

Melkite Catholic Archbishopric of Akka, Haifa, Nazareth and all of Galilee



Christmas, December 2009

Dear Beloved Friends,

It is with deep heartfelt emotions that I send you these few words to say: “Thank You”, for your Christmas wishes and for your friendship and love. I want you to know that your friendship is helping me to continue spreading the message I carry for Jews, Moslems and Christians in this very complicated country. It is not easy to believe in peace and justice where both seem to be remote away, and it is almost abnormal to pretend being optimistic about the future, had we not a risen Lord who repeatedly reminds us: **“Be not afraid, peace be unto you.”** We continue to believe that He is still in control.

Your wishes and Christmas cards remind me not to be afraid. I pray and wish that we meet somewhere in the Holy Land or in your nice country in 2010.

This new year I wish it to be a year of *joy*, of *hope* and of ***trust in the Lord***.

Yours affectionately,

Abuna Elias Chacour

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