



INTER AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF PUERTO RICO
GUAYAMA CAMPUS
Religious Life Office

January 10, 2019

To: Campus Community

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PASTORAL MESSAGE: NEW YEAR'S CHALLENGES

May God bless you today and always. Everyone starts the New Year full of hope and positive perspectives. The year 2018 was filled with many situations that marked many lives. It was a time of recovery for the Puerto Rican society. But despite everything, people had the courage to continue their life projects. In the reality of this panorama, the Lord urges people to continue the process of reconstructing and transforming themselves. For this reason, the book of Nehemiah tells the story of Jerusalem's invasion by enemy towns that left the city desolated and dejected. Nehemiah, as a good Jew, prepared a reconstruction project for the people. The task was difficult, but he managed to motivate the people by using their problems to encourage teamwork.

Now, what can we learn from the story of Nehemiah? Certainly, life's lessons were very motivating for the people and for their leader. This means that people cannot allow bad situations to stifle their will, let alone their ability to create new ways to achieve success. Please reflect on these three questions during your free time.

- What events have occurred in your life?
- What did you learn from those events?
- What are you going to do differently?

May the New Year grant you your wishes. May God bless you and may His grace fill your lives with peace and prosperity. Amen.