

Message from the International Team of the Lay Fraternity Charles de Foucauld

Christmas 2022

As Christmas approaches, the International Team would like to share with you what it has experienced and what strengthens it:

- the results of our sharing by videoconference,
- the canonization of Charles de Foucauld,
- the in-person meeting of the International Team in Orsay near Paris last summer.

All this invites us to make new beginnings.

Nevertheless, we feel challenged by the ongoing war in Ukraine, the situation in the Democratic Republic of Congo, the situation of migrants and so many complex situations in the world.

Our Church is also weakened by the scandals of abuses of all kinds which call into question the ecclesial institution (its mode of governance, the place of the laity, in particular that of women, etc.) and which are contributing to the decline in faith in many parts of the world.

At Christmas, God gives us new life in Jesus of Nazareth. We are called to bear witness to this by becoming universal sisters and brothers in the footsteps of Brother Charles and being faithful to his vision.

The international team is already working on the next General Assembly and will involve you in the preparation of this event which will take place in the summer of 2024. Documents will be sent to all the fraternities of the world during the first quarter of 2023.

Let us be guided by the Holy Spirit, the love of Jesus to continue to live in the joy of universal brotherhood.

We wish you all a Merry Christmas!

**Myrna AQUINO – Dominique BERTINAU – Jimmy BONNICI – Maria BOUALI – François CITERA –
Laurence FERNANDEZ – Alishbah JAVED AKTAR - Brigitte LEPORT - Willian DE OLMOS – Mayela
SEIJAS DE OLMOS -**

