MESSAGE FOR
THE 58TH WORLD COMMUNICATIONS DAY
AND FOR THE 120TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE BIRTH OF VENERABLE MAGGIORINO VIGOLUNGO

Dear brothers,

Celebrating the 58th World Communications Day, Sunday 12 May, the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord, helps us to focus in a renewed way on the most genuine meaning of our apostolic life as Paulines, together with that of our sisters Daughters of Saint Paul.

Today's communication, Pope Francis reminds us in his message, is "radically changing" our lives. It is generative artificial intelligence that shows us new opportunities and potential that are still little known. It fascinates and disorients; it raises countless questions for us.

It also belongs to that world in continuous "metamorphosis," or radical change, which we inhabit together with humanity and which also challenges us regarding our mission. We are involved in technological communication but at the same time we cannot forget that it is necessary *"to grow together, in humanity and as humanity. We are challenged to make a qualitative leap in order to become a complex, multiethnic, pluralistic, multireligious and multicultural society. We are called to reflect carefully on the theoretical development and the practical use of these new instruments of communication and knowledge."*

In this existential context of digital communication, the testimony of Venerable Maggiorino Vigolungo born on 6 May 1904 should not be forgotten. We are talking about 120 years ago, from another era, yet his life is current. He not only followed in the footsteps of Blessed James Alberione, but for the Pauline apostolate he gave his life, certain that in this call from God there was the beauty of his path to holiness.

He encourages us to live as apostles communicators with faith and enthusiasm, he who, always in the light of the message of Pope Francis, lived with a wise heart: *"This wisdom of the heart can be found by those who seek it and can be seen by those who he loves her; it prevents those who desire it and seeks out those who are worthy of it. He is with those who accept advice, with those who have a docile heart, a heart that listens. It is a gift of the Holy Spirit, which allows us to see things with the eyes of God, to understand the connections, situations, events and to discover their meaning. Without this wisdom, existence becomes insipid, because it is precisely wisdom – the Latin root of which knowledge links it to flavour – that gives flavour to life."*

To everyone, a happy World Communications Day.

Rome, 6 May 2024
120th Anniversary of the Birth of Ven. Maggiorino Vigolungo

Domenico Soliman

Father Domenico Soliman
Superior General