

Thy Kingdom Come!

Rome, October 9, 2012

To my Brothers in the Legion of Christ
And to all the Members of Regnum Christi

My very dear friends,

To each one of you I send my greetings, esteem and gratitude as we begin the Year of Faith. Christ Jesus has brought us together in this boat and he fills us with the power of his love.

Next January it will be eight years since we held our General Chapter. Looking back, from my incorporation into ECYD until today, what I feel most strongly is a deep sense of gratitude for everything God has allowed in his Divine Providence. Thirty years ago today I had the grace of making my perpetual profession after several years of religious life, which came after a very happy experience in consecrated life.

When I was asked in January 2005 if I would accept the position of General Director, I did so fearfully and somewhat uneasily, but trusting that God's strength is present in our weakness. I knew that any one of us would have said "yes" like Mary on the day of her Annunciation. Since then, the words of St Paul in his letter to the Romans have brought me much confidence: "God works with those who love him..., and turns everything to their good." (Rom 8:28) "Can anything cut us off from the love of Christ...?" (Rom 8:35) If we do all things seeking to make our own the mind of Christ who is the Way, the Truth and the Life, we will always be at peace.

God alone knows the measure of the esteem and gratitude I have for you. I say sincerely that every day I love the Legion and the Movement more, because they are the vessel that Christ has called us to board. Together on board this ship we've set out across seas that are sometimes calm and other times stormy, at the service of the Church we love so much.

God has been and is infinitely good. He is nothing but love. He is the Father of Mercies who accompanies our journey to the goal, which is heaven. He

helps each one of us to renew our personal answer to Christ who in calling us to be his friends (cf. John 15:14) invited us to follow him unconditionally, whatever the price. We know that the cross will always be the path to holiness and apostolic fruitfulness in the service of our brothers and sisters.

I can see that the Legion and Regnum Christi are working their way forward on the path of renewal. It is path of suffering, still difficult and complex, but full of hope. In recent months I have felt the great support of the General Council, which has begun to take on an increasingly active role. Cardinal de Paolis has been close to us with his guidance, very wise, giving us his energies and his time.

Lately, I have had various conversations with our Papal Delegate regarding the stage we are at. We have seen that preparing the Legion of Christ for the General Chapter and exercising its ordinary government is a combined task that requires all of one's energies and capabilities. I have also been reading and reflecting on the numbers of our Constitutions regarding the qualities the general director ought to possess. Concretely, there is one that requires the General Director to be vigorously healthy. (CLC 469, 10) I don't find it easy to admit, but out of my love for each one of you, the Legion and the Movement, I have seen before God that I do not have the health and energy necessary to face responsibly the demands of the general governance in the present time in the history of the Legion and Regnum Christi. Though I am not gravely ill, we do need someone who is in full health.

For this reason, after seeking the advice of several priests and especially the General Council, and having received the approval of the Papal Delegate, I have resolved before God to apply number 509 of our Constitutions and hand over to our Vicar General the exercise of my functions as General Director, from now until the next General Chapter is convoked.

During this time, "the approval of the decisions of the General Directorate of the Legion: those to do with people (admission to novitiate, religious profession, the priesthood; the assignment and transfer of personnel), decisions in the areas of apostolate and formation (seminaries, academic institutions, schools) and matters of extraordinary administration or sale of properties" are reserved to the Papal Delegate. (Decree from the Secretariat of State, July 9, 2010)

In this new stage, being a General Director who will not exercise his faculties of governance, it is my lively desire to continue to offer you my closeness and company, with all my heart, to promote with you and advance together with you along the path of renewal on which we have set out. I believe in the Legion and the Movement with all I am, and I love her with all my heart, because that is how I love the Church. You know I would give my life for each one of you.

I ask you all to continue to support Cardinal Velasio De Paolis with your dedication and adherence. Let us all support Fr. Sylvester with our obedience and closeness. He is a young priest who loves the Legion and the Movement greatly, and I trust fully that he will be able to fulfill very capably the responsibility that is being entrusted to him.

All I want to say is that I am very grateful to you all, and my desire is that we all give our lives to live the commandment of Christ. Charity has to be our hallmark us as followers of Christ. This is a marvelous opportunity to live our motto: Thy Kingdom Come! It is Christ who reigns in our minds, hearts and in each one of our acts.

Remembering our religious profession, we invoke Mary. Her “yes” was forever, in the silence of love, unconditional, in the mystery of faith. With prayer, everything is possible.

I embrace you,
Your brother in Christ,
Alvaro Corcuera, LC