

Finances letter N° 17

To the provincial treasurers

Copy to the provincial coordinators and vice-coordinators,

Copy to the community coordinators,

Copy to the vice international coordinators and the members of the Board of Directors

Paris, 20 February 2025

Dear friends,

On Sunday 2 February, during the Feast of Light that brought together 500 people from the "Ile-de-France Ouest" province in Rueil-Malmaison, I had a thought for each and every one of you. This year, all the members of Faith and Light were blessed to celebrate this event on the same day, to honour Jesus, the light of the world, together, and to experience this great moment of fraternity in joy and hope.

Today, the movement counts around 1,200 communities in 51 provinces and 86 countries, with about 30,000 members. A large international family, united by bonds of friendship, faith and solidarity.

In this letter, I would like to extend my warmest thanks to the provinces that have worked so hard in 2024 to significantly increase their annual international contributions. This joint effort has enabled the overall level of contributions to rise from €152,000 in 2023 to €164,000 in 2024, covering 82% of operating costs. The remainder has been financed thanks to the generosity of mainly French donors.

Reminder: contributions are made up of three parts: one for the community, one for the province and one for the international level. The latter is intended to support the running of the structure, serves the whole movement (staff costs and international coordination).

I would also like to express my deep gratitude to the two provinces and four communities that organized the "Announcing and Sharing days", the proceeds of which were donated to Faith and Light International to help fund solidarity projects. Please encourage these initiatives in all communities, both to promote the mission and activities of Faith and Light and to raise funds to support our brothers and sisters in financial difficulty.

For information, in 2024 Faith and Light international donated **€20,000 in solidarity:**

- €3000 to Our Lady of Africa the Savannah (Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Ivory Coast, Nigeria, Togo) to support their community meetings, finance transport to the meeting venue, meals, etc.).
- €6,000 in Eastern Europe for a meeting bringing together communities from 5 countries in the Between the Seas province (Czech Republic, Georgia, Lithuania, Russia, Slovakia) who had not met since the Covid pandemic.
- €2800 in South Africa/Zimbabwe for a formation session and elections,
- €4200 in Ukraine to finance a retreat for families and people with disabilities,

- €1500 in Egypt to help organize holiday camps and the Feast of Light,
- €1,000 to Brazil to support the meeting of young people hosting participants from Latin America,
- €500 to Madagascar for a formation session and elections,
- €500 to Italy for a youth meeting,
- €500 in East Africa for a formation session and elections.

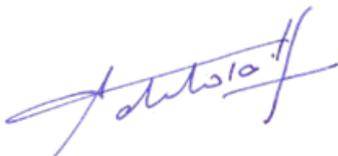
The Board of Directors has just confirmed the amount of solidarity that will be paid in 2025 to the provinces in difficulty that have requested it: **€20,618.66**. You will find in **appendix 1** the table summarizing the projects approved and the amount that will be allocated to each province concerned. This information will help you to encourage your communities to take part in solidarity actions, either by paying more than €300 of contribution per year to the international (the surplus being earmarked for solidarity), or by organizing "Announcing and Sharing" days.

In addition, you will find attached the table of contributions for 2025 in **appendix 2**, to be completed with the sum that your province has pledged to pay this year to Faith and Light International. This table should be completed and returned to the international secretariat **by 31st March at the latest** to the following email address: cdoudelle@foietlumiere.org
If you have any questions, feel free to contact Céline at the secretariat.

Finally, last year we did not have the opportunity to relaunch the formation sessions and videoconference discussions with the provincial treasurers and coordinators. We would like to plan them for the first half of 2025 and, if possible, involve the community treasurers. Céline will get back to you soon on this subject and suggest some dates

I am look forward to seeing you soon and I wish you a very good year.

Best regards,



Antoine de la Taille
International Treasurer