

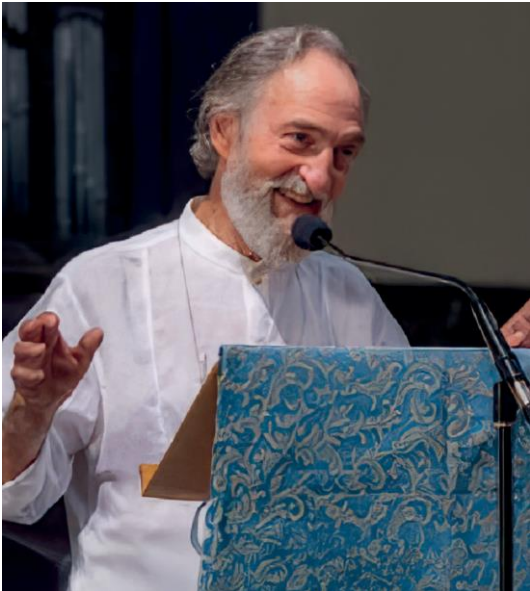
**Centro dell'Uomo**

**(Man Center)**

Non Profit Org.  
*Monastery of Sargiano*



## MESSAGE FOR CHRISTMAS 2024 AND THE NEW YEAR 2025



John the Baptist came to announce and prepare for the coming of Christ, the awaited Messiah, whom he himself baptized in the Jordan, and did not fail to reproach the people and their rulers for the decadence of their moral customs, until, as a consequence of this, his head was cut off. Christ did the same towards the priests and religious authorities of the time, whom he reproached for having transformed the religion of the fathers into a mere external frill: he thus gave his life for the affirmation of the Truth. All this constituted karma for those people who had not wanted to welcome God's Messengers.

At the end of his preaching, Christ was leaving the Temple of Jerusalem. The Gospel of Luke narrates: "While the disciples spoke in admiration of the Temple, of the beautiful stones and votive gifts that adorned it, He said: 'The days will come when, of all that you admire, there will not be one stone left upon another that will not be torn down.' They asked Him: 'Master, when will this happen and what will be the sign that this is about to happen?' ... He replied: 'When you will see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then know that its devastation is near... There will be great calamity in the country and anger against this people. They will fall by the edge of the sword and will be led captive among other peoples; Jerusalem will be trampled by the pagans... Truly I say to you: this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place.'" (Luke 21:5-32)

This prediction of Christ came true when thirty-seven years later, in 70 AD, the Roman Legions commanded by Titus surrounded Jerusalem and, after a long siege, the City and its Temple were taken and razed to the ground. Only what became the "Wailing Wall" was left intact, as evidence of its ancient grandeur, while the fugitive Jews dispersed throughout the world.

Today, in this Christmas period which is a time of serenity and brotherhood, echoes of war come from those same places where Christ preached Justice, Love and Peace. Jews and Muslims affront each other because they do not

remember that they are both children of the same Father who loves us all, and of Abraham, from whom their religions are inspired.

Several other conflicts of a religious nature are underway in the world, because humanity has forgotten that God is Love and that He should therefore be served in our human brothers. On the contrary, the wealthiest nations spend immense wealth on armaments, forgetting about the poorest peoples who live in poverty.

Having separated from God, the moral life of humanity appears to have fallen to its lowest level and the various institutional religions, devoid of Spirituality, no longer give comfort to authentic seekers. For this reason the temples, seminaries and convents are increasingly deserted.

Despite all these facts, which prelude the end of the Iron Age or Kali Yuga, Man Center continues to bring the luminous and reassuring ray of its spiritual experience among men, trying to provide the world with an example of altruism, fraternal service and a high moral and spiritual life.

But the now approaching sunset of the desolate Iron Age, also means the sublime and iridescent dawn of the Golden Age. It is up to us to ensure that this dawn quickly transforms into a day full of that Divine Light and Glory. Each of us must do everything possible to become a solid stone of the spiritual edifice we are building, sheltered from any earthly vicissitudes.

With this vision before our interior gaze, we must look to the New Year as a time in which the solid foundations of Centers capable of hosting a New Humanity can be laid, in which everyone is endowed with the Knowledge of their own spirit and God: they will thus be safe from the illusory allurements of the material world, which obscure the gaze of the masses with the veil of maya, and will be able to lead a truly spiritual and happy life.

I wish you all may spend a Christmas illuminated by the Divine Light that pervades and sustains everything, and a New Year that is the prelude to the lasting Joy for which your spirit sincerely yearns.

With love, yours affectionately

Pier Franco Marcenaro

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Pier Franco". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the printed name.