

Rome, 8 December 2015

Dear Brothers,

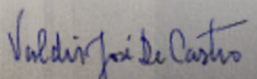
«Mercy» is the call of the Extraordinary Jubilee that begins today, *Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception*, proclaimed by Pope Francis to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the conclusion of the Second Vatican Council. It will be a special year for the whole Church, to contemplate the mercy of God and take it as a style of life (*Misericordiae Vultus*, no. 13).

Also we Paulines want to do this journey of opening to the goodness of God that leads us to conversion (cf. Rm 2:4). In fact, it is not enough to talk of mercy with our means of apostolate in the culture of communication. The challenge is, above all, to feel in our lives the mercy of God, starting with communicating it in our relationships with our confreres who are just next to us, aware that «forgiveness is the force that reawakens us to new life and instils in us the courage to look to the future with hope» (*Misericordiae Vultus*, no. 10).

The Lord, through the intercession of Mary, Queen of Apostles, help us in this journey, so that we can become, in the words of the Apostle Paul, true «ministers of reconciliation» (cf. 2Cor 5:18), to the point of «loving all, thinking of all, working with the spirit of the Gospel which is universality and mercy» (Alberione, UPS IV, 118).

To each of you, a fruitful Year of Mercy!

With affection,



Fr Valdir José De Castro
Superior General

