

Prot.S.216.2018

**TO THE ORDER OF THE PIOUS SCHOOLS  
TO THE PIARIST FRATERNITIES  
TO ALL PIARIST PRESENCES  
GRACE AND PEACE FROM GOD OUR FATHER**

***IN THE CHURCH OF GOD...***

*"In the Church of God, Religious Institutes, guided by the Holy Spirit, pursue the perfection of love as their genuine goal through their specific ministry. Likewise our Congregation is determined to accomplish it through the specific apostolate entrusted to it by his Holiness Paul V, of happy memory, Vicar of Christ on earth."<sup>1</sup>*

Dear brothers and sisters:

In the next month of October, the universal Church celebrates three particularly significant events for all of us, sons and daughters of Saint Joseph Calasanz, the Saint that opened in the Church the way of Christian education as a privileged means for promote the evangelization of children and young people, especially the poorest.

I am referring to the canonization of Pope Pablo VI and Archbishop Romero, and the celebration of the Synod of the Youth. We have well in mind Paul VI in his apostolic exhortation "Evangelii Nuntiandi", undoubtedly one of the most valuable texts in the history of the Church in relation to the challenge of the **evangelization of the contemporary world**. Thinking of Monsignor Romero, we are fully identified in **his love for the poor**, in his generous dedication, until martyrdom, to those for whom he gave his life.

Already at the gates of the Synod of "**Youth, faith and vocation discernment**", we are committed to the goal that Pope Francis has proposed for this Synod: "*to find new paths and to follow with boldness and confidence, keeping the eyes fixed on Jesus and being open to the Holy Spirit, to rejuvenate the face of the Church accompanying young people in their way of vocational discernment in this epochal change*". We are living the "Piarist Synod of Youth" with full joy and commitment.

Therefore, and convinced that it is good for the Pious Schools to be tuned with the *experiences of the Spirit* that are lived in the Church, we propose that in all religious

---

<sup>1</sup> Saint Joseph Calasanz: Constitutions of the Pauline Congregation of the Poor of the Mother of God of the Pious Schools. Preface, n° 1.

communities, in the whole of the Fraternities and in the various Piarist presences in which we carry on our life and mission, we should take advantage of this next year to reflect, discern and celebrate three central issues in our charism that will be especially present in the Church in the light of these coming events: **evangelization, poor and youth.**

Of course, each demarcation, community or Piarist presence is very free to think and to schedule how it wants to join these three dynamics over the next year. We can think of formation issues, faith celebrations, conferences or public announcements that address these important issues for us, in some publications, options and proposals of mission, etc.

The General Congregation recommends reading and sharing the reflection of some particularly significant documents:

- a) The apostolic exhortation of Paul VI "Evangelii Nuntiandi" (1975) and that of Pope Francis "Evangelii Gaudium" (2013).
- b) The document of the 46<sup>th</sup> General Chapter of the Order entitled "The Piarist ministry requires spirit to teach poor children" (2009).
- c) The instrumentum Laboris of the Synod of "Youth, faith and Vocational Discernment" (2018) and the conclusive documents of the continental Assemblies of the "Piarist Synod of Youth". We await in 2019 the post-synodal apostolic exhortation of Pope Francis.

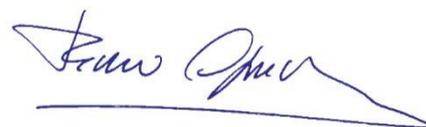
Also, the General Congregation will offer throughout the year some articles to be published in Ephemerides Calasanctiane and some brief lectures, of various people, that will be published in the channel of "You Tube" of the Order on these three important topics. We want to contribute in a humble way to carry out a reflection that will help us to move forward in each of the three challenges posed.

We encourage you to take advantage of these *opportunities of the Spirit to take mission steps, in fidelity to our charism.*

Receive a fraternal hug.



Fr. Francisc Mulet Sch. P.  
*General Secretary*



Fr. Pedro Aguado Sch. P.  
*Father General*

Rome, September 1, 2018.