Piccola Opera della Divina Provvidenza - Don Orione -

Figli della Divina Provvidenza Piccole Suore Missionarie della Carità

Rome, September 30th, 2020

Prot. TV/20.125 – MG 245/20

Dear "Fratelli tutti" (All Brothers)

a greeting and a blessing!

The date is approaching when Pope Francis will give us his third encyclical letter.

As we have already anticipated, we want to live this feast of the whole Church also as a moment of the Orionine family remaining united spiritually, in joy, to the Holy Father.

We fancy all of you already in full action in order to organize how to spread it and make it interesting to all the people you meet and for whom you give your life.

Our love for the Pope urges us to be active and creative.

While waiting to know the specific content of the new Encyclical, we would like to pass you two lines written by Andrea Tornielli, Editorial Director of the Pontifical Dicasterium for Communications, in an article on the website "Vatican news".

We live in a time marked by war, poverty, migration, climate change, economic crises, pandemic. Recognizing a brother or sister in everyone we meet and, for Christians, recognizing the face of Jesus in the other who suffers – these responses reaffirm the irreducible dignity of every human person created in the image of God. They also remind us that no one can ever emerge from the present hardships alone, one against the other, the global North against the global South, the rich against the poor or any other excluding differentiation.

"In this storm -Pope Francis said- the façade of those stereotypes with which we camouflaged our egos, always worrying about our image, has fallen away, uncovering once more that (blessed) common belonging, of which we cannot be deprived: our belonging as brothers and sisters". The central theme of the upcoming papal letter is this "blessed common belonging", which indeed makes us brothers and sisters. (Here you can find the article).

Allow us, therefore, to invite you again to deepen, promote and support the ordinary Magisterium of Pope Francis. It is our service to the unity of the Church. Each of us can meditate in advance on fraternity and social friendship with all the people of the world, preparing to share the contents in community reflections, in those that will certainly be organized between different congregations or at the diocesan level, but also in the pastoral teams and with all the lay faithful. You may do that establishing a fruitful exchange with the means of communication at our disposal, participating in ecumenical and interreligious dialogue and interacting with civil Institutions and political figures. Providence also made a curious coincidence occur: October 4, as well as being the feast of St. Francis of Assisi -the saint to whom the letter is inspired- is also the XXVII Sunday of ordinary time and the gospel of the day reports us the parable of the unfaithful vine-dressers to whom the Master (God) has entrusted his beloved vineyard (the creation). They believed themselves masters and believed that the fruits were only for their personal interest and enjoyment. What a strong analogy with what is happening today in our relationship with nature and its resources. It is a further opportunity to reflect.

October 3 is near: our hearts are already in Assisi awaiting the Pope's signature. On October 4, we will be active on the internet waiting for the official text to meditate (at 12.00 am Rome time).

We embrace you all. Animated by that "fraternity and social friendship" to which the Encyclical invites us, let us pray for one another, and for all those with whom we share our common home.

Fraternally,

P. Tarásio Vieira

P. Tarcisio G. Vieira Sons of the Divine Providence



Sr. M. Mabel Spagnuolo

Sr. M. Mabel Spagnuolo Little Missionary Sisters of the Charity

