



**INTER AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF PUERTO RICO
GUAYAMA CAMPUS
University Chaplaincy**

December 3, 2018

To the University Community

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Dean

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CHRISTMAS PASTORAL MESSAGE: TIME TO AWAKEN

May you have the peace and grace of Jesus Christ. The time to celebrate with joy and happiness the birth of Jesus has finally arrived. Christmas season is known by happy days and—above all—by the time spent sharing with family and friends. But more than celebrating, the Advent season invites people to awaken. To awaken to the realities that surround them and make them think about the challenges and obstacles that people must face. Jesus exhorts everyone to awaken from ignorance and superficial ways of thinking so that people take the responsibility to live up to the values of the Kingdom of God and imitate them in today's society.

In this awakening people can also awaken those persons who still stay in their comfort zones and who live in the darkness of their prejudices and their lack of sensitivity towards the less fortunate. Christmas invites all people to do the following:

- To search for life.
- To welcome and help the needy.
- To renew life projects.
- To reconcile with fellowmen.
- To wake up every day and realize who is near you.

We hope you have a Christmas and New Year's Eve filled with joy and happiness, and with the energy to keep building a better Puerto Rico. **May God bless you all.**