



Communication n. 8 (Final)



The Interchapter Assembly moved rapidly towards its conclusion, with some business of the day still to be taken.

The morning of Wednesday, 27 February, was spent for the last session, dedicated to the revision of the *Constitutions and the Directory*. Important articles were discussed, among which are those that touch on the financial administration of the Congregation.

In the afternoon, some circumscription superiors shared their initiatives for the Centennial of the Con-

gregation. Some proposals for multimedia projects were also presented and evaluated. The Vicar General, Fr. Celso Godilano, updated the participants on the proposals of the Intercongregational Commission for the celebration of the Centennial (pilgrimages, a concert, and a conference to be handled by the Society of St. Paul in order to deepen our knowledge of the thought of Fr. Alberione and to make him known to people other than the Pauline Family).

The latter part of the morning was spent discussing the draft of the *Statute of St Pauls Biblical Center*. This was prepared by the General Government in response to the operative line of the 9th General Chapter to give the Congregation a coordinated pastoral project. The Statute will be effective *ad experimentum* until the 10th General Chapter.

Thursday, 28 February, was the conclusion of the Interchapter Assembly. The Superior General, Fr. Silvio Sassi, closed the work by giving some final considerations, recalling the three tasks that cannot be renounced, for the sake of the future of the Congregation: a deep knowledge of the charismatic inheritance of our Founder which enables us to put it into true practice; embracing our specific mission as our *raison d'etre* and that directs all aspects of our life; and the necessary solidarity on all levels of the Congregation (exchange of personnel and of goods).

There followed the approval of the *Final Document* of the Interchapter Assembly, the *Directory of the Association of Pauline Cooperators* and this final communiqué. The last act was the closing Mass presided by the Superior General at 11 in the morning.

Now the participants return to their respective circumscriptions, with a baggage of hope, of things to look forward to, and of things to do. The certainty of having worked for the good of the Congregation, with eyes fixed on the future, but with foothold on the present, assures and pushes us to "strain forward" in the paths of Saint Paul and our Founder, Blessed James Alberione.

It is also time to express our gratitude: foremost to the Philippine-Macau Province and its Superior, Fr. Jose Aripio. The confreres were generous in their hospitality and punctual in organizing the event. We also thank those who made themselves available, working in the different committees: central committee, secretariat, translations, transport, information technology (IT), photo documentation, and others. We truly appreciate what they have done for us and for the whole Congregation.