



E-BULLETIN #210

06-Mar-16

"Let the holiness of God shine forth" (cf. Mt 5, 16)

item 398

blessing of chaplaincy centre - St Stanislas school, Paris



« Dear Father Jacob,

We wish you a warm welcome, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. We extend that welcome to all those who are strangers to our Institution.

Saint Stanislas, both secondary and high school, is a catholic institution founded by Pallottines. As an educational community its goal is to promote the education of young boys and girls : intellectually, affectively and spiritually.

The pedagogy of Institution Saint-Stanislas is based on four axes : leading students to be open minded, welcoming, supportive of each other, generous.

The Institution is trying to implement this pedagogy by taking elements from the Pallottine charism, by carefully considering the background of each individual young person, and by being very consciously aware of the evolution of the society in which we are living.

The area that you have accepted to bless is entrusted to the school chaplaincy (aumônerie). Both the Chaplain and the Principal have received letters of appointment from the local Bishop, thus both are responsible for pastoral work in the school according the directives of our Diocese.

We are very grateful that you have agreed to bless our school chaplaincy, the new building, although we have started using it almost 3 years ago.



Dear Father General, allow me to introduce to you the 5 members who make up the dedicated team working in our school chaplaincy :

- Sr Marzna - superior of the Pallottine Sisters
- Sr Christina
- Mrs Dominique Fontaine
- Mrs Tonard - volunteer
- Fr Syrinus Awono sac - Chaplain

We have started the year 2015-2016 with a new pastoral plan, with **peace** as the main theme for the whole Institution. We divide this theme into four parts : the first level reflecting Respect, the second Dialogue, the third Tolerance and the fourth Pardon.

In our ministry we basically reach out to two groups of pupils: the first for the sacraments of baptism and eucharist, and the second for religious instruction based on judaism, christianity and islam. We are busy here full time, from Monday to Friday.

As for activities we have an hour of prayer every Tuesday at 12:00; every Thursday Holy Mass is celebrated at 12:30; from 17:00 to 18:00 we have additional time for catechism teaching in preparation for the sacraments. Every September, in honour of Our Lady of Pontoise, the Diocese organises a pilgrimage to coincide with the commencement of the school year.

Celebrations that bring people together are also organised – a Christmas Vigil in December, the feast of our founder St Vincent Pallotti in January (as you can see today) and other church activities which are organised throughout the year.

For the Year of Mercy the school will organise a visit to Argenteuil Basilica, to see the robe of Christ that has been kept there more than ten centuries. At the end of the year, in June, we will celebrate baptism and first communion and, additionally, some young people will also renew their baptismal promises of faith.



Father, once more we thank you so much for coming. We know very well that you are busy with the canonical visitation and a lot of duties within our entities here in France. By your generous acceptance of our invitation to bless the new building your presence has come to mean a lot to us.

You can be assured of our humble prayers.

May God give you enough strength and courage to continue to serve the whole Pallottine family in the world. »

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my time in Rome

My stay in Rome has been a wonderful experience in many different ways. I was blessed to be selected by my Provincial to come and study the spirituality of our holy founder St Vincent Pallotti.



When I was coming I was not sure how it would work out, but when I arrived my community in Procura Generale and Casa Generalizia welcomed me with warm open arms, ready to help me to adapt to a new place and culture. I always remind myself with the word of our holy founder:

“Of myself I can do nothing; with God I can do everything; I want to do everything for love of God”.

For me 2015 has been filled with many graces, starting with the *Year of Consecrated Life* and followed by the *Jubilee Year of Mercy*. During my participation in the session on consecrated life I learnt a lot. What is outstanding for me is that founders and foundresses listened to the signs of the times and they dared to open new routes for the proclamation of the Gospel and the service of charity, to meet the expectations of the church and society. We as a Pallottine family not only have a glorious history to recall and to learn about but also there is still much that needs to be accomplished so that we can move with the signs of the times in our community and society.

While we are in the *Year of Mercy* it is a great opportunity for me to grow and acknowledge our Lord Jesus Christ for his mercy for the whole world. While learning more about St Vincent Pallotti, he himself acknowledged God for his infinite mercy.

I like so much his quotation about God’s mercy toward us. He writes:

“My Jesus, my mercy, through that infinite love with which you love the Father and the Holy Spirit, your holy Mother and all creatures, grant that I may understand how unworthy I am to come to visit you. I have sinned my Jesus and you, instead of rejecting me, call me, wait for me, welcome me because you wish to fill me with grace, gifts, favours mercies. Love, infinite love, incomprehensible love, unknown love, outrageous love, make me all love in time and in eternity”.



This experience is and will always be a memorable one that I will not forget.

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on #209