

As we do every year, on August 15th, the Solemnity of the Assumption of Our Lady, we will renew the consecration of the Work to the Most Sweet Heart of Mary, which our Father made in Loreto in 1951.

Following Saint Josemaría's example, let us keep very much alive our determination to care for the Work, in service of the Church and all mankind.

Therefore I invite you to renew your effective desires for holiness and apostolate, in response to God's grace. These desires are expressed in a daily, joyful and hope-filled fidelity, despite our personal limitations.

The Work is truly in the hands of each one of us. This is at the same time both a gift from God and our responsibility. As I told you several months ago, "with God's grace we will be able to build, through changing historical times, the continuity of the Work in fidelity to its origin. This is the essential continuity between past, present and future that is proper to a living reality" (Pastoral Letter, March 19, 2022). Let us renew these resolutions to be faithful and have recourse to Mary's motherly mediation.

Accompany me with your prayer on the trip I will be making to Jerusalem in a few days. And let us pray together for the intentions of the Holy Father, now especially for the upcoming consistory at the end of the month.

Rome, August 12, 2022

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Message of September 10

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

During the recent days spent in the Holy Land, I have kept you especially present in my prayer, knowing that I am also accompanied by yours. In each of those holy sites, I naturally imagined our Lord as being there and, at the same time, I remembered that He is always with us in each Tabernacle. I cannot resist writing these words of our Father, which we all know so well: "If the center around which your thoughts and hopes turn is

the Tabernacle, then, my child, how abundant the fruits of your sanctity and apostolate will be!” (*The Forge*, no. 835). Let us try, day by day, to make them our life.

Continue praying for the task the Pope has entrusted to us to adapt the Statutes of the Work to what is indicated in the Motu proprio *Ad charisma tuendum*. We have already started to study – in the General Council and the Central Advisory – the best way to carry it out.

On the 15th we will remember the election of Blessed Alvaro. Let us turn to his intercession and try to imitate his fidelity, as Saint Josemaría advised us.

Rome, September 10, 2022

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Message of November 18

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

I give great thanks to God for the days I have spent in Mexico. Once again, I have seen, through the love and care of so many people, that the Work is a true family.

Before Our Lady of Guadalupe, I remembered and tried to make my own Saint Josemaría’s words to our Lady, also on his trip to Mexico: “Now I tell you with my heart enkindled: *monstra te esse Matrem!* – “show us that you are our Mother!” And he continued: “If a small child asked his mother this, we can be sure that no mother would fail to be moved.” This is how we approach our dialogue with our Lord and our Lady: with the trust and naturalness of children.

We are certain that Jesus and his Mother are ready to receive our prayer at any time. Therefore, I encourage you to abandon in their hands the needs of the world and of the Church. Perhaps you remember that Don Javier recounted how, on one occasion, Saint Josemaría asked him: “Are you praying now, my son?” And, without waiting for an answer, he added: “I never stop.”