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#### Contact

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Contact goes out to over 1100 people in Britain, Europe, America and Australia.

It is read by at least 5000 people

It certainly pays to advertise in *Contact*

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Image taken at Milk Grotto, Bethlehem

## Chaplain Speaks.....

Dear Friend

Throughout the centuries the birth of Jesus has been a source of joy and consolation for all the people of all nations. On this day there is more light, more warmth, more hope in the world. My recent pilgrimage to the Holy Land has been a timely enriching experience for me in celebrating Christmas this year. It was a time to wonder and marvel at God's love for mankind. As we spent most of our time in Bethlehem, the birth place of Jesus, this year's Christmas celebration seems all the more joyful and merrier!

Yes! Dear friends, at Christmas we get a sense of closeness, the warmth and the goodness of God. He seems to be very close to us and very loving towards us. We get a feeling that we are not alone, that our life has a meaning, that someone is watching over us and guiding our way. We are heirs to the kingdom of Heaven.

We also get the feeling of our own goodness and the goodness of others. We get a feeling that life is good and that it has meaning. We are not specks of dust or grains of sand. We are God's precious sons and daughters. We have a divine dignity and a glorious destiny.

In announcing the birth of Jesus Christ, the Messiah, the Angel told the shepherds "I come to proclaim good news to you, tidings of great joy to be shared by the whole people. This day in David's city Saviour has been born to you, the Messiah and Lord" (Lk 2:9-10).

So let us be joyful and not be afraid to bask in this warmth, just as we bask happily in a burst of warm sunshine on a cold day. Let us spread this same warmth and sweetness with one another and make this Christmas season and the coming year a pleasant experience of God's love wherever we are.

*Wishing you all a joyous Christmas*

*And a very Happy New Year 2010*