

Christmas 2023

Letter from italian provincial coordinators



Art by Amgad Edward, a friend from Faith and Light Egypt

“For I am the Lord your God, who holds your right hand, who says to you «Do not fear, I will help you». Do not fear, you worm Jacob, you insect of Israel; I will help you”

(Is, 41, 13-14)

During last weeks, Isaiah has accompanied us with amazing texts, such as these lines from chapter 41. How nice is the God who call us “worms” and “insects”!

But let’s face it: don’t we feel like this, maybe during these sped up days of Christmas? Curled up like little worms in our anxieties – am I not loved? Do I love too little? Will I get bored? Won’t I be able to do all the stuff I must do? Will I get sick? Will I see others get sick? Won’t I feel like wishing Happy Christmas? Will I suffer if I have no one to wish it?

Don’t we feel a bit like “larvae”, overwhelmed by what is happening around us, death and destruction, with everyone shooting low and shooting loud and you would like to turn down the volume, but you lost the remote control?

“I will help you – declares the Lord – I, the Lord, will answer them; I, the God of Israel, will not forsake them”.

Our wish for you is to believe that there is someone who holds our hand; to remember when in our lives this happened; to bring our faith, which is the opposite of the fear, into our communities; to remember times in our lives when He helped us doing this; to believe that God does not abandon us; to remember times in our lives when He helped us; to recognize the springs flowing from the desert; to remember times in our lives when we found water where there was only dryness.

And to thank who first calls us “worms” and “insects” and then sends us a Child to wish us a Merry Christmas, with the immortal words of our faith: “I am with you until the end of the world”.

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