

COMMUNICATION N. 3

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Greetings again from the part of all the capitulars of the Society of St. Paul gathered in the Divine Master House in Ariccia. We are working already for several days with dedication and intensity and under the guidance of the Central Commission, to elaborate the project that will guide the congregation for the next six years.

So far we have reflected upon our identity on the centenary of our foundation and the norms of the congregation. This kept us busy from Saturday, 1 May, up to Tuesday, 4 May. The methodology adopted was to discuss in small groups of 8 or 9 persons, identifying the essential points of our being Paulines and the challenges that await us in the future. The reporters of each group then presented in the assembly the results and time was given for the intervention of all. Finally, a committee was chosen to take up the task of drafting a document regarding the Pauline identity at the beginning of the third millennium. The final form of this text could be a solemn declaration of the Chapter, a message or an exhortation. The intention, however, should be a kind of window, open to the future that awaits us for a renewed impetus in our commitment to evangelization, which is truly manifested in a creative fidelity.

Among us capitulars there is a strong desire to participate and share concerns and expectations. The Central Commission therefore considered it appropriate to give time in the Conference Hall to discuss the problems of the congregation. To give a certain order to the interventions, the “classic pattern” of the Alberionian “four wheels” was followed and therefore opinions and suggestions were expressed on spirituality and community life, study and formation, apostolate and finally, poverty, understood as the valuing of human and financial resources and proper management and administration.

We then returned to gather in groups to identify the general objective for the next six years. From this will be derived the specific objectives, priorities and operational guidelines.

Thursday, May 6, the stage of discernment in view of the election of the Superior General and his Council commences. The voting will begin on the morning of Friday, May 7.

Thank you all for your constant prayer, we turn once again to your intercession before the Divine Master who will guide us in the important decisions that we will make.

Ariccia (Rome), 5 May 2010

Fr. Antonio Rizzolo, Information secretary