



CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

Keep Christ in Christmas!

Normally I begin my Christmas letter by reflecting on the Christ Child and the world's dark night into which He came. But not this year. This year my thoughts are often pre-occupied with the Church's own suffering and the future of our country, and the whole world. I know many of you struggle with similar feelings, and this can make it hard to enter into the Christmas spirit. I would be a bad member of the Resurrection Congregation if I left you there without showing you the Light of the Resurrection on the horizon!

Jesus was born in the silent stable at Bethlehem; He was buried in the silence of the sepulchre, He rose from the dead in silence and yet powerfully, and speaks to us in the silence of prayer. The important thing is to face the situations and problems of life with the light of faith! It is important to be peaceful, to trust, not to be discouraged. The Lord is near, the Lord is with us, He knows what we need. Even in the most difficult times, we want to believe and experience that He is our powerful Saviour and will do everything for us, even beyond our expectations.

Pope Francis in his homily on 29th November warned against the "paganization" of Christian life. He asked, *"Do we live as Christians? It seems we do, but in reality our life is pagan. There is a wish to do a synthesis that cannot be done. And both will be condemned. Water and oil can't be mixed; they are always different. It's the end of a contradictory civilization, which says it is Christian but which lives as a pagan."* *"There are tragedies also in our life, but in the face of them it's necessary to look at the horizon, because we have been saved and the Lord will come to save us. And this teaches us to live the world's trials not in a pact with worldliness or with paganism, which leads us to destruction, but in hope, detaching ourselves from this worldly and pagan seduction and looking at the horizon, while waiting for Christ, the Lord. Hope is our strength: let us go on, but we must ask this of the Holy Spirit,"* continued the Pontiff.

Keep Christ in Christmas!

Fr Roman Palma CR

Fr Marian Szablewski CR