



## *Holy Spirit Missionary Sisters*

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Dear Friends,

Even though the day of Christmas we recently celebrated was already recorded in our memory like on a flash drive, according to the liturgical calendar we are still in the season of Christmas. We are still focusing much of our attention on the child of Jesus laying in a manger surrounded by the loving parents and those who came to greet this Holy Child. However, through extending the Christmas celebration for a few more days the Church wants to remind us that this celebration is much broader than adoring the Child Jesus in the manger.

During liturgies we hear stories that pertain to the early childhood of Jesus like the story of the flight of the Holy Family to Egypt or the story of the children who were killed because of that One Promised Messiah that Herod was unable to capture. We also celebrate the Feast Day of the Holy Family and the Feast Day of Mary the Mother of God, the Feast of the Epiphany during which Jesus' nature was revealed. All of the celebrations help us to come closer to God, the One who came as a child like everyone of us, the one who had to run away with his parents to save his life, the one who though human, is and was truly our God from the beginning of time.

I hope that the joy of celebrating Christmas with your families and friends did not dissipate with the return to your regular activities. I wish that during this joyful time of the year you were able to take some moments to reflect on the past year that had ended and to make some resolutions for the time that will be given us in the New Year 2010. May the story of Christmas reverberate the whole year. May it bring you to a closer contact with God present in our lives, God who is born anew every time we show and receive love, God who wants to make a home in our hearts and in the hearts of those we touch with our goodness and love.

Has the time given you in the year 2009 been spiritually valuable?

How can I live through the New Year so that at the end I will be able to discover God living among us?; see God's presence in all I do and everyone I meet?

I would like to encourage you to take some time to reflect on these questions.

May the New Year 2010 be filled with goodness and kindness that come from God.

In the LOVE of the Holy Spirit,

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Sr. Elwira Dziuk, SSPS

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Sr. Veronica Marie Mikkelsen, SSPS

**Called by the Spirit, Embracing the World.**