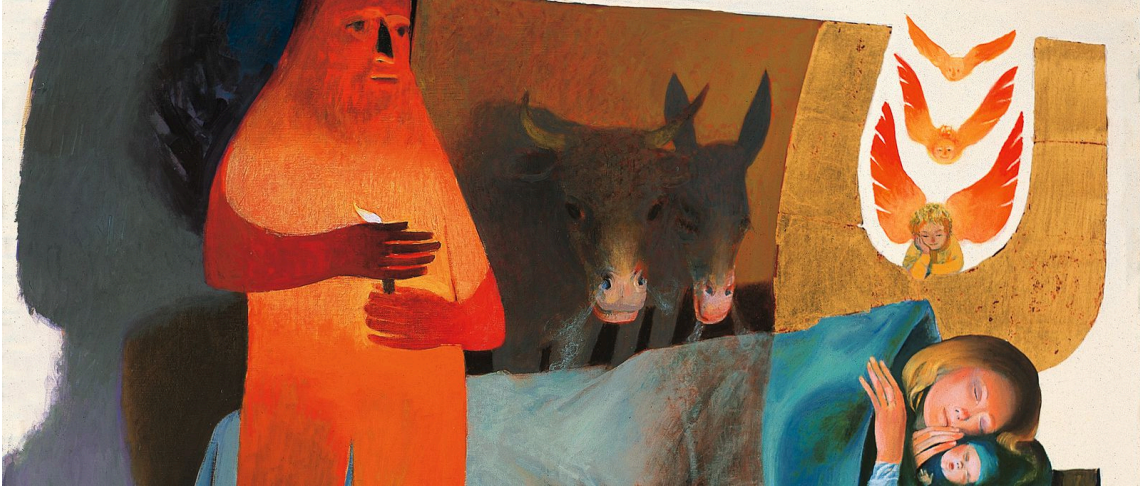


On the Way towards 2033

Newsletter - Christmas 2024



Painting of the Nativity by the french painter Arcabas

Editorial: Christmas: a birth to a spiritual family

Dear readers,

At Christmas, a child is born and a new family is formed. The image of the cot where Jesus sleeps surrounded by Joseph and Mary, in simplicity and love, touches us. Even people of other faiths, or of no religion at all, are not indifferent to this scene.

But Christmas also tells us that God wants us to become sons and daughters in his only Son. God's will is to create a great spiritual family. And in this family, there are no birth restrictions, no one is excluded! To be a little provocative, a healthy Church or community is capable of being 'pregnant'. I mean capable of giving birth to people so that they become children of God.

This is the 'maternal' function of the Church. And what does a mother do? As well as giving birth, she brings up her children. And she doesn't hold them back when the time comes for them to leave home; on the contrary, she sends them away.

Giving birth, raising and sending! These are the three functions of a mother. They are also the three missions of the Church.

For me, taking part in the JC2033 initiative has meant broadening my spiritual family. It has enabled me to meet and work with so many people from every continent.

With this new newsletter, I thank you for your interest and support in this commitment.

Merry Christmas!

Martin Hoegger

[Read the whole meditation here](#)

[« Avanti » ! Audience with pope Francis](#)



On 19 September, I was granted an audience with Pope Francis in Rome, to represent JC2033 and take part in the 'Easter together 2025' initiative.

At the end of our meeting, I was able to greet Pope Francis personally. I told him that we were praying for him and for the road leading from 2025 to 2033, and that all Christians would be able to celebrate Christ's resurrection together at Easter 2033 and bear witness to it! He replied: *'Adiamo avanti, sono d'accordo'*. *'Let's move forward, I agree!'*

[Read the details of this meeting here](#)

[The unity of the Easter date and 2033.](#)

[Meeting with Patriarch Bartholomew](#)



I took part in a delegation from various movements during a visit to Orthodox Patriarch Bartholomew in Istanbul. What brought us together was the desire to bear witness to the same faith in the Risen Christ on the common date of Easter in 2025.

Olivier Fleury and I have assured the patriarch of our support and prayer as we move towards 2033, bearing witness to the Risen Christ in unity. For us, 2025 is indeed an important step towards 2033. When we told him that we hope that in 2033 all the churches will be able to celebrate Easter together, he gave us a big smile and said: ‘Yes, *let’s work and pray for that to happen*’.

[Read it here](#)

Global gathering, Geneva



Every two years, JC2033 organises an international meeting on a different continent. The last two took place in [Egypt](#) and [Colombia](#). Above all, JC2033 wants to make room for a living person: The risen Jesus Christ. Through conferences, workshops and times of celebration, people from all backgrounds and faiths encourage each other to make known the magnificent message of his resurrection. In 2025, it will take place in Geneva from 26 to 28 February. The meeting is open to all!

Program and registration

"Giving a sign of unity in 2033. Meeting with the Taizé Community

From 9 to 11 September 2024, the staff of JC2033 International held their annual retreat at the Taizé Community in Burgundy. They were welcomed by its prior, Brother Matthew, who encouraged them to move forward with faith on the road to 2033: "*Jesus places the credibility of His mission on our capacity as His followers to love one another, to*

show a sign of unity and to journey together. So, what could be better than this opportunity to try and celebrate Easter on the 2000th anniversary of the resurrection of Jesus. Then I'm sure there will be great joy in heaven", he told us.

[Read the report of this meeting here](#)

My encounter with the Risen Lord. A 'Road to Damascus

Here is my speech at the 50th anniversary celebration of the Jean Calvin Faculty of Theology in Aix-en-Provence, where I studied for a year that was decisive in my journey.

[Read about my experience here](#)

If you would like to support my involvement with JC2033, click here

(and indicate 'For Mr Hoegger)



**The whole JC2033 team wishes you a Merry
Christmas and a Happy New Year 2025!**



Martin Hoegger

CH-Millière 9, 1052, Le Mont sur Lausanne

Tél: +41 79 774 41 49

This email has been sent to {{contact.EMAIL}}.

[Se désinscrire](#)

