



### Christmas Message of the Rector of the Shrine



“You have nothing to fear! I come to proclaim good news to you: this day a Savior has been born to you” (see Lk 2, 10-11). Christmas is the great celebration of God’s proximity to us. It is He Who takes the initiative of coming to meet us, because He has something to reveal to us: His love without measure! From that proximity of God through the Child of Bethlehem is born the call to trust and to joy addressed to the shepherds two thousand years ago and to all of us today: “You have nothing to fear! I come to proclaim good news to you”. During this time of Christmas, this exhortation not to fear, to trust, lights up with joy our lives, for God comes to us in an unheard of way. It is this mystery of the “God with us”, of Emmanuel, that we are challenged to experience and to celebrate. We wish a Holy and Happy Christmas to all the pilgrims, employees, friends and benefactors of the Shrine of Fatima. *Fr. Carlos Cabecinhas* December 2012  
Photo: The Nativity of the Child Jesus | Basilica of Our Lady of the Rosary of Fatima|Author: Martinho de Brito

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