

"IF WE WORK FOR THE GLORY OF GOD AND PEACE AMONG MEN, THE LORD WILL BE WITH US...'

Blessed James Alberione



BLESSED CHRISTMAS 2016

Dear brothers,

"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among men with whom He is pleased" (Lk 2:14) is the message of the angels on the day of the Nativity of the Lord. It is not just a figure of speech, but a true life programme to be put into practice as Congregation and the Pauline Family. And our Founder, Blessed James Alberione underscores it rightly, "If we work for the glory of God and peace among men, the Lord will be with us; but when we are motivated by reasons of vanity, comfort, selfishness, etc., we remain in poverty"(CISP, p. 922).

Christmas is an opportunity for everyone to renew the commitment to be instruments of peace, first by accepting the message of Jesus - focused on love and mercy - and then to express these values in interpersonal relationships.

Being filled with this peace, we can then communicate to men and women of our time during the New Year that is about to begin, with the means and languages today, by committing to contribute in building a "culture of encounter."

Merry Christmas and happy New Year full of blessings as we remember the Centenary of the foundation the Pauline Cooperators, "people who understand the Pauline Family and form with it the union of spirit and intentions" (AD, 341), united in the same apostolate: give glory to God and work for peace on earth.

Fraternally,

Fr Valdir José De Castro Superior General