

From the Vatican, September 9, 2021

N. 533.554

Brother Mark Hilton SC
Superior General
Institute of the Brothers of the Sacred Heart
Piazza del Sacro Cuore 3
00151 Roma

Dear Brother,

In your letter of March 19, you requested a message from the Holy Father on the occasion of the bicentenary of the founding of the Brothers of the Sacred Heart in Lyon, which will be celebrated on September 30. In response to your request, the Holy Father has asked H.E. the Cardinal Secretary of State to send you the following message:

« BROTHER MARK HILTON
SUPERIOR GENERAL OF THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE SACRED
HEART ROME

AS YOU GATHER TO CELEBRATE THE BICENTENARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE SACRED HEART, HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS JOINS IN THOUGHT AND PRAYER THE JOY OF ALL THE BROTHERS AND OF THE ENTIRE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY OF THE PARISH OF SAINT-BRUNO-DES-CHARTREUX. REMEMBERING THE WORK OF EVANGELIZATION ACCOMPLISHED DURING THE PAST TWO CENTURIES, DURING WHICH YOUR INSTITUTE HAS SOUGHT TO FULFILL ITS EDUCATIONAL MISSION AT THE SERVICE OF YOUNG PEOPLE AND THEIR FAMILIES, HE GIVES THANKS FOR THE GIFTS RECEIVED FROM THE LORD.

THIS JUBILEE OFFERS YOU THE OPPORTUNITY TO REVISIT YOUR COMMITMENTS, IN THE LIGHT OF THE HERITAGE YOU HAVE RECEIVED FROM YOUR FOUNDER, FATHER ANDRÉ COINDRE, IN VIEW OF A RENEWAL AND AN EVER-GREATER FIDELITY TO YOUR CHARISM. MAY IT ALSO ENCOURAGE YOU TO RESPOND, AS HE DID, TO THE CURRENT CHALLENGES FACING EDUCATION, ESPECIALLY IN THESE TIMES OF PANDEMIC TODAY MILLIONS OF CHILDREN COULD BE FORCED TO DROP OUT OF SCHOOL BECAUSE OF THE ECONOMIC CRISIS GENERATED BY THE CORONAVIRUS (SEE VIDEO MESSAGE: "GLOBAL COMPACT ON EDUCATION. TOGETHER TO LOOK BEYOND", 15 OCTOBER 2020). THE HOLY FATHER ENCOURAGES YOU TO BE ARDENT WITNESSES OF THE RISEN CHRIST, ESPECIALLY TO YOUNG PEOPLE IN DIFFICULT SITUATIONS.

BE BUILDERS OF A CIVILIZATION OF HOPE BY LISTENING TO "THE CRY OF THE NEW GENERATIONS THAT HIGHLIGHTS THE DEMANDS AND, AT THE SAME TIME, THE STIMULATING OPPORTUNITIES OF A RENEWED EDUCATIONAL JOURNEY"

(IBID.). ENTRUSTING THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE SACRED HEART TO THE PROTECTION OF THE VIRGIN MARY, POPE FRANCIS GRANTS YOU HIS APOSTOLIC BLESSING WITH ALL HIS HEART, WHICH HE GLADLY EXTENDS TO THOSE CLOSE TO YOU AND TO ALL THOSE WHO BENEFIT FROM YOUR MISSION THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.

CARDINAL PIETRO PAROLIN
SECRETARY OF STATE OF HIS HOLINESS".

While congratulating you on the anniversary of your Institute, please accept, dear Brother, my religious and devoted sentiments.

+ Edgar Peña Parra
Deputy