

# Christmas 2023

*"For we have seen His star  
in the East, and are come  
to adore Him."*

*"Vidimus enim stellam ejus in Oriente,  
et venimus adorare eum."*

*(Matt 2:2)*



Dear Friends of the Fraternity,

Through the centuries it has become common to portray the Magi as a group of three kings representing the continents of Africa, Asia, and Europe, as we see in Maíno's painting above.

This symbolism, which places all mankind at the foot of the manger, inspires profound reflection about the Incarnation. For although Christ was born to a Jewish family in Bethlehem, it wasn't just his own people who awaited a Savior. The Gentiles had also been groaning for His advent ever since the Fall. The whole world longed to return to the blessed life that Adam and Eve once enjoyed in Eden. And so when God finally brought the good tidings to Our Lady, St. Joseph, and the shepherds supernaturally via the angels, He also brought the news to the Gentiles naturally via the stars.

The adoration of the shepherds and the Magi thus anticipates St. Paul's famous phrase in Galatians that we "are all one in Christ Jesus."

With a focus on Our Lord, the whole world is properly ordered. And this applies not only to the manger but every Holy Mass celebrated among the peoples in every land. Christ, as St. Alphonsus teaches, "is born every day in the Sacrament by means of the priests and the words of consecration; the altar is the crib."

Throughout our liturgies of Christmas and indeed through the whole year, FSSP priests will be bringing Christ to you on the altar. As we approach this sacred season, we will also be celebrating a special Novena of Masses from December 17 to 25, offering nine Masses for benefactors like you, your family, and your friends.

Please use the enclosed form to enroll your loved ones, or enroll online at [fssp.com/christmas-card-novena](https://fssp.com/christmas-card-novena). Send them the enclosed Christmas cards to let them know that they will be remembered at Holy Mass. If you'd like more cards, please mail the enclosed reply form by November 24th or fill out the online form by December 1st. Supplies are limited and will be fulfilled on a first-come, first-served basis.

Spread the joy of Christ's Incarnation so that you can help us extend His reign throughout the whole world. And please keep us in your prayers as we continue to form the holy priests who will spread the good news through 2024 and beyond. *Christus natus est!*

Sincerely in Christ,



Fr. Anthony Dorsa, FSSP

Director of Fundraising Operations

**Don't miss out on the graces of this novena.  
Enroll yourself and your loved ones today!**

Please send us your intentions on the enclosed reply card  
so that we can pray for them.



*To subscribe to Meméto, the newsletter of our  
North American Province, visit:*  
**[fssp.com/subscribe](https://fssp.com/subscribe)**