

## Christmas 2014

**Dear Friends,**

As the blessing of cards, seasonal wishes and donations steadily flow through our door, one thing is clear from the messages we are receiving...

generous surrender makes possible the birth of Christ in our lives.



The stories of Mary, the Shepherds, the Magi, all demonstrate how surrendering disbelief, fear, doubt, uncertainty opens up the space needed for the “Christ life” to be born.

In the case of Mary, letting go of her disbelief leads to a role she had never imagined for herself.

...What was her role? “It is as simple and profound as the Latin word FIAT (may it be done). That is the same word found in *Genesis 1* when God creates the world. “Fiat lux” is “Let there be light.” Here, Mary is echoing the creative word of God, making space in human experience for what has never happened before.”

We believe that the collaborative ministry of Becoming Neighbours is another FIAT experience – one where 20 supporting religious congregations, who by surrendering their separateness to build a larger joint apostolic ministry, outreach, have echoed a powerful and collective FIAT. This Fiat has brought light and solidarity to hundreds of refugees and newcomers struggling daily to navigate the dark, unfamiliar paths of Canadian society.

As Christmas 2014 approaches, may we assume with joy the true surrender which gives way to a FIAT for God.

**With you in the light and solidarity of Christ’s birth,**

(Sr.) Noreen

(Fr.) Peter

FIAT Spirituality