

Dear brothers,

Today's celebration of the fiftieth year of the birth in heaven of Blessed James Alberione – in conjunction with the closing of the Biblical Year of the Pauline Family – is a propitious occasion to renew our commitment to live and proclaim the Gospel in creative fidelity to the Pauline charism in the current culture of communication.

The challenges of our time are many, mainly due to the consequences of the Covid-19 pandemic, but we cannot stop. The words of Blessed Alberione are appropriate when he says: "Do not lose heart; always keep a healthy optimism. History is the teacher of life, and our past experiences teach us for the future. After losing a battle, as long as we live, there is time to win another" (CISP 1088).

Let us strain forward, with faith and hope, joining forces, valuing "the different gifts according to the grace given to each" (Rm 12:6). Certainly, the collaboration of each one in walking in communion and synergy, to reach everyone with the Gospel, is one of the most beautiful "prophetic" testimonies that we can give to the world from consecrated persons who have communication as their charism.

May Mary, Queen of the Apostles and Saint Paul the Apostle always be close to each one of us, helping us to walk in the following of Jesus Master, Way, Truth and Life – especially in this preparation phase of our XI General Chapter – as they have always been close to our Founder.

Happy feast everyone!

Fraternally,

Father Valder José De Castro Superior General