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DIOCESE OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND

ՀԱՅԿԱԶՈՒՆ ԱՐԲ. ՆԱԺԱՐԵԱՆ
Առաջնորդ

ARCHBISHOP HAIGAZOUN NAJARIAN
Primate

20 December, 2019

**“Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and his name shall be called Emmanuel,
(which means, God with us).” Matthew 1:23; IS7:14**

To our faithful people, Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

On this festive season as we celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ, please accept on behalf of our Clergy, Diocesan and Parish Councils our heartfelt congratulations and good wishes to you and to your loved ones.

Through the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem, salvation became possible for humanity. Since then throughout our history the Lord was always with us.

We forgot His presence and did not hear the voice of the True Shepherd and went astray, did not see His light and wandered in the darkness, rejected His life-giving words and His lifesaving medicine surrendered to the claws of death.

Nowadays throughout our Christmas festivities many people come together to celebrate the feast with food and drink, exchange gifts and presents, in all these there is one person absent on whose behalf we have the holiday and the festivities; our Lord Jesus Christ.

Yes, we are under pressure and our numbers dwindling but we have not given up hope. As the children of light let us put on the armour of God, the breastplate of righteousness, the shield of faith, the helmet of salvation and the sword of the spirit to quench all the flaming darts of the evil one. (ff Ephes.6:13). Be assured that the final victory is ours as God is with us as.

May the peace emanating from the cave of Bethlehem be spread all over the world and the love of baby Jesus enter the heart of every single individual giving hope where there is disparity, light where there is darkness and will to live where there is utter disillusionment.

May your Christ worthy life shine and lead your children and grandchildren in the right direction, and may our prayers and supplications reach our Lord, and may the baby Jesus dwell in our hearts with His innocence and His eternal message of peace and love.

CHRIST IS BORN AND REVEALED
BLESSED IS THE REVELATION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

Archbishop Haigazoun Najarian
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