



**Congregazione dei Rogazionisti**  
Curia Generalizia

Via Tuscolana, 167 - 00182 Roma  
Tel. 06.7020751 - Fax 06.7022917  
e-mail: segrgen@rcj.org

Rome, 8 December 2017



*“And the Word became flesh  
and made his dwelling  
among us;  
and we saw his glory,  
the glory as of the Father’s  
only Son,  
full of grace and truth”.*  
*Gv 1,14.*

*Greetings of Holy Christmas  
and happy New Year*

To the Rogationists  
To the Family of the Rogate

Dearests,

these words of John, which illuminate the mystery of the birth of Jesus with divine light, are addressed to us in a very special way, if we reflect on our history, on our beginnings.

Our Holy Founder, Hannibal Di Francia, told us that we, as Pious Work of the Heart of Jesus, were born when Jesus in the Eucharist has deigned to “come and dwell among us”.

In this intense season of Advent, while we are preparing for Holy Christmas to welcome Jesus into our hearts, we want to grow in the awareness that the Holy Child who is born in Bethlehem wants to be our brother, friend, travel companion, comfort in the midst of the difficulties of our pilgrimage, secure reference of our life.

John reminds us that the Word, “came among his own” and his own did not accept him. We want to welcome him with all the love we have, having for our model, the loving heart of Father Hannibal, and of his many sons and daughters.

We had the gift of the 12<sup>th</sup> General Chapter, which called us to revive our identity as consecrated persons and to translate it with our concrete choices.

During this past year, on my part and that of the Council, we have had the opportunity to know closely, through some fraternal visits, the reality of our Religious Family, with all the good that it accomplishes as well as difficulties that it encounters.

The recent Conference of the Superiors and Councils of the Circumscriptions has allowed us to deepen our gaze on the reality and to define a shared action plan that we intend to carry out together in this six-year period. The document of the six-year program, “From compassion to mission”, soon to be published, will be an important help for our choices regarding our spiritual life and apostolate.

