



## INTERNATIONAL FRANCISCAN CONFERENCE of the Brothers and Sisters of the Third Order Regular

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December 9, 2025

*Peace and all good!*

**Dear Brothers and Sisters of IFC-TOR,**

On December 24, 2024 at 7 p.m., with the Eucharistic Celebration presided over by Pope Francis in St. Peter's Square, the Jubilee Year officially opened and will end on January 6, 2026. The Jubilee was a great sign of hope, a time of grace. For us Franciscans even more so: 2026 marks the eighth centenary of the death of St Francis, a special centenary in which we commemorate particular events in the life of our Seraphic Father. The Franciscan Family Committee, responsible for organising the programmes for this event, proposes that we celebrate the various anniversaries both in our own fraternities and with all the other Franciscan communities in the area. The opening of the centenary will be in Assisi on January 10, 2026.

Advent is the perfect time to evaluate our personal lives and our community's ability to embody the Holy Spirit. Let us observe the angel who appears to Mary and says to her: 'Rejoice, because you are full of grace,' that is, you are full of true beauty! What is the beauty of Mary? It consists in the candour of her soul, in the purity of her feelings, in her heart free from all selfishness, capable of truly loving. This is true beauty! At this point, we must dismantle a widespread deception today, which is this: purity is often mocked and literally fought against because it is considered an impediment to love. This is a terrible lie! It is purity that makes us capable of loving! Because it makes us capable of giving ourselves to others. Today there is a crisis of love because there is a crisis of purity.

Dear friends, once again the night of time dawns, once again He does not give up on becoming small, on breaking Himself so that He can accompany us, once again, on those broken paths on which we lose ourselves; on those paths that we walk with difficulty, uphill. Jesus wants to come into you. Prepare your heart to receive Him worthily in a place more adorned than the manger in Bethlehem, reserving a welcome dwelling place for Him. Strive to purify what is profane and earthly within you.

I wish you an Advent filled with communion, participation and mission, which will make our presence fruitful and prophetic in the Church, allowing ourselves to be guided by the hand of Mary, Joseph and the Child Jesus, and following in the footsteps of our Father St Francis.

With sincere affection, prayers and a warm embrace.

*Happy Advent  
Merry Christmas  
Happy New Year*

**Sr. Daisy Kalamparamban**  
*and the Councillors of the IFC-TOR!*

