



Rome, 3 February 2017

Dear brothers and sisters,  
blessing and peace to all in Christ the Master.

On the occasion of the 2<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of the election of Fr Valdir José De Castro as Superior General of the Society of St Paul, which took place on 4 February 2015, I am pleased to express a thought of thanks and gratitude to God and to Fr Valdir himself on behalf of all the Paulines and the whole Pauline Family.

Going around the Circumscriptions, it is to be noted with joy that prayer always accompanies our Superior General and for his intentions. The coverage of prayer that every Pauline contributes daily for our Superior General builds up the unity of the Congregation and helps his journey for the good of all. Our support for his animation work and guidance do not lose the strength of the early days and become fraternal closeness and prayer for him every day.

After two years, Fr Valdir has conscientiously taken well the great problems of the Congregation, but at the same time, he is showing us the way to address them and, God willing, to successfully get out from them. Moreover, the way that he is showing us, persistently and forcefully, is to **“create a new Pauline synthesis”**. We need to pool together our diversities that can become wealth for all. We need to create a synthesis of our differences, but a synthesis that is Pauline. The commitment and the conversion, which we are all called by the ministry of animation of our Superior General, could be summed up in this: **“refocus our life”**.

Refocus our life on the Gospel, which is Christ the Master.

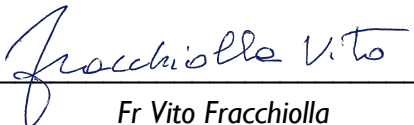
Refocus our life on good fraternal relationships.

Refocus our life on integral communication.

Dear Father Valdir, do not be discouraged if at times we are deaf to your appeals. Continue to be “a gift of God” for the Society of St Paul, for the Pauline Family, for each of us.

May the Lord help us to walk together in the spirit of our Father Saint Paul and with the protection of our Blessed James Alberione.

Thank you Fr Valdir!

  
Fr Vito Fracchiolla  
Vicar General of the Society of St Paul