



Anglican Church Diocese of Sydney 2015 Christmas Message

As Australians, we love to celebrate Christmas with lights. On Christmas trees, in shopping centres and in suburban houses, we see lights everywhere—nativity scenes aglow and twinkling lights in rhythmic patterns. Even though we are in the height of summer, lights are very much a part of Christmas. It is a wonderful time.

But this year, the world we live in has been overshadowed by darkness. We are appalled at the dark acts committed in Paris, Beirut, San Bernardino and elsewhere. We long for light to dispel the darkness. Yet that is exactly the message of Christmas, when God's light shone into the world and the darkness did not overcome it.

Just as the Creator declared "Let there be light" and there was light, so God sent Jesus to shine into our darkness. Nothing can compare to the brightness of his star nor outshine his brilliance, no matter how many lights we might create.

Though we see these dark acts and cry out to God, remember this - he has answered with the words of Jesus – "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

Dr Glenn N Davies
Archbishop of Sydney
Christmas 2015