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CHRISTMAS MESSAGE OF THE SUPERIOR GENERAL

Pilgrims of Hope and Joy

*May the Child of Bethlehem renew in us the hope that does not disappoint
and the quiet joy of knowing that we are loved and sent.*

Dear brothers,

In this Jubilee Year, Christmas invites us to return to the place where God chose to heal the deep wounds of our time. In a world marked by individualism, worldliness, and fragmentation—even within consecrated life—the Lord offers us an antidote: the simplicity of a home, the humility of a manger, and the tenderness of shared life.

God does not save from a distance; he enters our human condition and dwells among us. The Word becomes flesh in a poor home, reminding us that communion is born where hearts are open, life is shared, and love takes shape in small and faithful gestures.

When the Word becomes life in us, we become the page on which God continues to write His love story. This was the secret of our Founder, Anthony Mary Claret, who allowed God to take flesh in his own history so that the Gospel might be proclaimed with fire, tenderness, and audacity.

The Claretian tradition recalls the Christmas scene in which our Founder received the Child Jesus from the arms of Mary. In this grace, we discover our vocation: to welcome Christ and offer Him to the world.

May this Christmas lead us back to the manger—back to simplicity, interior freedom, and fraternal closeness. May Mary place the Child Jesus once again in our hands, and may we offer Him generously to a world in need of hope.

Fr. Mathew Vattamattam, CMF
Superior General

India, December 25, 2025

