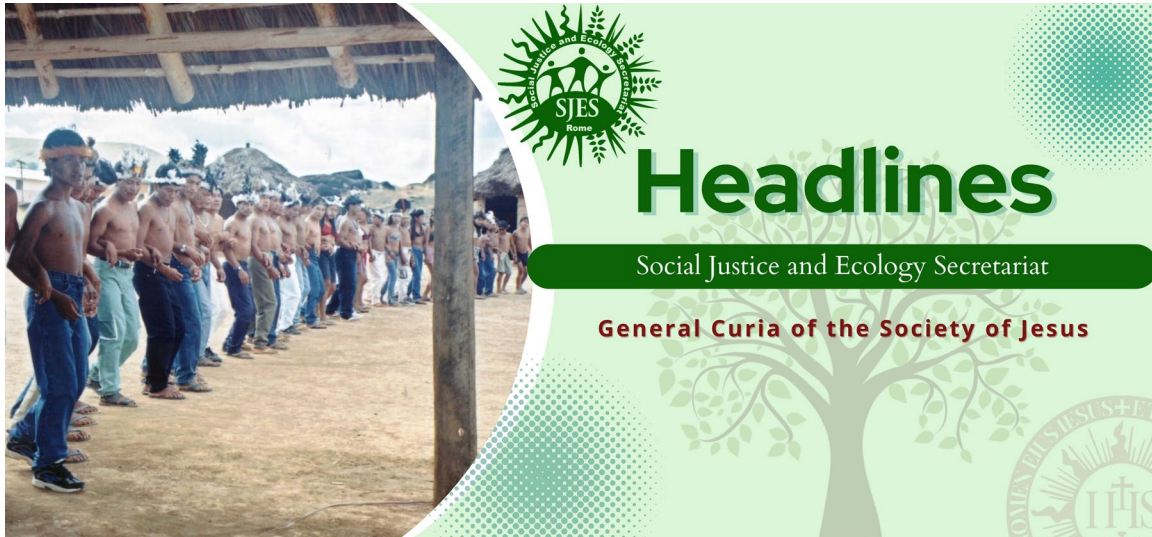


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22 December 2023

Dear <<First Name>> <<Last Name>>,

Banksy, a street artist's 'Scar of Bethlehem', depicts the manger
in front of the separation wall in Israel.

Yet, 'Love' and 'Peace' (Paix) painted on the bullet-ridden wall
reveal our deep desire during this time of Christmas!

'Love' and 'Peace' is what we in the Secretariat pray for
not only in Israel and Palestine but also in places

where there is hatred, war, violence and killings.

May Jesus be born in everyone's heart and
May we become messengers of 'Love' and 'Peace'
During this Christmas and in the year 2024!

<<First Name>>, as I complete my mission in the Secretariat, my heart is filled with gratitude for the many blessings I received from people like you, especially from my colleagues here in the office, in various Conference and Province social secretariats, social centres and in places I visited and experienced love, hospitality, blessings and encouragement.

I was privileged to listen not only to their sufferings and pains in the mission of promoting justice and human rights but also to feel their love, hope, and inner aspirations. Their sharing and commitment to walking with the poor and the vulnerable have inspired me and challenged me to live my life entirely at the service of God and his people.

Thank you for the extraordinary, privileged six-and-a-half years as Secretary at SJES, Rome. Roberto Jaramillo will take over as the next Secretary of SJES on 8th January. Kindly keep both of us in your prayers.

After 8th January 2024, please feel free to stay in touch at calxavier@jesuits.net

We at the Secretariat echo the [message of peace](#) expressed so well by Arturo Sosa SJ, our Superior General and we take this opportunity to wish you and your family a
Merry Christmas and a peaceful New Year!

Xavier, Rossana, Pia, Boris, and Eric
Social Justice and Ecology Secretariat (SJES)
General Curia – Rome

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