



FAMIGLIA PAOLINA

Rome, 22 November 2020
Solemnity of Christ the King of the Universe

To All Circumscription Superiors
and
To All Sisters and Brothers of the Pauline Family

Dear Sisters and Brothers of the Pauline Family,

In a few days, with the celebration of the Memorial of Blessed James Alberione, we will officially open the Year of the Bible—an event that fills us with joy and “healthy pride.” We recognize ourselves, in fact, as heirs to the tenacious passion of our Founder for the work to which he felt that the Pauline Family was called: *the spreading of the Word of God*.

The Year of the Bible is a gift to welcome and live as an opportunity for a new beginning, for a renewed awareness that, *generated by the Word*, we are called by vocation to *become Word* by loving and reading it, because “those who read the Divine Book, learn the language of the Divine, speak the language of the Divine, and acquire divine efficacy” (AS, p. 143).

For this reason, let us mutually encourage one another to free the creativity that comes from the Spirit so that, through us, the Word will speed forward even in this very difficult time and reach the hearts of many people, bringing them grace and consolation.

Together, we are making a journey as a true Family and the Year of the Bible can help us strengthen our common mission by sharing—including through the web site dedicated to this event—ideas, texts and initiatives. This sharing will open us to amazement at seeing how the Word becomes flesh in different realities and cultures, nourishing our desire and commitment to live and communicate it.

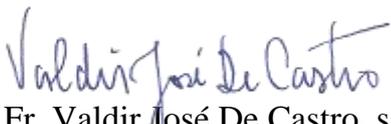
It would be wonderful to begin the Year of the Bible on 26 November by celebrating it together as the Pauline Family: in person where this is possible, or else via networking if physical presence is prevented due the restrictions imposed by the current pandemic. This special Year is also a precious opportunity to revive the Pauline spirit and love for the Word within our communities. We will be helped in this by the proposals and initiatives planned by the Central Commission and our local commissions.

Moreover, the Year of the Bible is, for us, a time of grace that allows us to prepare to celebrate with gratitude and praise the 50th anniversary of the birth to heaven of Fr. Alberione

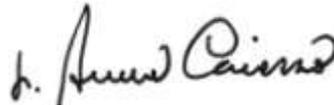
(1971-2021). The Lord has poured out an abundance of graces on the Pauline Family through Blessed James Alberione. This awareness leads us today to desire that the mortal remains of our beloved Founder be permanently accessible for veneration by the People of God. Because of this, we have begun the procedures required to transfer his body from the Subcrypt to the Queen of Apostles Sanctuary in Rome. We will give you more information about this later.

“What is Sacred Scripture for us? For us, it is the source of everything,” said Fr. Alberione back in 1933. The best wishes we can offer each other for this “new beginning” marked by the Year of the Bible is that we may all draw together from this wellspring to quench our thirst and that of our travelling companions with the *living water gushing forth for eternal life*.

In communion,



Fr. Valdir José De Castro, ssp
Superior General



Sr. Anna Caiazza, fsp
Superior General



Sr. Micaela Monetti, pddm
Superior General



Sr. Aminta Sarmiento Puentes, sjbp
Superior General



Sr. Marina Beretti, ap
Superior General