



Prot. No. 155c/21 SG

Rome, 11 September 2021

**TO THE SUPERIORS OF CIRCUMSCRIPTIONS
AND TO THE DIRECTORS GENERAL OF THE APOSTOLATE**
Their Respective Seats

Subject: **Choice of the Editorial Theme for the Year 2022**

Dear Brothers,

As required by the *Editorial Guidelines: Identity, Contents and Interlocutors of the Pauline Apostolate* in paragraph 6.3.4, I am writing to inform you that, after having listened to the opinion of the CTIA and the Directors General of the Apostolate, and having reflected on this topic with the General Council, we have chosen, as editorial theme for 2022, the same one that will animate the upcoming Synod of Bishops: “FOR A SYNODAL CHURCH: COMMUNION, PARTICIPATION, AND MISSION”.

The next Synod, as has been widely disseminated, will take place in a process that will last for two years, with the opening in Rome by Pope Francis on 9-10 October 2021, and which will have as a fundamental stage the celebration of the XVI Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops in October 2023. The *Preparatory Document* and the *Vademecum*, already available on the website www.synod.va, are essential readings to understand this itinerary.

We too are called to participate in this synodal journey, both directly in the particular Churches, to which our communities belong, and through our apostolate in the field of communication.

In this regard, the *Preparatory Document*, among the ten thematic nuclei to be explored, presents one entitled “*Forming Ourselves in Synodality*”, with some questions that can inspire our editions: «*How do we form people, especially those who hold roles of responsibility within the Christian community, to make them more capable of “journeying together”, listening to one another and engaging in dialogue? What formation do we offer for discernment and the exercise of authority? What tools help us to read the dynamics of the culture in which we are immersed and their impact on our style of Church?*».

The specific annual theme, which links with the three main thematic areas of our apostolic mission – the Bible, Family and Communication –, aims to be a contribution with a Pauline color to the synodal journey of the universal Church. We can actively participate in this ecclesial event both with our editorial production, and also in entering into this methodology of life and work, to grow as a synodal Congregation at the service of the Gospel in the culture of communication. May the Apostle Paul who, in following Jesus, knew how to work as a team for the proclamation of the Gospel, be a point of reference for us in this project.

Faternally,


Father Valdir José De Castro, SSP
Superior General