

# CHRISTMAS MESSAGE 2015

International Team -CLM-



## The Good news !

***"Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people." (Lk 2:10)***

News. Good News... but in a culture like ours – over-informed – it would not be anything more than that. Just one more piece of news. Not even a "trending" topic for a little while.

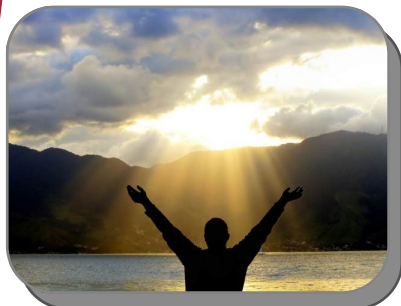
Therefore, perhaps, this message of happiness may just be one more message among many. One more greeting. One more Christmas missive.

And so, we close our ears, even to the words of God. Our hearts remain closed to the hope they offer. Because, all this passes so quickly. It is done and gone, and everything remains as it was. It seems that nothing changes; all stays the same. We are stuck in the feeling that there really is not any hope. We have lost hope...and do not even miss it.

***T***herefore, God must come, once again, to remind us to take note:

***"Remember not the events of the past, the things of long ago consider not; See, I am doing something new! Now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?" (Is 43:18-19)***

It is happening. I am doing it. God has not yet finished. The Good News is not what happened. Rather, it is about what is coming – what God does, is doing, and is going to do. It call us to look forward, not backward.



***"Do not be afraid...It will be a reason for joy"***

Fear is born from a lack of faith, the feeling that there is nothing that can be done. Therefore, the Good News begins by directing itself to our heart: do not fear. There is nothing of which to be afraid. God is saving us.

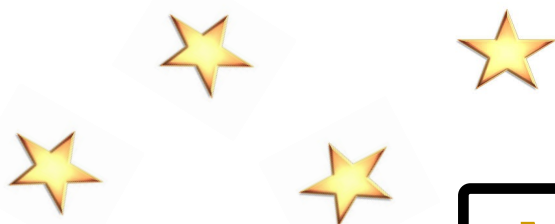
I bring you joy – that joy which satisfies a person's heart.

I fill you with joy, with life. The darkness of our lives will be no more.

***"For all"***

Thinking big. Leaving nobody out. It is not a raffle or Christmas lottery, which brings joy only to a few... God works in big ways, for all, without exception. This is the Good News – that God is saving us all; that God is saving me. My whole self. God excludes no person. God completely fills me, and all of us, with life and joy.

**God truly brings us Good News!**



**Merry Christmas !**