



## SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

*Sunday, 4<sup>th</sup> January 2026*

*Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,*

**A**s we begin 2026, we look back with gratitude on the Jubilee year of hope that ends on 6 January, the Solemnity of the Epiphany. Throughout 2025, we focused on renewing our faith and trusting in God's promises. Now it is time to take that hope and put it into action. The holy year may have concluded, but the journey of faith continues. This year, we are invited to focus on two very important goals: Communion and Peace. If the Jubilee was about filling our hearts with God's love, 2026 is about sharing that love with everyone we meet. We want our parish to be a place where hope isn't just a word, but a way of life that changes how we treat one another.

Living in communion simply means remembering that we are one big family in Christ. Sometimes in our busy lives, it is easy to feel alone or to see others as strangers. This year, let's make an extra effort to truly connect. Communion happens when we look out for the lonely, welcome the new faces in our circles and support each other through hard times. It means realising that we need each other to grow in faith. Whether it is through sharing a meal, volunteering together or simply offering a kind word after Mass. Let us build a parish where everyone feels they truly belong. When we are united, we reflect the love of God more clearly to the society around us.

We are called to be people of peace. Our world often feels divided and full of conflicts. But as followers of Christ, we have a different call. Peace starts in our own hearts and in our own homes. In this new year 2026, let us try to be bridge builders, being quick to forgive, slow to get angry and always ready to help and reconcile. By staying calm and kind, even when things are difficult, we bring Christ's peace into our community. We hope this year brings you and your families great joy and peace. Let's walk together through 2026, keeping the flame of hope alive and sharing the peace of Christ with everyone we encounter.

**Wishing you all a blessed and happy New Year.**

*Discalced Carmelite Community*

**“The Jubilee is drawing to a close, but the hope that this Year has given us does not end: we will remain pilgrims of hope.”**

*Pope Leo XIV*