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N. 783/029

6 December 2023

## Your Eminence,

I have received a communication from the Secretariat of State, asking me to pass on to you the following message:

HIS EMINENCE CARDINAL VINCENT NICHOLS ARCHBISHOP OF WESTMINSTER

HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS WAS PLEASED TO LEARN OF THE BETHLEHEM SONG PROJECT, WHICH FOR THIS YEAR'S CELEBRATION OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD SEEKS TO DRAW ATTENTION TO THE SUBLIME SIGNIFICANCE OF THE CITY WHERE JESUS CHRIST WAS BORN. INDEED, THE LAND WHICH WAS HOME TO THE PRINCE OF PEACE IS CALLED TO BE A PLACE OF ENCOUNTER, DIALOGUE AND HOPE FOR ALL, AND HIS HOLINESS TRUSTS THAT THIS MUSICAL INITIATIVE WILL INSPIRE MANY PEOPLE THIS CHRISTMAS TO PRAY FOR A NEW FLOURISHING OF FRATERNAL SOLIDARITY, RECONCILIATION AND PEACE IN THE HOLY LAND.

> CARDINAL PIETRO PAROLIN SECRETARY OF STATE

With all good wishes and warm personal regards, I remain,

devotedly yours,

+ Miguel hanny

▼ Miguel Maury Buendía

Apostolic Nuncio

H.E. Cardinal Vincent Nichols Archbishop of Westminster