



Il Superiore Generale dei Passionisti

Prot.n. 2019.100

Your Eminence,

The Congregation of the Passion of Jesus Christ (Passionists) is about to celebrate 300 years of its foundation and wishes to use this historic occasion to deepen the sense of its charism and its mission in the Church, in response to the signs of the times and the teachings of Pope Francis.

For this celebration to be more effective and profound, we humbly ask to celebrate a Holy Year, a Passionist Jubilee, with the benefit of a plenary indulgence.

We would like to ask for the Jubilee from 22 November 2020 to 1 January 2022. In fact, on November 22, 1720, our founder, St. Paul of the Cross, after taking leave of his family, received from the Bishop of Alessandria a penitential garb and he subsequently retired to a small room adjacent to the sacristy of the church of San Carlo in Castellazzo Bormida (AL) to make a 40-day retreat. During this retreat, filled with mystical experiences and enlightenment, he wrote the first Rule of the future Congregation. For this reason, the "retreat at Castellazzo" is traditionally considered by the Passionists as the "founding event" of the Institute and as such was already celebrated a hundred years ago, in 1920-1921. The conclusion of the Jubilee year, on the other hand, would be on 01 January 2022, because it was on that date that Paul of the Cross ended the Castellazzo retreat.

The theme chosen for the Holy Passionist Year is "*Renewing Our Mission: Gratitude, Prophecy, Hope.*" It is the same theme as the General Chapter (October 2018) and will be that of the General Synod of the Congregation (October 2021). Therefore, the Jubilee becomes a means of verification and a catalyst in this process of renewal of the Congregation that springs from the needs of the "*Memoria Passionis*" (a phrase that synthesizes the Passionist charism).

The commitment to renewal was also inspired by the words of Pope Francis in his address to the members of the Passionist General Chapter (October 22, 2018). He reminded us that by placing "*the Passion of Jesus at the center of our life and mission*", we are committed to "*being close to those who, in any way or form, are suffering*", to embrace "*the new frontiers of mission and new challenges*" to become "*ministers of spiritual healing and reconciliation*".

Therefore, we ask that the Jubilee be celebrated, and a plenary indulgence be accessible:

1. On each day of the Jubilee year in the following locations related to the Founder:

- **Ovada (AL)**, visiting the birthplace of St Paul of the Cross, a national monument, owned by the Congregation. The nearby Passionist community will help pilgrims to devoutly celebrated the Jubilee.
- **The Monastery of the Presentation of the B.V.M.**, on Monte Argentario, the first Passionist monastery founded by Paul of the Cross, where he lived from 1727 to 1744. It is the site of the Passionist novitiate.
- **The Monastery of Sant'Angelo of Vetralla (VT)**, founded by St. Paul, and where he lived from 1744 to 1772.



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- **The Monastery of Sts. John and Paul** (Rome) consigned to the Founder by Pope Clement XIV, and where St. Paul lived the last two years of his life and where he died (October 18, 1775) and where his sacred remains are preserved. It is the Generalate of the Congregation.

We would like the Jubilee to be celebrated by all members of the Passionist Family, now located in 63 countries on 5 continents, especially those who will not be able to make a pilgrimage to Rome or Italy. That is why we ask that it be celebrated as well:

2. One day in 4 circumstances during the Jubilee year in all convents and Passionist monasteries

- **In each convent or monastery** of the two Congregations founded by St. Paul of the Cross (male and cloistered female branches) it will be possible to celebrate the Jubilee and acquire the plenary indulgence in 4 circumstances during the Jubilee year, by choice: the feast of St. Paul of the Cross (even outside the date of the liturgical feast), the Solemn Commemoration of the Passion (Friday before Ash Wednesday), a specially planned Jubilee event, opening, closing of the Jubilee, etc...;

3. One day during Chapters, Assemblies, Congresses, Passionist Formation Meetings.

- **It will be possible to celebrate the Jubilee on one day during Chapters, Provincial and Vice Provincial Assemblies and Congresses of Vicariates**, during retreats preached in our retreat centers or preached by Passionists, as well as at spiritual, theological or pastoral **formation meetings** organized by the Congregation.

Faithful to the inspiration of our Founder who affirmed that the Passion of Christ is the "greatest and most beautiful work of divine love" and the remedy for the evils of the world, may the Passionist Jubilee help to intensify our consecration to the Passion of the Lord and make more convincing and fruitful our proclamation of God's saving love, in the certainty of love's victory over selfishness, hatred, and evil.

Your Eminence, I assure you that the whole Congregation is preparing for the Jubilee with great hope and joy. With deep esteem I offer you my sincerest best wishes in our crucified and resurrected Lord.

Respectfully,

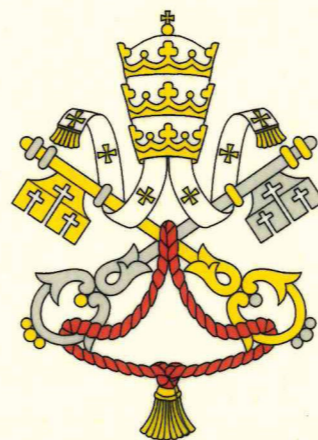


Fr. Joachim Rego, CP
Superior General

Sts. John and Paul, Rome

14 September 2019, *Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross*

S. Em.za Rev.ma
Card. Mauro PIACENZA
Penitenziere Maggiore
Piazza della Cancelleria, 1
00186 ROMA



Prot. N. 1332/19/I

DECRETUM

PAENITENTIARIA APOSTOLICA, ad augendam fidelium religionem animarumque salutem, vi facultatum sibi specialissimo modo a Sanctissimo in Christo Patre et Domino Nostro, Domino Francisco Divina Providentia Papa tributarum, attentis precibus nuper allatis a Rev.do P. Ioachimo Rego, Superiore Generali Congregationis Passionis Iesu Christi, in trecentesimo anniversario ex quo Sanctus Paulus a Cruce in eiusdem "recessu de Castellatio" praefatam Congregationem fundavit, de caelestibus Ecclesiae thesauris benigne concedit plenariam Indulgentiam, suetis sub condicionibus (sacramentali Confessione, eucharistica Communionem et oratione ad mentem Summi Pontificis) ab omnibus christifidelibus vere paenitentibus atque caritate compulsis lucranda, quam etiam animabus fidelium in Purgatorio detentis per modum suffragii applicare possint, dummodo iubilariis celebrationibus devote interfuerint: - a die XXII Novembris MMXX usque ad diem I Ianuarii MMXXII in Uvadensi domo natali Sancti Pauli a Cruce; in Praesentationis Beatae Mariae Virginis Conventu de Monte Argentario; in Sancti Angeli Conventu de Vetrallae; in SS. Ioannis et Pauli Conventu de Urbe; - semel in iubilari anno, in omnibus Conventibus et Monasteriis Congregationi Passionis Iesu Christi spectantibus, die a Patribus et Monialibus libere eligendo in precipuis quattuor et aliis peculiaribus circumstantiis, ut in supplicibus litteris iam determinatis, vel saltem coram Sancti Fundatoris exuviis per congruum temporis spatium piis vacaverint considerationibus, concludendis Oratione Dominica, Symbolo Fidei atque invocationibus Domini Nostri Iesu Christi Crucifixi, Beatae Mariae Virginis Perdolentis et Sancti Pauli a Cruce.

Senes, infirmi omnesque qui gravi causa domo exire nequeunt, pariter plenariam consequi poterunt Indulgentiam, concepta detestatione cuiusque peccati et intentione praestandi, ubi primum licuerit, tres consuetas condiciones, si iubilariis celebrationibus se spiritaliter adiunxerint, precibus doloribusque suis vel incommodis propriae vitae misericordiae Deo oblatis.


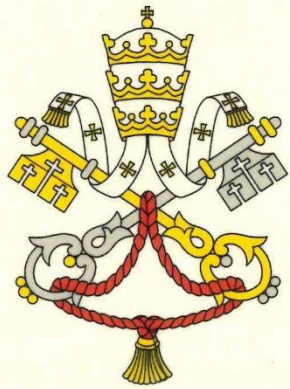
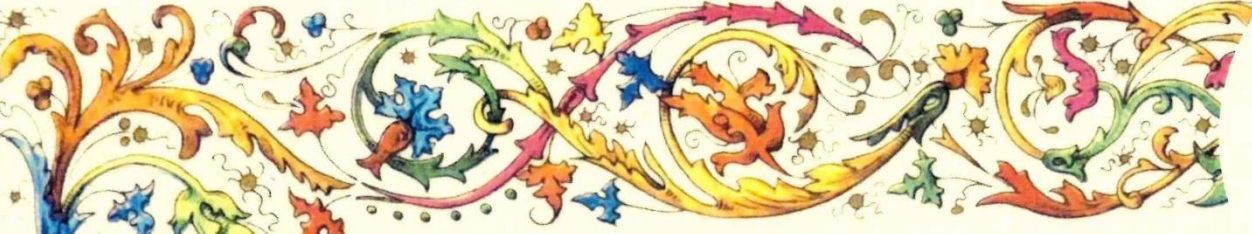

Quo igitur accessus, ad divinam veniam per Ecclesiae claves consequendam, facilius pro pastoralis caritate evadat, haec Paenitentia enixe rogat ut Patres ex Congregatione Passionis Iesu Christi, prompto et generoso animo, celebrationi Paenitentiae sese praebeant.

Praesenti totum per Congregationis Passionis Iesu Christi Iubilaeum valituro. Non obstantibus in contrarium facientibus quibuscumque.

Datum Romae, ex aedibus Paenitentiarum Apostolicarum, die XIV mensis Septembris, in Exaltatione Sanctae Crucis, anno Dominicae Incarnationis MMXX.

Maurus Card. Piacenza
MAURUS Card. PIACENZA
Paenitentiarum Maior

Christophorus Nykiel
CHRISTOPHORUS NYKIEL
Regens



Prot. N. 1332/19/I

DECRETUM

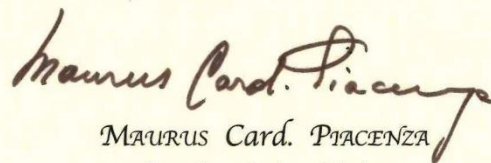
In order to increase the devotion of the faithful and for the salvation of souls, the APOSTOLIC PENITENTIARY, by virtue of the faculties granted to it in a very special way by our Holy Father in Christ by Divine Providence, Pope Francis, accepting the request recently addressed to us by Father Joachim Rego, Superior General of the Congregation of the Passion of Jesus Christ, on the occasion of the 300th anniversary of the founding of the aforementioned Congregation by St. Paul of the Cross in his retreat at Castellazzo, drawing from the heavenly treasures of the Church, benignly grants a plenary indulgence. It may be attained via the usual requirements (sacramental confession, Eucharistic Communion, and prayer for the Pope's intentions) by all Christians who are sincerely repentant and motivated by piety, and if they have devoutly participated in the Jubilee celebrations. The indulgence can also be applied in suffrage for the souls of the deceased faithful in Purgatory. It may be obtained from 22 November 2020 until 01 January 2022, in the birthplace of St. Paul of the Cross in Ovada; at the monastery of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary on Monte Argentario; at the monastery of Sant'Angelo in Vetralla; and in the monastery of Saints John and Paul in Rome. Additionally, during the Jubilee year in all convents and monasteries of the Congregation of the Passion of Jesus Christ the indulgence may be obtained on a day to be freely chosen by the religious and nuns during four special events or on other extraordinary occasions (anniversaries), as already indicated in the letter of request. Furthermore, the indulgence may be gained by at least spending an appropriate period of time before the sacred remains of the Holy Founder in devout meditation and concluding with the prayer of the Our Father and the Creed, and with a prayer to our Lord Jesus Crucified, to the Virgin Mary, our Lady of Sorrows, and to St. Paul of the Cross.

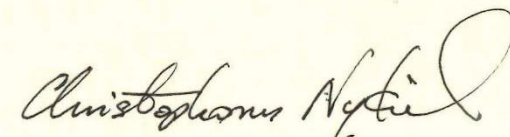
Additionally, the elderly, the sick and all those who, for grave reason, cannot leave their homes, will be able to obtain the plenary indulgence by repenting of all sins, and by intending to fulfill the usual three conditions as soon as possible if they have spiritually participated in the Jubilee celebrations, having offered the merciful Lord their prayers and sufferings and the hardships of their lives.

Furthermore, for facilitating the granting of divine forgiveness to be obtained through the Church, this Penitentiary strongly recommends that the priests of the Congregation of the Passion of Jesus Christ strive with a ready and generous spirit to administer the sacrament of Reconciliation.

This decree is valid for the duration of the Jubilee of the Congregation of the Passion of Jesus Christ. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary by anyone.

Issued in Rome, at the site of the Apostolic Penitentiary, on the 14th day of the month of September, the feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, in the year of our Lord, 2020.


MAURUS Card. PIACENZA
Paenitentiaris Maior


CHRISTOPHORUS NYKJEL
Regens