

Rome, 29 May 2011

LETTER OF THE SUPERIORS GENERAL

TO THE SISTERS AND BROTHERS OF THE PAULINE FAMILY

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

In the message that concluded the 29th Meeting of the General Governments of the Pauline Family (Ariccia, 7-10 January 2011), the major superiors of the five Congregations participating in the encounter presented the first stage of preparation for the Centenary celebrating the foundation of the Pauline Family.

Acting on their directives, the intercongregational Commission set up to prepare for this event (Fr. Celso Godilano, ssp; Sr. Anna Maria Parenzan, fsp; Sr. M. Micaela Monetti, pddm; Sr. Albina Bosio, sjbp, Sr. Maddalena Verani, ap) has now offered the Superiors General the fruit of their work.

The proposal that follows consists of a *Triennial Animation Journey* that will allow the whole Pauline Family to prepare for this important event in a unitary way. Attached to it is a series of suggestions concerning various initiatives that could be implemented on the general and circumscription levels. These suggestions have been entrusted to all the governments of the PF so as to help us creatively live this period of grace in preparation for the Centenary.

As recommended in the *Final Message* of the Ariccia encounter, special attention should be given to the following dates: 4 April (the birth of Primo Maestro); 20 August (foundation of the Society of St. Paul), and 26 November (feast of the Founder).

We hope that the initiatives carried out will be future-oriented and that they will give privilege to experiences of meeting and collaboration among the members of the Pauline Family. Let us join together in prayer, asking that our Family will emerge from this Centenary renewed, open to the needs of contemporary humanity and transformed by apostolic charity so as to communicate Jesus Master Way, Truth and Life to the world.

Affectionately in Christ,

The Superiors General of the Pauline Family

Don Silvio Sami

Sr. M. Antonietta Brusato

Sr. L. Regina Cesereto

Sr. Paola Fieselli

Sr. Franca Lavatore

“The Pauline Family: a ‘Letter’ of St. Paul to People Today”
(cf. 2 Co. 3:2-4)

TRIENNIAL ANIMATION JOURNEY

YEAR 1

20 August 2011-2012 – The PF: A Story To Contemplate
“Do not be afraid. I am with you.”

Narrative and historical reflection on the surroundings and contexts in which the Pauline charism and the person of the Founder matured

Reference text: *Abundantes divitiae gratiae suae (AD)* (cf. *Unione Cooperatori Buona Stampa [UCBS]* and the prayer, *The Pact*)

Study aids for formation and deeper reflection

Itineraries that favor the understanding of our story, taking advantage of several significant dates: 20 August, 26 November, 4 April.

Themes to develop

- 20 August 2011: the years of preparation (AD 1-6, 7-26, 215-224; UCBS...)
- 26 November 2011: the “night of light”; renewal of the original thrust: the Founder’s dream; the pedagogy of God.
- 4 April 2012: some of the “abundant riches”; “The Pact.”

Activities

- 20 August: outline for an hour of adoration on the theme, *The Hand of God Is Upon Me*. Study aids on the theme (The Years of Preparation), to be published on the alberione.org website (power point program, reflection outlines, etc.).
- 26 November: outline for an hour of adoration; suggestions for the Eucharistic Celebration; study aids that develop the theme (the “night of light”; renewal of the original thrust: the Founder’s dream; the pedagogy of God), all of which will be published on the website.
- 4 April 2012: outline for an hour of adoration; study aids on the theme (“The Pact”).

YEAR 2

20 August 2012-2013 – The PF: A Story To Live
“Be sorry for sin.”

The Pauline Family from 1971-2011: We continue the work of Fr. Alberione

Reference texts: *Two Instructions* by Fr. Alberione (conferences in *Ut perfectus sit homo Dei [UPS]*, 1960); *Explanation of the Constitutions of the FSPs* (1961) and *To the Pious Disciples of the Divine Master* (1963). In these texts, Fr. Alberione explains the meaning of the Pauline Family.

Themes to develop

- What it means to be “family” and “the Pauline Family”

- *A precious treasure that has been placed in our hands and that must be enriched, developed and transmitted integrally to the new generations.*

Activities

- To propose texts that can help us come to better understand what it means to be “the Pauline Family.”
- To foster a journey of communion and reconciliation; to celebrate both the *Miserere* and the *Magnificat*, acknowledging the graces we have received but also the fact that we have all sinned....
- To promote, on the circumscription level, occasions for dialogue, for getting to know one another, for exchanging information, for reconciliation.
- Celebrations to propose for 20 August, 26 November, 4 April.

YEAR 3

20 August 2013-2014 – The PF: A Marvelous Story of Salvation To Celebrate and Proclaim “From here I want to enlighten.”

“Onward!” so as to be, as a Family, a prophetic presence in the world of communications

Reference texts: Texts that favor a rediscovery of our pastoral dimension and the concept of “priesthood” within the Pauline Family, understood as an effective and sacramental ministry of evangelization. In this regard, the following works are recommended: *Notes on Pastoral Theology*; *Woman Associated to Priestly Zeal* and *The Publishing Apostolate*.

Formation and Animation Aids

Itineraries that can help us reflect more deeply on our pastoral spirit and on the Pauline “priesthood.”

Themes to develop

To “strain ahead” so as to embrace and take full advantage of communications in proclaiming the Gospel. To focus on how the apostolates of the Pauline Family converge so as to “prepare ourselves to do something for the people of our time.”

Activities

- To hold a “Vocation Year” for the whole Pauline Family—a year characterized by particular celebrations on the local and general levels.
- To underscore the perspective of our recipients and to reawaken, as the Pauline Family, our passion for the apostolate and our call to “go out to everyone.”
- To program initiatives that favor encounters (including encounters between younger and older members of the Pauline Family) and that foster concrete and effective collaboration among our Institutes.
- To invite our brothers and sisters to express their creativity so that something original will emerge in every place where we are present.
- Celebrations to propose for 20 August, 26 November, 4 April.

Various Initiatives

Suggestions that emerged in the exchange of ideas among the members of the General Governments

On the General Level

- To ask for a general audience as the PF with the Pope (20 August 2014).
- To organize several pilgrimages (perhaps by linguistic groups) in 2014 to the sites of our beginnings. To include our young people in formation in these pilgrimages.
- To increase participation in the annual PF Charism Course.
- To prepare some material (translated into different languages) on the work of Fr. Alberione and to publish this material as inserts to *Famiglia Cristiana Magazine*.
- To promote a contest for our young people in formation throughout the world on the theme of the Centenary, "*The PF: A Letter of Paul.*" To use every means and instrument to do this. Each circumscription should pick a winner from its area and the General Governments could choose the final 3 winners on the general level. First prize: a pilgrimage to the sites of our beginnings.
- To renovate the *Fr. Alberione Museum*, and make it more accessible to visitors including through didactic itineraries. To set up a *Pauline Family Museum* in Rome.
- To produce a TV program (fiction) that can help people get to know Fr. Alberione and the Pauline Family.

On the circumscription level

- To favor occasions for dialogue, reconciliation, mutual knowledge and the exchange of information among the members and Institutes of the Pauline Family.
- To hold courses of spiritual exercises on the theme of AD on the level of the Pauline Family.
- To set up a PF Spirituality Center in places where it does not exist, or to make it more active in places where it is already established. To favor an exchange of resources on the linguistic level. To transform the Ariccia Retreat House into a Spirituality Center for the whole Pauline Family.
- To get to know and help others get to know Fr. Alberione and all our "saints," and to support their causes for canonization and beatification more vigorously.
- To foster formation to communication for the purpose of evangelization through congresses, meetings, seminars, etc.
- To promote a pastoral project for youth on the level of the PF, taking advantage of the new forms of communication.
- To make diffusion of the Word of God one of our top priorities.
- To update our vocation brochures. To relaunch and if possible translate: *Dieci voci per annunciare il Vangelo*.
- To carry out several special initiatives together, as Institutes of the Pauline Family, for example: *Social Communications Week* or *Pauline Week*.
- To carry out some biblical missions as a Family so as to create a tradition of collaboration.
- To promote cultural and ecclesial initiatives that will make the Pauline Family known to more people, for example: a Congress on Fr. Alberione in 2014.
- To update our documentaries on the Pauline Family.
- To hold some theater performances on the life and works of Fr. Alberione.
- To set up a common apostolic center for the PF or to carry out an apostolic activity that is significant for the whole PF.