Dear Friends,

We need to rediscover The Timeless Value of the Ten Commandments. In an era of shifting moral standards, the Ten Commandments offer lasting wisdom. While being given by God and recorded in the Bible, these ancient guidelines speak to universal human challenges that remain surprisingly relevant today. The commandments' basic moral principles – prohibitions against killing, stealing, and



lying – form the foundation of every functioning society. Without these shared agreements, human cooperation becomes impossible. In our "post-truth" era of media and social misinformation, the command against bearing false witness is very timely. Trust, after all, is the foundation of all human relationships.

Even the commandments, which are very much religious (they were given by God), offer practical wisdom even for modern society. "Honor thy father and mother" reminds us of our obligations to family and community in an age of increasing isolation. The prohibition against coveting speaks directly to our consumer culture's endless cycle of desire and dissatisfaction. The Sabbath command highlights our need for rest, reflection, and having time for God in an always-on digital world.

What makes these commandments remarkable is their beautiful simplicity. In just ten principles, they address the core challenges of human coexistence: how to respect life, property, and truth; how to maintain family bonds; how to avoid the toxic effects of jealousy and endless wanting. While they may not represent a complete moral system, they offer a tested moral compass that has proven its value across millennia. In a world of moral complexity, the Ten Commandments provide a foundational starting point for moral behavior. Their endurance across time and cultures testifies to their universal relevance. They were given by God, but as practical guidelines they are foundations for building a more harmonious society.

In the Gospel, Jesus summarized all the commandments in two: "The first is this: Hear, O Israel! The Lord our God is Lord alone! You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

May God bless us, Fr. Krzysztof Kardzis