



70.461 names we had on our scroll in Holy Night 2017. And many, many prayer request.



A morning prayer in the grottos of the Nativity Church closes the pilgrimage.

Dear Friends of Our Community!

"For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men" (Titus 2:11), so tells us the reading from the letter to Titus in the Christmas mass. To all men! It is not a cheap grace, no automatic redemption. But this salvation of God, at no charge, is freely given to everyone who turns to God. In the joy of the Holy Night, as we look at the child in the manger, we may also understand it in this way: The salvation of God draws near to all those who care for the small, the weak and those in need of protection. Each one of us needs a caring attitude towards others, be it in deed, word, or prayer.

For this reason, once again we invite you to send us the names of families and friends, the names of people close to your heart or of those you desire to be close to. In this Holy Night, let us pray with each other and for one another. Together, with our scroll of names, let us make the pilgrimage to Bethlehem.

"For unto us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government shall be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." Isaiah 9:6

In the joy of the incarnation of our Lord, and with all our hearts, we wish you a joyful and blessed Christmas season, und God's richest blessings for the year 2019.



The Benedictine Monks of Dormition Abbey and Tabgha Priory

I carry your name...

Names play an important role in the Bible. They are more than just a label, they designate the person itself. This is also true for God when we baptize and bless to this day "in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit".

But it is also true for man: "Fear not, for I have provoked thee, I have called thee by name, thou art mine" (Isa 43:1), God addresses the people of Israel. - To approach somebody with his name already creates a personal relationship. We need such relationships so that we can truly live. We need exhortation and correction, encouragement and consolation. This does not work anonymously, without names.

To call someone by name is to accept him or her as a person – with his or her individuality, weaknesses and strengths. When we write your names on a long scroll in the Holy Night, we take with your names also yourselves with us to Bethlehem: in our walking and praying, and in our joy for the newborn child in the crib and in our hope for salvation and peace.

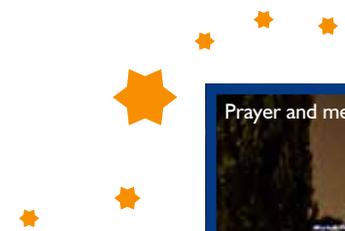
...to Bethlehem

The child of Bethlehem, the newborn baby boy of the Holy Night, still has many siblings in Bethlehem: girls and boys, who are a promise for the future of this little town, but who also need to be given care and support. This is especially true for children with disabilities.

Therefore, alongside with our "name campaign", we also have the good practice of inviting you to join our charity campaign. The donations, on one hand, benefit our community in its various services. But above all, we support social projects and institutions in Bethlehem, such as schools for children with disabilities, nursing homes, day-care programs, workshops and training places for young people with disabilities, and family projects.

On our website, you can find more information about the institutions we want to support with the donations from this year's Christmas campaign.

We thank you in advance for your kind gift.



“As I held in my hands the scroll with the fate of so many people, my own fate became insignificant. The severe illness that defines my life moved into the background and I was greatly strengthened.”

Report by a pilgrim who carried the scroll part of the way to Bethlehem in the Holy Night 2017.



“I love to give this special Bethlehem-Prayer-Gift on Christmas to my relatives and friends! I receive warm thanks and deep gratitude that their names are brought to the Grotto of the Nativity in the Holy Night!”

From a feedback

DORMITIO 2018 Christmas Campaign