

MEDIA RELEASE FROM THE CATHOLIC COMMISSION FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE (CCSJ)

Let the spirit of compassion and generosity reign in our hearts this Christmas

The Catholic Commission for Social Justice urges each citizen of our Republic to let the spirit of compassion and generosity reign in your heart during this Christmas season.

Too often we sing Christmas carols such as: “*Joy to the world, the Lord has come: let earth receive her King...*” without a corresponding commitment to actually receiving this Jesus or witnessing to the values He espoused.

As we prepare to celebrate the birth of the Christ-Child, let us pray for the needs of our troubled society. Let us reach out in love to the poor and needy, the lonely, the homeless and the disadvantaged and share with them the gifts that God has so generously given to us.

Christmas is a time for all people and we must be able to come out of our comfort zones and recognize that we are our brother’s and sister’s keepers. Let us demonstrate that we are a sign of God's presence to those in need.

Nation-building requires people who are willing to go the extra mile to lift others out of their difficulties. The words of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. are instructive: “The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy. The true neighbour will risk his position, his prestige, and even his life for the welfare of others. In dangerous valleys and hazardous pathways, he will lift some bruised and beaten brother to a higher and more noble life.”

Let us pray that God, who came into our world, will empower us all to be caring and generous. It is together that we will develop a culture of generosity in TT/the world. It is together that we will heal our broken communities.

For further information, contact Leela Ramdeen, Chair, CCSJ. Tel: 299 8945 or 622 6680