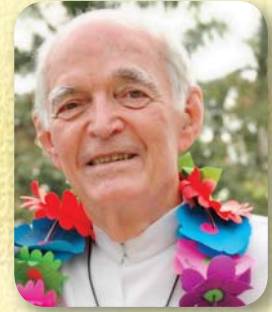


MESSAGE FROM CAMPUS MINISTRY



Christmas Blessings for each of you! May the Feast of Christmas on December 25 bring you peace and great joy, with genuine love within your family and among your friends.

Traditionally, the time of Christmas has been a time for exchanging gifts. Hundreds of years ago a Bishop named Saint Nicholas enjoyed giving groceries to poor families. People called him Saint Klaus and his name began to be shouted from house to house in expectation that his gifts would soon zoom down from the sky about Christmas time. The good Bishop must have delivered these gifts in a large sled pulled by teams of Reindeer!



The spirit of the Bishop was the spirit of Jesus, sharing kindness and love. His name became the talk of the town - "Santa Klaus was coming tonight." Share a gift with your friend, but share especially within your family. Children beam with happiness when they find a gift under the Christmas tree, all wrapped especially for them. Share this love with others and help the world rise with signs of peace. God shared His love with us in sending His Son, Jesus, to be born in Bethlehem. There were angels singing in the sky, announcing His birth to the shepherds hoping to prove that God beams with love for us. I pray that Jesus will smile on us, helping us to understand how to share true love with one another. Our blessing is not just "Merry Christmas," but a "blessed Christmas for all!"

The month of November this year was a special month for me. I was able to return to Thailand on November 1 after breaking my hip. I am very grateful to the RIS/RIST members for the love they extended to me! While I was in the hospital I received so many calls and letters wishing me a speedy recovery. The doctors and the nurses were amazed at the expressions of concern that were arriving daily from Thailand! Today I wish to thank you for this kindness and respect. The Welcoming Assembly on the first Friday after my return will be a lasting memory for me. I am very, very grateful for this respect that you have for me. I guess you must know that I respect and care for all of you too! God bless you! I walk with a cane and ride my little red scooter around the school, pleased that I can be with you to serve you in any way I can! Thank You!

Have a blessed Christmas, along with great occasions of happiness in these weeks of Christmas holiday. When we return to school in the early weeks of the New Year, we begin again with a sincere vision that God will bless Ruamrudee and Redeemer International Schools on and on for future generations.

God bless you,

Father Leo Travis C.Ss.R.

Father Leo Travis, C.Ss.R.

