

can help us to recall that "the whole is greater than the sum of its parts" (Pope Francis, *Evangelii Gaudium*, no. 235). Unity is a more important value than so many other things, precisely because it is a condition for life.

Rome, January 18

[Back to Contents](#)

Message of February 14

My dear children: may Jesus watch over my daughters and sons for me!

During the past year, I have asked you on several occasions to pray for the plan to reorganize the territory of some regions, so that better coordination may give rise to a renewed apostolic impulse. In fact, in the monthly intention that began last October 2 and that will last the whole year, I suggested that you contribute to this project by transforming every moment of your life into prayer. Now, as we approach the midpoint of this year, it may be a good opportunity to rekindle this intention.

As you know, the Pope was happy to learn about this initiative, as it will enable more people to dispense with organizational work and "get out on the street" more, making the spirit of the Work directly present with their personal apostolate in their family and professional settings. This plan is not without its difficulties; let us feel that, in this effort too, the Work is in our hands. Thanks to the communion of saints, we are all working in the same task to serve God and our fellow men and women.

Today marks a new anniversary of the founding of the Women's Section and of the Priestly Society of the Holy Cross. Let us live this feast – and every day – with a spirit of thanksgiving that leads us to remember continually that everything good comes to us from God, often through others, and especially in the Work, through the fidelity of Saint Josemaría.

Rome, 14 February 2022

[Back to Contents](#)

Message of February 26, on the Occasion of the Pope's Call to Prayer and Fasting for Peace

My dear children: may Jesus watch over my daughters and sons for me!

Faced with the new war in Europe, let us unite ourselves wholeheartedly to the Pope's invitation to respond to violence with prayer and fasting. In addition to the day of fasting for peace that we will observe on 2 March, let us, with the confidence that comes from being his children, continue imploring God frequently every day for the gift of peace.

Prayer and the experience of fasting bring us closer to those people who are suffering from deprivation and anxiety, and whose future is uncertain.

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God” (*Mt* 5:9). It is natural for us to feel powerless to change the course of history. But let us rely on the strength of prayer. Without our Lord, all efforts to bring peace to hearts will fall short. At the same time, let us realize that peace is an ongoing task. Taking an active role in living this beatitude means contributing to and fostering peace in our own families, at work, and in society, because God wants each one of us to be a guardian of our brothers and sisters (cf. *Gen* 4:9).

Especially at Holy Mass, and in our prayer to our Lady, Queen of Peace, let us be very mindful of all those who are suffering.

Rome, 26 February 2022

[Back to Contents](#)

Message of March 19 Regarding the Apostolic Constitution *Praedicate Evangelium*

My dear children: may Jesus watch over my daughters and sons for me!

You may have heard that this morning Pope Francis approved the Apostolic Constitution *Praedicate Evangelium*, which reorganizes the Roman Curia and for which I invite you to pray. Among the many changes, it provides for personal prelatures to be placed under the Congregation for the Clergy.

This changes the ordinary department for communication with the Holy See (many of the matters about which the Prelature normally deals with the Roman Curia are related to its presbyterate), but in no way modifies the essential nature of the Prelature of Opus Dei, made up of laity and priests, women and men, as established in the Statutes that the Apostolic See gave to the Work.

On the solemnity of St. Joseph, patron of the universal Church, we entrust to the Lord the service that the Roman Curia renders the Church and the world. Let us also ask our Lord that every lay person and every priest, every woman and every man of Opus Dei may know how to live with an evangelizing attitude, with optimism, offering our friendship to all people and seeking above all the friendship of Jesus Christ.

Rome, 19 March 2022

[Back to Contents](#)

Message of March 23

I am writing to you again to tell you that on March 25th you will receive a longer