



**CONVEGNO DI STUDIO
DON ALBERIONE
"FONDATORE"**

Ariccia 23-25 novembre 2014



THANKSGIVING AT THE END OF THE CONVENTION ON DON ALBERIONE "FOUNDER"

This is not to say goodbye because we have already finished the *Convention on Don Alberione "Founder,"* but I would like to say to all of you that we have just started the real challenge of the Convention, which consists in putting into practice what we have heard, seen, touched and experienced as a Family during these two days full of goodness and rich sharing.

However, I want to start right away my big thanks, on behalf of the entire General Government and the community of the General House of the Society of St. Paul, to all of you.

- Father Carlo Cibien, General Councillor and Coordinator of the Conference
- All our friends, our sisters and our brothers who have shared with us their time, the wealth and talent of their person in the various interventions
- Our translators, who have done their best
- Brother Luigi Furcas with all members of this welcoming community
- The people of the various services of this complex: the ladies at the front desk, the ladies and gentlemen in the kitchen and the men involved in the care and maintenance of the house and its environment
- All of you, our attentive listeners who are patient and willing, and in a special way, the Superiors General and their governments
- Father Silvio Sassi, because it was he who first wanted to and, after, has confirmed with joy to all the members of the General Governments of the FP in January 2013, this Conference

With you all I thank in a special way God the Father, through Jesus Master in the Holy Spirit, so that to the Holy Trinity alone be honor and glory. That through the intercession of the Queen of the Apostles, of St. Paul, of Blessed James Alberione and of all our Pauline saints, this Conference shared and participated in bear abundant fruits in our lives and in our mission.

I also wanted to tell you that it was the Superior General Fr. Silvio Sassi who suggested that, besides the Major Superior of each circumscription, another confrere well chosen from among others would also join, so that he could share effectively the materials of the Conference to members of their own circumscription and to the other members of the Pauline Family of his respective Country. Therefore, as you have noticed, not only the Major Superiors came but also other confreres.

I would like to end this thanksgiving with a personal story. 23 years ago, in Via della Fanella where we had for a few years our General House, I had the opportunity to present to the community a synthesis of my thesis entitled "The Pedagogical Application of the Way-Truth-Life Method in the Pauline Formation", in which I pointed out that we have four models of this method, namely: Jesus Master, Mary Queen of the Apostles, St. Paul the Apostle and Fr. James Alberione. After the presentation, a confrere asked me privately, "And who is the fifth model?" At that moment I could not answer. Then, he told aside: "Each of us is the fifth model, Fr. James Alberione alive today." Agree, but I would like to add: Yes, model non only in the mind and desire but most of all in the will and in life.

Now, I ask you the same question: "And for you, who is the fifth model?"

Congratulations and thank you very much to all and happy continuation on your journey!

(CCG, 25 November 2014, Casa Divin Maestro, Ariccia, Rome)