

letter, dated last March 19th, about fidelity. You will not find any reference to the Constitution *Praedicate Evangelium*, since it was written before the constitution was published, and, moreover, the object of the letter is not directly related to that document.

On that day, the Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord, Pope Francis will consecrate Russia and Ukraine to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Let us join the Holy Father in this act of trust in the powerful intercession of our Mother. Let us go to her who is all-powerful in supplication, asking that she may change the hearts of men and that we all may be instruments of peace.

From many places I am hearing news about the many initiatives that you, together with so many people of good will, are organizing to help the victims of the war. God will bless these efforts with abundant fruits of peace, serenity and joy. As Saint Josemaría said, we Christians have to “drown evil in an abundance of good.”

Rome, 23 March 2022

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Message of May 24

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

The words from Scripture “I will make the nations your heritage, and the ends of the earth your possession” (*Ps* 2:8) are a prophetic reference to Christ, and therefore, in Him and with Him, to each one of us. Nothing in the world is foreign to us Christians.

May this truth lead us to feel as very much our own all the joys and sorrows in the world, and to be “constant in prayer” and always “joyful in hope” (cf. *Rom* 12:12). Let us have recourse to the intercession of our Mother Mary, especially during this month of May.

Rome, 24 May 2022

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Message of June 14, on the Occasion of the Conclusion of the Year of the Family

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

June 26th will end the Year of the Family convoked by Pope Francis, who has invited us to reflect on the importance of the family in the Church and in all of society.

The family is the first setting where a person becomes aware of being loved for who he or she is and learns to love others. All families have their strengths and weaknesses, their good times and their difficulties. But our Lord is always calling us to look at each person

with gratitude and love. Loving others as they are – with their virtues and defects – will lead us to have a heart in harmony with that of Jesus. As Saint Josemaría said: “The human heart is endowed with an enormous coefficient of expansion. When it loves, it opens out in a ‘crescendo’ of affection that overcomes all barriers. If you love our Lord, there will not be a single creature that does not find a place in your heart” (*The Way of the Cross*, Eighth Station, no. 5).

Couples who try to build a Christian family today face many challenges. Among these are reconciling family duties with their work, social relationships, rest and so on. Therefore it is very good to accompany them from the very beginning of their marriage path. I encourage you to promote activities and initiatives along these lines, knowing that they have a “multiplying effect.” “How important it is that young people see with their own eyes Christ’s love alive and present in the love of married couples, who give testimony with their own life that a love that lasts forever is possible!” (Francis, Video message, 9 June 2021).

We entrust to Jesus, Mary and Joseph the fruits of the Year of the Family that is now ending. We ask them that all Christian homes may be a reflection of the home in Nazareth.

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Pastoral Trips

Poland, June 21-27, 2022

In the afternoon of *Tuesday, June 21*, the Prelate landed at the airport in Wrocław, where some families welcomed him. He then went to an Opus Dei center in the city and participated in Benediction with the Blessed Sacrament there during the octave of Corpus Christi. Later he met with the rector of the Pontifical Faculty of Theology, Msgr. Włodzimierz Wołyniec, who the following day was to confer on him an honorary doctorate. That night he stayed in the diocesan seminary.

At 9 am on *Wednesday, June 22*, Msgr. Fernando Ocáriz concelebrated Holy Mass in the cathedral with a number of bishops and priests. Bishop Józef Kupny of Wrocław presided at the ceremony. Academic authorities from the University of Wrocław and many faithful also took part. In his homily, Bishop Damian Bryl of Kalisz, a nearby town, referred to Msgr. Ocáriz’s approach to the challenges of today’s world in his written works, in which he tries to identify the key questions that excite people and their openness to the light of the Gospel.

Later that morning, in the aula magna of the Pontifical Faculty of Theology, the academic act of investiture of the Prelate as doctor *honoris causa* took place. After the official welcome to the academic community of Wrocław and the rector’s *laudatio* (the