

# Advent Letter

## Peter Cheong (Korea)

Dear Chevalier Family,

Advent comes every year. We are symbolically, the birth of baby Jesus Christ. While waiting, I long for the advent to come again.

Advent is also a time of emptying. Waiting presupposes meeting. Waiting entails the pain of patience, but the pain is proportionate to the joy. Emptying is waiting for filling, and it cannot be filled unless it is emptied.

Since the beginning of 2020, all ties with the outside world have been severed due to COVID-19. With activities restricted, the life of the Chevalier family has also undergone many changes. All church activities have been suspended due to social distancing. Therefore, the religious life of our believers has also undergone tremendous changes.



I was able to attend the non-face-to-face Mass, and all meetings were cut off, so I could only communicate with my cell phone. There were numerous cases, and many people lost their lives.

Many changes have taken place in the Chevalier family as well. For about two years after COVID-19, the program was conducted as a non-face-to-face retreat program without holding normal monthly retreats and meetings. Since October 2021, social distancing and defence have been somewhat relieved, but the monthly retreat participation rate has been sharply reduced due to anxiety, and the elders and family members who have been affected have moved to prayer members.



Now, since the end of April, quarantine guidelines have been eased, and many are recovering to daily life. We should return to our daily routine as soon as possible and continue with our normal activities.

Now, it should serve as an opportunity to renew the identity of the Chevalier family.



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Chevalier Spiritual Master said, 'What we all must strive for while carefully exploring to share the MSC (Missionarie Sacratissimi Cordis) spirit of Jesus' Sacred Heart as a model is kindness and humility, passion and charity, self-renunciation and obedience, and the spirit of prayer and self-denial. It is a type of life that fully possesses the soul to unite it to the heart of God, a lifestyle that aspires to Christian perfection in a life that God's providence has led.' We must pray and fulfill our mission according to the conviction and spirit of the founder.

Meanwhile, due to the war in Ukraine, the people of Ukraine and people from all over the world are facing unprecedented anxiety, fear, and a serious economic crisis. I long to get out of the long tunnel of despair as soon as possible. Now that it is the time of Advent, the wait is even more desperate.

Poet Sister Lee Hae-In in a poem titled 'Back in Advent...':

*Waiting and emptying are expressed like this.  
Hope for those in despair  
Come with joy to those who mourn.  
Healer to the sick  
Come as a liberator to those who are imprisoned.  
now our wait  
Gives off the scent of ripe wine  
Makes the sound of a woodwind instrument.  
welcome. Lord  
We haven't completely cleared our minds yet.  
At the end of the humble longing  
Please let me see you.  
The Lord who is our first and last wait  
Welcome. (Omitted)*



In Advent, the more you empty, the more you can fill up, and the more you throw away, the more you can fill. It is a period of mystery that can be obtained. This is the time to believe that the longer the wait, the greater the joy of meeting.

I hope that all of us who are suffering from despair and dreaming of hope will be happy.

I wish the Sacred Heart of Jesus' unchanging love for the Chevalier family, who always walk with trust in the love of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, on their journey of faith.

I pray that God's blessings will be in Advent 2022.

Peter Cheong

