## OLMOS CHRISTMAS 2023 MESSAGE FROM THE INTERNATIONAL TEAM TO ALL FRATERNITIES WORLDWIDE

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

- the fruit of our videoconference exchanges,
- continental meetings,
- preparations for General Assembly 2024,
- the links we are forging with our Canadian sisters and brothers.

All this invites us to build universal fraternity together.

Our Church is also on the move with the synod on synodality:

"For a synodal Church: communion, participation and mission."

As the Charles de Foucauld lay fraternity, we are moving forward with the people of God.

Here we are on the threshold of a new year, which we will welcome, not with apprehension, but rather with confidence and hope.

The end of 2023 has been marked by wars in many countries. The hearts of some men know no rest.



Let us observe these war refugees, these migrants, these homeless who, like Mary and Joseph, walk in search of a shelter to welcome them.

At Christmas, we contemplate the baby Jesus who arrives so small, so fragile, born in Bethlehem and who will live 30 years of his life in Nazareth.

In the light of Christmas, we are invited to be more open to others and to reflect on the theme of the next General Assembly:

"Sharing our home in Nazareth: family, creation, fraternity."

We wish you a Merry Christmas!

## May God's light shine in your home and in your path!

Myrna AQUINO – Dominique BERTINAU – Jimmy BONNICI – Maria BOUALI – François CITERA – Laurence

FERNANDEZ – Alishbah JAVED AKTAR - Brigitte LEPORT - Willian DE OLMOS – Mayela SEIJAS DE OLMOS