



NEA NEWSLETTER



DECEMBER NEWS 2022

Advent Credo *Daniel Berrigan (born 1921)*

It is not true that creation and the human family are doomed to destruction and loss—

This is true: For God so loved the world that He gave his only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life;



It is not true that we must accept inhumanity and discrimination, hunger and poverty, death and destruction—

This is true: I have come that they may have life and have it abundantly.

It is not true that violence and hatred should have the last word, and that war and destruction rule forever—

Jesus brings peace

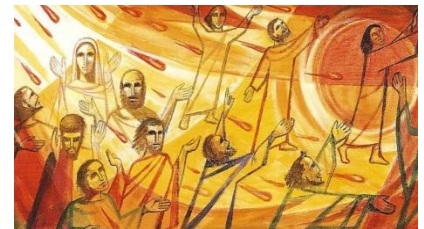
This is true: Unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given, and the government shall be upon his shoulder, his name shall be called wonderful councilor, mighty God, the Everlasting, the Prince of peace.

It is not true that we are simply victims of the powers of evil who seek to rule the world—

This is true: To me is given authority in heaven and on earth, and lo I am with you, even until the end of the world.

It is not true that we have to wait for those who are specially gifted, who are the prophets of the Church before we can be peacemakers—

This is true: I will pour out my spirit on all flesh and your sons and daughters shall prophesy, your young men shall see visions and your old men shall have dreams.



It is not true that our hopes for liberation of humankind, of justice, of human dignity of peace are not meant for this earth and for this history—



This is true: The hour comes, and it is now, that the true worshipers shall worship God in spirit and in truth.

So let us enter Advent in hope, even hope against hope.
Let us see visions of love and peace and justice.
Let us affirm with humility, with joy, with faith, with courage:
Jesus Christ—the life of the world.

From Testimony: The Word Made Flesh, by Daniel Berrigan, S.J. Orbis Books, 2004.

A few Advent Reflections



"In the silence of a midwinter dusk, there is a sound so faint that for all you can tell it may be only the sound of the silence itself. You hold your breath to listen. You are aware of the beating of your heart. The extraordinary thing that is about to happen is matched only by the extraordinary moment just before it happens. Advent is the name of that moment." - *Frederick Buechner*

"The Lord is coming, always coming.
When you have ears to hear and eyes to see,
you will recognize him at any moment of your life.

Life is Advent;
life is recognizing the coming of the Lord."

- *Henri Nouwen*



**Make Room
for God**

"In this day, this season, miracles will grow within, unfurl, bear fruit. And the heart that makes time and space for Him to come will be a glorious place. A place of sheer, radiant defiance in the face of a world careening mad and stressed. Because each day

of Advent, we will actively wait. We will wait knowing that the remaking of everything has already begun." - *Ann Voskamp, The Greatest Gift*

CHRISTMAS WISHES from the NEA



Greetings to everyone for Christmas. I wish each one a very Happy Christmas and every blessing for 2023. *Paula Murray*

Wishing everyone the peace and joy of Christmas so that we can greet Christ's coming with thanks and celebrate his presence among us. With good wishes and prayers too for our families and friends and all who celebrate with us at this blessed time. *Carlisle Community*

May the blessings of Christmas be with you today and always.
With love and prayer
Margaret Lee



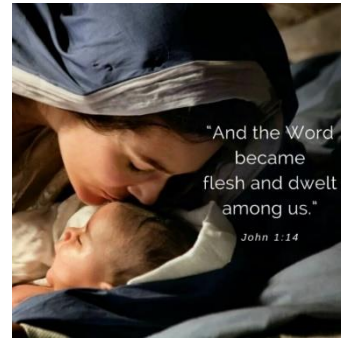
Maeve, Ursula and Mary of Dunmurry community wish a Happy, Holy and Peaceful Christmas and many blessings in the New Year to all the Sisters of our Area. We will be supporting St Vincent de Paul and De Paul charities in lieu of sending Christmas cards. The needs are so great, especially this year.

'Christmas greetings from your sisters at' The Park', in Ealing.
We pray for a blessed Christmas and good health for all, and in these difficult times, make a small gesture to support our local charities instead of sending cards.
You are all in our thoughts and prayers.
Joanna and Mary Jo .

**TODAY THE LOVE THAT MOVES THE SUN AND STARS
BECAME FLESH (POPE FRANCIS)**

WISHING EVERYONE MANY BLESSINGS
THIS CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR 2023.

LOVE FROM US ALL IN ARROWSMITH AND SEAFIELD



Wishing all our Sisters a joyful and peaceful Christmas,
and the blessings of good health throughout 2023.

With our love and prayers,
Dorothy, Breda, Kathleen

Our thoughts and prayers are with each of you this Christmas and may it
be truly blessed with peace and good health for each one of you.
Our donation will go towards our struggling families.
With love from *Anne and Kathleen. Fazakerley*



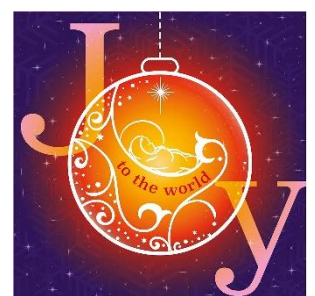
We will remember each of you in our prayers over the
Advent and Christmas period and hope that you will be
blessed especially during this time.
Blessings too on all of your families and friends.
May this Christmas bring peace, hope and joy.
Madonna House, Ferrybank

A very happy Christmas to all our sisters as we prepare for this
blessed season. May you be filled with peace and joy. We pray
that 2023 will be a blessed year for you and all the people you
love and care for.
Naomh Brid Community, Ferrybank.



To those Sisters to whom I would normally write personally, I will not
be sending cards this year as there are postal strikes every week
here in England and the post is in chaos! So I wish you all a very
Happy Christmas and a Happy 2023! *Rosemary*

Dear Sisters,
May we be blessed with joy and peace as we celebrate the birth of our
Saviour, Jesus, and let's greet 2023 with hope and love, trusting that God is
with us day after day and sustaining us at all times.
Best wishes with love and prayers,
Brigitte





Every good wish to all our sisters for this Christmas season. We hope it will be a time of great peace and joy for you and your families. May your lives be filled with many blessings in 2023.

Your sisters in Grianan Close, Ferrybank.

A Friend's Greeting (for Christmas)

By Edgar Guest

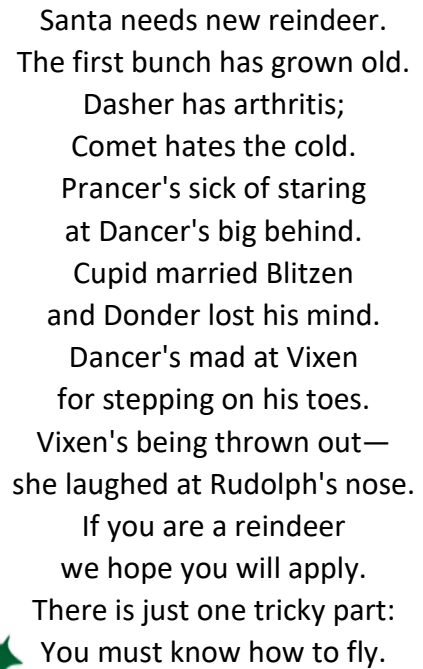
I'd like to be the sort of friend
that you have been to me;
I'd like to be the help that you've been
always glad to be;
I'd like to mean as much to you
each minute of the day
As you have meant, old friend of mine,
to me along the way.

I'd like to do the big things
and the splendid things for you,
To brush the grey out of your skies
and leave them only blue;
I'd like to say the kindly things
that I so oft have heard,
And feel that I could rouse your soul
the way that mine you've stirred.

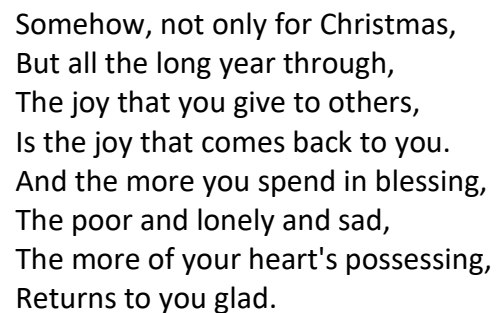
I'd like to give back the joy
that you have given me,
Yet that were wishing you a need
I hope will never be;
I'd like to make you feel
as rich as I, who travel on
Undaunted in the darkest hours
with you to lean upon.

I'm wishing at this Christmas time
that I could but repay
A portion of the gladness
that you've strewn along the way;
And could I have one wish this year,
this only would it be:
I'd like to be the sort of friend
that you have been to me.

Help Wanted *By Timothy Tocher*



Santa needs new reindeer.
The first bunch has grown old.
Dasher has arthritis;
Comet hates the cold.
Prancer's sick of staring
at Dancer's big behind.
Cupid married Blitzen
and Donder lost his mind.
Dancer's mad at Vixen
for stepping on his toes.
Vixen's being thrown out—
she laughed at Rudolph's nose.
If you are a reindeer
we hope you will apply.
There is just one tricky part:
You must know how to fly.



Somehow, not only for Christmas,
But all the long year through,
The joy that you give to others,
Is the joy that comes back to you.
And the more you spend in blessing,
The poor and lonely and sad,
The more of your heart's possessing,
Returns to you glad.

John Greenleaf Whittier

