



MESSAGE FROM THE CONGRESS PARTICIPANTS TO THE FAMILY OF THE ROGATE

We, the sons and daughters of Saint Hannibal Mary Di Francia, convened by the Lord of the Harvest from all parts of the world, are gathered here in Rome, Italy for the 1st International Congress of Educators of the Family of the Rogate.

We are grateful to the Risen Lord who, in this Easter season, has walked with us, sent His Word and fed us with his Body and his Blood. Together, as heirs of Father Hannibal, we praise and bless God for the 10th anniversary of the canonization of the Father of the orphans and the poor, who, since his encounter with Francis Zancone, had made himself a servant of the little ones and of those who were neglected in the Avignone Quarters in Messina.

This Congress gave us days of study, fellowship and sharing in which the Spirit of God has realized a new Pentecost, where the diversity of countries of origin, languages and cultures have demonstrated the richness of the Rogate and, at the same time, has united us in the language of love and of our charism.

What a joy, meeting here in Italy as brothers and sisters! In this very dear place, where our Father and Founder, had first intuited, prayed, obeyed, revealed and witnessed, as a good worker in the harvest, the divine command of Jesus: Rogate ergo (cf. Mt 10, 36-38, Lk 10:2). It was from this place that the Lord has revealed to the world that the prayer for vocations is the secret of salvation of those whom we encounter in situations of abandonment, like sheep without a shepherd.

May the joy of the Gospel of the Rogate win the heart of every member of the family of Saint Hannibal, especially all our students and educators.

Following the shining example of the pedagogy of Father Hannibal, we want to be an educational presence to all his sons and daughters, especially to those who are in the most difficult situation caused by the different circumstances of today.

We also want to renew our fervor and send to everyone a message of encouragement. Saint Hannibal has left us a great treasure, which are the examples and teachings of his life. In the same way that his pedagogical proposal has infected and enlightened his first companions at the beginning of our charismatic family, so we feel that it is still relevant. At the same time, we believe that we need to continue to discover, deepen and witness this journey that allows each person to live his own vocation, and to achieve his life project as God's project, to be an alternative in the face of the many enslaving proposals of the current world.

Therefore, we feel motivated and committed to show to all the men and women of our times the identity, the relevance and the perspectives of the difrancian pedagogy.

May Mary, Our Lady of the Rogate, enlightened us in our mission as educators to carry out the proposal of Father Hannibal so that the promotion of new men and women would be realized, since "it was for freedom that Christ has set us free" (cf. Gal 5:1).