



Metropolitan Archbishop of Izmir

Izmir 31.12.2022

Dear friends, brothers and sisters!

We begin a new year. This moment invites us to renew our awareness of time, awareness of transience and abandon ourselves to God's mercy and his providence. We are not created to remain in this world, we are created for eternity. In this sense let us pray for deceased pope emeritus Benedict XVI; may the Lord be the light of his eternity!

We will express many wishes to each other. Maybe at least among us, believers, we should say to each other: I wish that God might dwell in your heart. Let us pronounce, the desire, that God would be present in our lives, that he would be present in our hearts. May he be the source of our hope.

The Virgin Mary, the mother of God, wishes us all, who are her children: "May the Word of God dwell in your hearts!" May God find his dwelling place in your heart; may you feel his presence in all the moments and in all the events that you are going to live next year. Blessed new year.

+ *Mart Kmetec*

+ Martin Kmetec OFMConv
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