



Archdiocese of Vancouver
ARCHBISHOP'S OFFICE

February 7, 2018

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Friday, February 16, 2018, marks the Lunar New Year, a time of joy for the Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese, and other Asian communities.

It is my pleasure to offer greetings and best wishes for a Happy New Year to all Asian Catholics in the Archdiocese of Vancouver, as well as to all who will join them in celebrating the Year of the Dog.

Although this year's celebrations fall during the solemn season of Lent, it is certainly fitting that social celebrations among families and loved ones take place. As is customary in the Archdiocese of Vancouver, dispensation from the Lenten discipline of abstinence is granted to Asian Catholics and their guests celebrating the festival on Friday, February 16. Even so, I urge you to keep in mind the spirit of prayer and charity that we seek to practise during the Lenten season.

I would also ask you to use this occasion to keep in your prayers current discussions between the Holy See and the People's Republic of China as they work to better the relationship between them and improve the situation for Chinese Catholics.

May God's abundant blessings be with you and your loved ones during this special time and through this entire year.

With cordial greetings and the assurance of my prayers, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ J. Michael Miller CSB

✠ J. Michael Miller, CSB
Archbishop of Vancouver