



UNIONE DELL' APOSTOLATO CATTOLICO

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Rome, April 12th, 2020.

To All the Members, Collaborators and Friends of the Pallottine Family

Dear Presidents, Vice Presidents and Secretaries of the National Coordination Councils of the Union and dear Friends,

I hope you are well!

I am truly happy to send a message to all of you in the world today. It is a way to renew our communion in the joy of Jesus' Resurrection.

For many weeks - which have also been during Lent - we have been experiencing a difficult time, for many very difficult.

Yet, everywhere men and women of good will, Christians and people of all religious traditions, have been digging out of their hearts the measure of life, summarized in the question: how can I help you? what can I do for you? In it there is the reflection of our being created in the image and likeness of God, One in the relationship of Love of the Three.

I am sure that even during the isolation many are the experiences of how we've reached out to the other, served the other and stayed connected, perhaps through a gesture, a caring thought, a phone call, an email, a smile, our eyes. And all of this multiplies the *creativity of love* in our families, communities, groups, neighborhoods, parishes, institutes, villages, LCCs, NCCs.

We're living a time of grace and the Lord is walking with us step after step to discover the signs of His love in everything. With grateful faith we recognize that we bear His love with us every time we serve the other: "Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me ". (Mt 25: 40).

It will do us good to share our experiences, our thoughts and will make us humbler, more universal, closer to Jesus and among us.

In this very special situation - like all of you - I am trying to live this way and it is revolutionizing my days. I have understood that it is not important what things I do, but how I do them. In the end only this remains: to love God and our neighbours.

Two final things.

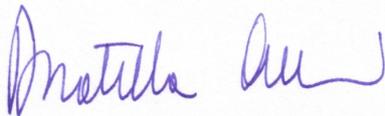
Let us remember that the Coronavirus is not the only emergency humanity is facing. Let us think of the many ongoing wars, like the one in Syria, of migrants who have been forced to flee their homes and countries, and of the old and new epidemics in many countries of the world.

And lastly, while I was watching Pope Francis' Urbi et Orbi Celebration on March 27th, it came to my mind an expression which recurs in our Founder's writings many times: "everyone ... in their gifts of nature and grace ...". All that we are is not to keep for ourselves, but God has given it to us to serve the other.

"God, in his very essence, is love. He loves us and unceasingly seeks what is for our benefit. He did this in the most perfect manner possible by sending his only begotten Son to redeem us by his death on the cross. Since all human beings, as creatures, are living images of this love, they must strive to be perfect in their love for every person through their gifts of nature and grace" (cf. OCCC IV, 308).

In communion with the GCC Members and the Secretary General, and through the intercession of St Vincent Pallotti, Blessed Elizabeth Sanna and all the Blessed Martyrs of the Pallottine Family let us ask our Holy Mother of God to protect all humanity.

Wishing You a Blessed Easter!



Donatella Acerbi
UAC President

