



Congregazione dei Rogazionisti
Curia Generalizia

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Solemnity of the Lord's Annunciation



Easter Greetings

*"Now my soul is troubled, and what shall I say?
'Father, save me from this hour?'
No, it was for this very reason I came to this hour.
Father, glorify your name!"
Then a voice came from heaven,
"I have glorified it, and will glorify it again."
The crowd that was there and heard it said it had
thundered; others said an angel had spoken to him.
Jesus said, "This voice was for your benefit, not
mine. Now is the time for judgment on this world;
now the prince of this world will be driven out.
And, when I am lifted up from the earth,
I will draw all people to myself."
He said this to show the kind of death
he was going to die.*

(Gv 12, 27-33)

To the Rogationists
To the Family of the Rogate

Dearests,

I am sending you my wishes of a Holy Easter with the words of the apostle John, who invites us to look up to the glorious death of Jesus and to let ourselves be drawn by him, together with his Blessed Mother.

I come to you, while taking a break in between visits that I am doing to the Circumscriptions, which give me the joy to meet and share with your journey in a moment of fraternity.

Together, we are living this Year of Consecrated Life that calls us *to look at the past with gratitude, to live the present with passion and to embrace the future with hope.*

In this context, my circular letter, *Rogationist Consecrated Life - A journey of continual renewal in the Church today*, wants to be an aid and a stimulus to reflect and live this Year as Rogationists, according to our charism.

May the risen and glorious Lord Jesus, strengthen us in this confident hope.

The Holy Father continues to invite us to look to the Heart of Christ. He did it in his Lenten message, returning to the themes which are dear to him: "Dear brothers and sisters, I desire to pray Christ with you during this Lent: *"Fac cor nostrum secundum cor tuum"*: *"Make our hearts like unto thine"* (Petition from the Litany to the Sacred Heart of Jesus). Then we will have a strong and merciful, alert and generous heart, that cannot remain closed in itself and does not fall in the vertigo of the globalization of indifference".

Moreover, he wanted to open the Church's treasure of grace, by giving us all the Jubilee Year of Mercy, which will begin on December 8, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. The Pope urges us to approach the fountain of mercy, because, as he explained at the time of the announcement, "no one can be excluded from the mercy of God; everyone knows the way to have access to it and the Church is the home that welcomes all and refuses no one. Its doors remain wide open, so that those who are touched by the grace can find the certainty of forgiveness".

Dearests, in the coming months we will have a series of important appointments. Immediately after Easter we will hold the Conference of Superiors of the Circumscription, that calls us to reflect and confront together on our Rogationist consecrated life, on formation and, in a particular way, on prayer.

On April 15, we will commemorate the 140th anniversary of the birth of Fr. Pantaleone Palma, first collaborator of the Father Founder in the Pious Work. Subsequently, on May 9, at the Shrine of St. Anthony (in Messina), with the presence of the Archbishop, Msgr. Calogero La Piana, and of the Ecclesiastical Tribunal, we will conclude the diocesan canonical process of the Servant of God, Fr. Joseph Marrazzo. It is a fundamental step to start the Apostolic Process. The example of fidelity to the charism and love to the Congregation by these two confreres is for us a stimulus to revive our commitment.

Then, in July, there will be the convocation of the upcoming XII General Chapter of the Congregation. Its preparation is proceeding regularly. The Commission for the *Lineamenta*, which has completed its work, deserves our common appreciation and thanks for the accomplishment of this important task. The document, after the approval of the General Government, and with the ulterior indications and suggestions of the Confreres, will be consigned to the pre-capitular Commission.

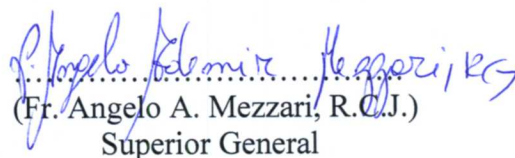
I wish to take this occasion of the Holy Easter to renew my closeness, esteem and affection to each of you, Confreres and Sisters Daughters of Divine Zeal, Rogationist Missionaries, members of the Rogationist Associations, and lay men and women who are collaborating with us in our apostolate on a daily basis. We want to feel as one family, sharing the same ideals and dedicating ourselves to a single mission, as brothers and sisters.

The Lord of the harvest, who in his Easter died and rose again for us, wants to fill our hearts with his compassion for the salvation of souls, to encourage us to give ourselves daily as good workers in his harvest.

Our thoughts rightly goes, in a special way, to our brothers and sisters who are in particular situations of suffering, either because of external difficulties or because they are carrying the cross of sickness. We implore the Lord for all of them the needed support, comfort and healing, if this is in accordance to His Divine Will.

May the Risen Lord, who was *lifted up from the earth* attracts all to himself, and fill us with his love and his peace.

I entrust this wish of mine to the Most Holy Virgin, through the intercession of our Founder, Saint Hannibal, and our Protector Saints, as I greet you all with affection in the Lord.


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(Fr. Angelo A. Mezzari, R.C.J.)
Superior General