courage to share God's love through our lives and bring hope to today's world—for hope does not disappoint.

Dear Sisters, may this Christmas be a celebration of joy, love, and hope born from Christ's birth. May it renew our desire to reflect His love to all people. In this season of peace, may we gather in our communities, inspired by His simplicity, poverty, and light - to share meaningful moments and reflect together on how we live out our Chapter acts, reassess our priorities, values, and way of life as consecrated women.

May Christ continue to be born in us - in our hearts, our daily lives, our communities, and our missionary commitments. May this year be a time of renewal for each of us, strengthening our consecration and deepening our witness.

The General Assistants, the General Bursar, and all the Sisters in the Generalate join me in wishing you a joyful Christmas and a New Year filled with God's grace, hope, and love! Although the new General Government has only just begun its mission, we are deeply grateful for your trust and rely wholeheartedly on your continued support and prayers. The responsibility before us is great, but we place our confidence in God's love and grace as we serve the Church and our Congregation. As we step into this new chapter together, let us walk in a spirit of synodality, communion, and shared responsibility - following Jesus, the child-God who came to dwell among us out of love. As Pope Leo XIV reminds us so tenderly:

“He loved you.” (*Dilexi te*)



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