

## MESSAGE FOR CHRISTMAS 2018 AND NEW YEAR 2019



Dear Souls on the Path,

Another year comes to an end. But time never passes in vain and always leaves behind its abundant harvest of all the thoughts, words and actions that we have formulated, said and done during these twelve months.

By carefully self-analysing ourselves or observing the daily Diary of our spiritual progress filled out in this period, we can judge for ourselves if this harvest has been positive, like it should be for every true Disciple, with the grace of the Master and God. It is a positive harvest if it has brought us to be more aware of our divine spiritual nature and brought us closer to God.

This is the most important goal of human life, one could say the only goal: to proceed as fast as possible on the Divine Path, so that being closer to God fills our life with His qualities, such as Knowledge, Love and Bliss. To achieve this high goal, the regular practice of daily meditation is the indispensable means, being the only nourishment for our soul, like daily food is for our body. In fact, *"People do not live by bread alone, but by every Word that comes from the mouth of God."*<sup>(1)</sup>

To the spiritual food of meditation, we need to add the constant remembrance of the Master and God, which is the protective shield for our spirit while we face the inevitable trials of our path on earth. Without this remembrance, our soul would be like a warrior who goes to the battle field without his shield, exposing himself to the poisonous arrows that rain down from everywhere.

Then, *"If you love me, follow my commandments."*<sup>(2)</sup> The word of the Master is the Master Himself and the two cannot be separated. The practice of the divine principles of life prescribed by Him is like the milestones that mark the secure Path to the House of the Father, the Celestial Abode to which He guides us. The Master does not ask for any material compensation in exchange for his Teachings, because what He asks for is more than all that: He asks the Disciple on the Path to dedicate all of himself, mind, body and soul to the realization of that Sublime Goal.

In this lies the very retribution for the Master: to see that the Disciple progresses in virtue, humility and love, enjoying that fuller Happiness which comes only from getting closer to God, the Source of all Beatitude. The golden chain that ties the Disciple to the Master is the only chain that leads to Liberation, since the Master comes from God and returns to God. *"I am the vine and you are the branches. He who remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit."*<sup>(3)</sup> We must consider what still keeps us separated from the Master, so the Divine Nectar that He dispenses can quench our soul without break.

The remembrance of Christ's Birth, who came to guide back to the blessed Paternal House those who were ready to follow His commandments, is united in this period with the farewell to the Year that is setting and with the welcome to the New Year, in only one Feast of light and hope. We must make *"the true Light, which gives Light to everyone,"*<sup>(4)</sup> continually shine in us. Thus, we will celebrate Christmas daily, and, like the Year that dies and is reborn, so can we die and be reborn in the Master every day. Then our life will shine with His true Light and will inspire other seeking souls to follow the Holy Path of Knowledge, Love and Joy.

With the warmest Wishes for all of you, yours affectionately,



Pier Franco Marcenaro

(1) Matthew 4:4. – (2) John 14:15. – (3) John 15:5. – (4) John 1:9.