



Prot. n. 22b/19 SG

Rome, 15 February 2019

**TO ALL SUPERIORS AND CIRCUMSCRIPTION DELEGATES
TO ALL DELEGATES OF THE DEPENDENT HOUSES
TO ALL PAULINES**

Dear Brothers
Grace and peace!

I am writing this letter to invite everyone to understand, with care and spirit of solidarity, the current situation in Venezuela. The news that comes to us both from our Brothers in that Circumscription and from the media in general speaks of the dramatic context in which the people of that nation find themselves. The social stability and peace are at serious risk, with serious consequences also for our apostolate.

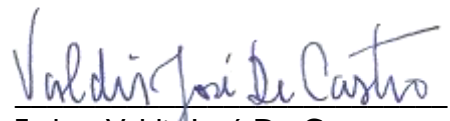
In the face of this sad panorama I invite all our communities, as a gesture of fraternal closeness, to offer the Eucharist on Sunday 17 February in a special way for this intention. Surely it is one of the concrete ways in which we can be close to the people of this suffering nation and also to our Pauline Brothers – and we also add the Sisters of the Pauline Family – who, despite many difficulties, are trying to carry out the mission. We pray that the local authorities will find a way of dialogue that will lead to a peaceful solution to the problems they are facing.

The Gospel of the Beatitudes of the Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time should be a stimulus for the local Church and for our Brothers to be instruments of unity, and peace, following the footsteps of the Apostle Paul. May they walk in hope, trusting in the word of the Lord, which reads as follows in the book of the prophet Jeremiah: *«Blessed are those who trust in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord. They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream. It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit»* (Jer 17,7-8).

May Mary, Queen of the Apostles, whom the people of Venezuela venerate under the title of Nuestra Señora de Coromoto, accompany everyone with her maternal protection.

Faternally,




Father Valdir José De Castro, ssp
Superior General