



Rome, 13 January 2014

CONCLUDING MESSAGE

XXXII MEETING OF THE GENERAL GOVERNMENTS OF THE PAULINE FAMILY

«Communication in the Digital Age: Opportunities for Evangelization»

St. Paul House, Via San Giovanni Eudes, 25, Rome

10-13 January 2014

Dearest Sisters and Brothers,

The 32nd annual meeting of the General Governments of the Pauline Family coincided with the third year of preparation for the Centenary of the birth of our Family. Once again we realized the opportuneness of these meetings and our wealth as a Family in the Church.

Thus our journey toward the Centenary was carried out from the perspective of the theme: *«Communication in the Digital Age: Opportunities for Evangelization.»*

The first day was enlightened by the input of Fr. Antonio Spadaro, SJ, Director of *Civiltà Cattolica*. A person who knows the digital world very well, he presented two talks: *«The Anthropological Impact of Digital Communications»* and *«The Church and the Consecrated Life Face Digital Communications.»* Fr. Spadaro shared with us his abundant experience as an “internaut” and goaded us with a series of questions, reminding us that the connection typical of this “environment” is shaping a new way of understanding human relationships, reality and culture; that the worldwide web is a “connective tissue,” and that the Church must not adapt herself to the times but must accompany this type of communication, asking herself what the vocation of the Web is in human history. He highlighted the unique vitality of our charism in this field and invited us to contemplate and live this phenomenon with the eyes of our Founder.

The second day was characterized by a round table discussion that offered us the chance to get to know and share what our Congregations are doing in the digital world. In the subsequent session, diverse comments and proposals emerged, in particular the need for each Congregation to “inhabit the Internet” according to the requirements of the charism proper to its Institute and from the standpoint of collaboration as a Family. Persons trained for this work are necessary and it is also necessary to invest in sisters and brothers who can offer a valid

service to their own and to all our Congregations on the basis of each one's specific characteristics.

In their interventions, the Superiors General informed us about what each Congregation did in the past year. They also reminded us of the need to live the solemn celebration of 20 August 2014 in a suitable way.

With regard to the theme of the meeting of the General Governments for 2015: based on the understanding that communications is part of the mission of each Institute ("With the Church, we too felt the need to rethink the new forms of evangelization and decisively adopt the language of today's new technologies in our pastoral, liturgical and apostolic praxes"—*Final Message* 2013), we will focus on "Digital Communications and the Liturgy."

In this Centenary year of the Pauline Family, we feel always more strongly the presence of Jesus Master, Way, Truth and Life in our midst. He invites us to express as a Family the gift of the Spirit – our prophetic vocation in today's world – by courageously taking on the challenges of the new evangelization, reassured and accompanied by the concrete experience of those who preceded us and who are watching us with paternal and maternal trust.

With fraternal best wishes,

THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE
32ND MEETING OF THE GENERAL GOVERNMENTS OF THE PAULINE FAMILY