



*What came to be through him  
was life,  
and this life was  
the light  
of the human race.*

*Jn 1:4*

Christmas 2011



Dear Friends of the Augustinian Missions:

The Scriptures of the Advent Season remind us to be watchful, to prepare to see the Promised One, the Savior of the world. The people of the Old Testament did not know exactly who the Promised One would be, or how and when the Promised One would dwell in their midst. Still, they lived in faith that the promise made to them by God would be fulfilled.

The anticipation of the Advent readings is fulfilled as we hear in the Gospel of Christmas day: *"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God."* The Word of God, Jesus Christ, came to change the lives of the people of the world for all time. The Word was the fulfillment of the promise of God to send a Savior. God dwelt in the midst of the world in a completely new way. God was truly present to the world.

In our Augustinian missions we hear the Word of God proclaimed in Japanese, Spanish, Zulu and English. We see the Word of God proclaimed to different people in their distinct cultures. No matter what part of the world, wherever the friars proclaim the Word of God they speak the same language: God has fulfilled His promise; God dwells with His people. God is truly present to the world today.

The Augustinian Friars could not proclaim the Word of God throughout the world without your continued love and support. You have shared in making God known in our missions. We thank you.

On behalf of the Augustinian Friars, I wish you the blessing of this Holy Season. May the Word of God continue to dwell in your hearts.

May you have a Blessed and Merry Christmas.

In St. Augustine,

Rev. Anthony P. Burrascano, OSA  
Director of Foreign Missions