SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

20 August 2018

Dear Brothers,

the commemoration of the 104th anniversary of the foundation of the Society of St. Paul – and the beginning of the Pauline Family – makes us address God with a grateful heart for the many gifts received. It is precisely a celebration that leads us not only to look gratefully to the past and to the progress of this great history, but also to renew, with audacity and creativity, our commitment to live and to give to humanity Jesus Master, Way, Truth and Life, using the current languages of communication.

This path to be taken makes us think that it is not enough to have in hand the different technologies that human intelligence offers us – from print to digital networks – because by themselves they remain mute. In this new culture we need more and more the testimony of true apostles, remembering that "apostle", as our founder, Blessed James Alberione said, is the one who *«has a heart full of love for God and for men; and he cannot constrict and stifle what he feels and thinks» (CISP, p. 582)*.

Let us ask the Lord the wisdom, despite every difficulty, to adapt our apostolate in today's times, in the spirit of the Apostle Paul, considering that from him every Pauline and every member of the Pauline Family *«takes the dimension of pastoral spirit and universality, prophecy, zeal and total commitment, passion and ability to listen, audacity and the ability to build a network of collaborators, apostolic dynamism and the sense of responsibility. From him he learns to do everything for the Gospel» (Editorial Guidelines 2018, 1.1)*.

Happy commemoration to all!

Fraternally,

Valdir José de Castro

FATHER VALDIR JOSÉ DE CASTRO
Superior General