

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among men with whom he is pleased (Luke 2, 14)

The birth of Christ is the beginning of reconciliation between God and men

The Birth of the Baby Jesus, the eternal Son of God, becoming a Man, „incarnate from the Holy Spirit and Virgin Mary” shows us God’s love as a Father for all humanity. With the birth of our Saviour, human life, the human condition, is no longer „absurd” and the history of the world is no longer meaningless. We know that behind both every reality in this world and every historical event is a word from God, the Word, the „Logos”.

2020 has been a complicated year for the whole world. The pandemic caused by Covid19 has shown us that, in exceptional situations, we **can** live differently. This new disease has affected not only our material lives but also our spiritual lives because often the measures taken by governments in some countries, have restricted religious freedom.

Nevertheless, although this appears madness to some, our joy, as Christians, on the feast of the Nativity of the Son of God brings hope, hope in a humanity that in spite of everything, can remain human and even become more and more human due to the incarnation of the Son of God. The birth of Christ is the beginning of reconciliation between God and men. ”We know that Christ is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the dividing wall of hostility” (Ephesians 2, 14). Peace is a state of deep confidence, the deep peace of a soul that is harboured in the eternal shelter of God, a soul that no one and no force on earth, nor eternal evil can harm. If we are at peace with God, we are at peace with ourselves, and fear cannot dominate the soul reconciled with God.

This peace of the soul has to be reflected in every Christian life. The European way of life must take count of the way Christians relate to life, to their neighbour, to society as a whole. Peace in Europe is not complete without peace in our souls, without a search for Christ and ordering our lives according to His teachings. This is why the contribution of Christians in society is apparent in democracy, education, and respect for one’s neighbour, and in diversity. We are all called to contribute to this according to the gifts we have received (1 Corinthians 12, 4).

May the Christmas story bring us together in the same Spirit of Unity: “May the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times and in all ways” (2 Thessalonians 3, 16).