



Christmas: God is calling us!



As soon as he was born, this child of the crib already attracts to himself the poorest and the most learned. It is first the shepherds who hear, through the voice of the angels, the call to go to Bethlehem: "Let us see what happened." Then it will be the wisemen who will understand through the stars of heaven, the call to go: "Let us pay homage to the King of the Jews."

In this time of Christmas, the shepherds and the wisemen are present in the crib that decorates our churches and our homes, but generally, they are not alone. Indeed, over the centuries, other characters (the statues: little saints!) have joined them in an outstanding diversity: children and adults, young and old, single and married, healthy and sick... All are different but all receive the same call: "Let us give glory to God for the coming of his Son!"

Soon these men, these women and these children will return home, with the hope that all their life proclaims the glory of God.

From now on, they will be eager to seek and recognize how their life can be, including in its daily response to this call. In their wake, with the help of the Holy Spirit, let us be shaped by the Word of Christ who calls us to welcome him and to witness that: God becomes man!

So that each family and each parish hears this call, let us go, following the shepherds and wisemen around the crib. Let us welcome together the unending love of God manifested in the fragility of this child. Let us ask him, with faith and hope, that everyone has the grace and the joy of hearing his call to witness to his love which is making us live!

**To each one of you, to our families,
to our Christian communities,
I wish you a merry Christmas!**

† **Pascal Delannoy**
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