



[Message vidéo en français](https://vimeo.com/306132578) (vimeo.com/306132578)

### ***Christmas, the Word became a Brother!***

At Christmas, God enters into humanity. He does it discreetly, without noise or advertisement. Of what good by the way? This child does not come to be king or emperor, he comes to be the elder brother of a multitude of brothers and sisters. He does not come to exercise power, but through Him all men are brothers because all are children of the same Father. The fraternity thus offered does not impose itself, it has to be lived! Not to forget, we are celebrating a Christmas! At Christmas, the Word became brother! I borrow this beautiful expression from Christian de Chergé, a Cistercian monk, who is one of 19 martyrs of Algeria beatified on the 8th of December 2018.

For more than 2000 years ago, the fraternity, for us Christians, is not just an idea, however beautiful it may be, but it is the emergence that opens the way to an universal fraternity! From then on, Christian fraternity can not be summerised neither as a set of good sentiments nor as a morality. It is an invitation to share what we have received from God, in Christ who has become our brother, so that we may be the children of the same Father.

The whole gospel is there to tell us that fraternity is expressed in mutual attention, kindness, understanding, goodness, talent and forgiveness ... It is a daily struggle, in each and everyone of us and in our society through mistrust and trust, fear and love, rejection and hospitality, violence and gentleness, hate and forgiveness ... To win this battle, let us look at the child of the manger and confess our faith: we believe that He has become our brother so that we can live as brothers and sisters!

To each of you, to your families, to all those who are our brothers and sisters in Christ, I wish you all a Merry Christmas!

+ Pascal Delannoy  
Bishop of Saint-Denis-en-France