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## A Jesuit Secondary School

### Christmas 2019

“Last Christmas, I gave you my heart,  
But the very next day you gave it away  
This year, to save me from tears  
I’ll give it to someone special...”

A melancholy melody permeated the atmosphere while I was strolling aimlessly in a deserted shopping mall, longing to meet my friends in a restaurant later on. The feel was just not right as the shopping mall used to be a hub of hustle and bustle, and last Christmas, as a shopper, I always had to walk shoulder to shoulder with others. During this festive season, the usual joyful and jubilant ambience was upended and superseded by desolation and dejection. It seemed celebrations had become a taboo.

Is this really Christmas? Christmas is not just a festival and it is definitely much more than partying, exchanging gifts and having fun. Christmas is a celebration of the birth of Jesus and Jesus has brought us love and hope. During this special season, we should follow in the footsteps of Jesus and sow the seeds of love and hope, helping others and bringing happiness to them. The premise of happiness is gratitude and only if we feel grateful, can our hearts brim with elation. We always hear people complain about this and that, and the only reason is they just see what they do not have but neglect what they do have. They are blinded by their insatiable wants, which breed greed and selfishness, resulting in only negative feelings. If we can learn to be grateful, we will get the key to open all the doors of gaiety. Once we are grateful, we can use our life to influence the life of others around us and let them taste the beatitudes of gratitude too. This is how we can radiate and spread happiness to others.

Helping others makes us happy. Helping others reminds us how beautiful our life is and makes us appreciate what we have got. Having the capabilities of helping others is a blessing and only through serving others can we realize how blessed we are. This Christmas, let us have a change of heart; instead of seeking for personal fulfilment, try to care for and walk with others, living out our spirit of Men for and with Others. Helping others will certainly illustrate to you the wonder of love and hope, painting a silver lining on your life and offering a consoling aspect of even a difficult situation.

This Christmas, let us get up a notch in life by being grateful and helping others, resolving our remorse for not doing our best. A change of heart will deliver us a heartwarming holiday full of compassion. With love and hope, Christmas should be a time of reconciliation and renewed strength, energizing our life for the greater glory of God. Anyway, the spirit of Christmas is not the season, but it is our feeling, our feeling of love.

Merry Christmas!

Warren Chung

Principal



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