



**The Grand Council of the Independent Order of Mechanics, Friendly Society**  
**of**  
**Earth, Central and South America, Islands of the Seas, and the entire Western Hemisphere Incorporated**

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**2017 Christmas Message**



**Rt. Hon. Walter L. Benjamin**  
*Most Worshipful Grand Master*

*“Joy to the world, the Lord has come. Let earth receive her  
 King  
 Let every heart prepare Him room  
 And heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing  
 and heaven and heaven and nature sing”*

**Season's Greetings:**

Christmas is the season to remember and reflect on the birth of Our Savior, Son of God and Son of Mary, who was born in a humble dwelling place.

While we are often caught up in the frenzy of the commercial aspect of buying and receiving gifts, however stressful that may be; for us it is an exciting and wonderful time. Foremost in our minds must be our focus on the spiritual gifts we receive which is manifested in the love of God for the world in sending His only Son to be our Savior. This Love enables us to always remember the poor and destitute among us; and so a hot meal, some warm clothing, a visit to the sick, shut-ins, those in the hospital, or a simple word of good cheer are among some of the best gifts we can give during this Season of Caring and Giving.

Yes, the Christmas story brings us Hope and reminds us that as Mechanics, we are a people of purpose and destiny and as we listen to the words of some of the Christmas songs and hymns, we certainly can be in awe and wonder, of the true meaning of Christmas.

Therefore, we must continue to inspire the world and those around us by putting aside all distractions or uneasiness, and focus our energies on Love, Joy, Peace, Forgiveness, and Happiness in anticipation of the second coming of our Savior Jesus Christ.

Through this medium, I am also happy to express thanks for the many kind expressions of good wishes and donations received during this year. However, as we get closer to the end of the year I am equally compelled to make our annual appeal for financial contribution towards the **IUOM Community Benevolent Inc.**, which is the Order's 501( c) (3) non-profit business entity. As you may recall, this entity was established for the opportunity to make tax-deductible contributions to off-set costs towards our community outreach efforts. Contributions can be made through Pay-Pal, Credit/Debit Cards, Money transfer, Money Order, Checks, Cash or any other payment methods.

On behalf of the Executive Committee of Grand Council, I joyfully extend our Best Wishes to all Mechanics, their families and friends; and may the Peace and Blessings of this Holy Season be with you, and may you all have a Healthy and Prosperous New Year.

I look forward to meeting and greeting some of you during the Holidays.

Fraternally,



Rt. Hon. Walter L. Benjamin  
Most Worshipful Grand Master

*“Members Matters Most”*