



Congregazione dei Rogazionisti
Curia Generalizia

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Rome, 8 December 2014



*«O God, our Father,
in your faithfulness that never fails
remember us,
work of your hands,
and grant us the help of your grace,
because we await vigilant
with love irreproachable
the glorious coming of our
Redeemer,
Jesus Christ, your Son.
(from the Liturgy)*

*Greetings of Holy Christmas
and serene 2015*

To the Rogationists
To the Rogate Family

Dearest,

I extend to you my wishes for Christmas this year with the prayer of the Liturgy of the 1st Sunday of Advent, in the desire to form with all of you a big family who turns to the Father in humble prayer. We ask Him to remember us, to grant us his grace, so that we look forward with a vigilant heart the coming of his Son Jesus.

The beginning of Advent opens for us a year of grace, the Year of Consecrated Life, in which the Holy Father invites us to enter with renewed fervor, and urges us to “look at the past with gratitude... live the present with passion ... embrace the future with hope”.¹

The intense season of Advent, which guides us in the footsteps of the patriarchs and of the prophets, who gave witness to the expectation of the Savior, and in the paths of Mary and Joseph, who welcomed him with immense love, is particularly appropriate to revive our life of consecration which is basically an intimate and total encounter with Jesus.

Pope Francis explains very effectively what it means to meet the Lord Jesus: “The witness of the Gospel is one who has met Jesus Christ, who knew him, or rather, one who felt *known by Him*, recognized, respected, loved, forgiven, and this encounter deeply touched him, filled him with a new joy, a new meaning for life. And this transpires, then communicated, and transmitted to others”.²

¹ Pope Francis, Apostolic Letter for the Year of Consecrated Life, 11-21-2014.

² Cf. CIVCSVA, *Scrutate*, (2014), p. 57.

