



" People of Zion: see that the Lord will come to save the peoples; He will cause the majesty of His voice to be heard, that the hearts of all may rejoice". (Is. 30, 19.30).

On this Sunday, we light the second candle of the Advent Wreath, as a sign of the inner preparation that each person makes in order receive Jesus with a reconciled heart.

As Pope Francis encouraged us a few years ago: "The believer is the one who, being close to his brother, like John the Baptist opens up paths in the desert, that is, he points out paths of hope, even in those existential contexts that are impenetrable, marked by failure and defeat". Advent is the favourable time to open paths of hope, to encourage us to do more and to realize the utopia of fraternity, of authentic happiness, of generous sharing, of love incarnate.

We are called to receive the Lord in the best possible way. Our life may not be perfect, but we can find in it the desire and the love to welcome Him. Let us receive the Lord as the gift of a new and renewed life, far from any bad feeling and always oriented towards the good. Let us prepare the way so that Jesus may enter our hearts and we may come close to Him, who is waiting for us. Although we know that the Lord is aware of our inability to be sincerely converted, let us ask Him to help us with His grace, so that these desires to welcome Him may be converted into concrete fruit.

Dear friends of the ACI Family, dear Sisters,

In this second week of Advent, "Let us try to search through our memories for the signs which the Lord has given in our lives. And let us ask with transparency and freedom: in my life, what signs has the Lord given me? What signs do I find of His presence? Signs of what He has done, to show us that He loves us. Let us think of that difficult moment in which God made us experience His love..." (Pope Francis)

With blessings,

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Sr. Belén Escauriza, Sr. Janet Andrade, Sr. Pilar Guzmán,
International Commission of the ACI Family