

Christmas 1975

**Christmas means God loves us**

*What does "Christmas" mean in the deepest most all-embracing sense of the word? The "mysterious extraordinary message that God loves us, one by one and all together". A thought from Chiara Lubich.*

Christmas, Christmas  
how often have we celebrated you  
with pure joy and unmatched ardour!  
but you find our hearts so frozen by the coldness of this world,  
that you cannot touch them as you would  
with your mysterious extraordinary message:  
**GOD LOVES US**  
one by one and all together.  
This Love wrapped us round  
so completely that  
the Blessed Trinity resolved to send among us  
the Son of God made man,  
so our brief sojourn on this earth  
could be illuminated from now on  
by the Light that does not fade,  
and the absurdity of death in this life  
be transformed into a simple passing  
into life more full and eternal!  
We hope this year at least,  
that You, Christmas, may say to our hearts  
all you wish to say  
and find us ready, here and now  
to hear your voice.

*Città Nuova, 19 (1975), n.24, p.33*