



AMERICAN NATIONAL  
CATHOLIC CHURCH

December 23, 2022

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Peace!

Merry Christmas!

I wanted to extend to all the People of God, clergy, and parishes of the American National Catholic Church my hope for all of us, the fullness of joy promised by the mystery of the Incarnation.

This year, as in every other year, we have experienced joys, sorrows, gains, and losses. At Christmas we give God thanks for all the year has brought us and pray the New Year will be full of grace and God's abundant love.

Our Christmas faith allows us to see in the mystery of the Incarnation, life and grace coming down to live with us in the person of Jesus Christ. We celebrate God's love enfleshed in the long-awaited Messiah, born in the humility of a stable. The coming of our Christ in such a lowly estate challenges us and the world to see in the feast of Christmas the real meaning of transforming love.

As Theodotus of Ancyra notes, "The Word of God in a human body was laid in a manger, so that both the eloquent and the slow of speech would have courage to share in the food of salvation." (Homily 1 on Christmas)

I will remember all of you in my Masses of Christmas, praying that our joy at the birth of our Savior might stay with us throughout the entire year.

Blessings,

Most Rev. George R. Lucey, FCM  
Presiding Bishop