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To the Rogationists,
the Daughters of Divine Zeal,
the Rogationist Lay Missionaries,
the Laity of the Family of Rogate.

Dearest,

We are approaching the conclusion of the Eucharistic Year, while we recently celebrated the feast of Corpus Christi and we are preparing to celebrate the Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus.

The great mystery of God the Father, who comes to us through the Spirit, in union with his Son, Jesus, who loved us with the greatest love, by giving his life for our salvation, is renewed for us every day.

As much as we could, we have spent a year together, Rogationists, Daughters of Divine Zeal, Rogationist Lay Missionaries, and Laity of the Family of Rogate, and we draw nearer among ourselves in a greater closeness to the Blessed Sacrament.

In the letter of proclamation of this Eucharistic Year, the 125th anniversary of July 1st, we recalled that the first coming of Jesus in the Eucharist in order to “dwell among us” permanently, is not simply an important date to remember, but a memorial which marks our existence as sons and daughters of the Pious Work, in the footsteps of our Founder, Saint Hannibal Mary Di Francia.

We have been reminded that Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament from that moment, with his presence, became and remains, our Founder, the Superior, the God who loves us and humbled himself to join us, our guide, our brother, our companion.

Attracted by his love and compassion, among the hovels of the Avignone Quarters, he became small and poor in the midst of a crowd of outcasts, who have found dignity and hope in his presence.

Our closeness to the Blessed Sacrament, then, dear brothers and sisters, naturally brings us closer to the little ones and the poor.

This too is part of the legacy that we have received. We can acknowledge that in our Circumscriptions and Communities, and in each one of us, the sensitivity and concrete solidarity towards our less fortunate brothers and sisters remains alive.

Our Eucharistic spirituality is meant to be lived in our closeness to the little ones and the poor.

The Eucharistic Heart of Jesus is the source of the charism and spirituality that characterize us; it is the supreme model that our holy Founder tried to follow throughout his

whole life. In our familiarity and closeness with the Blessed Sacrament we find the light and strength to continue on our path of consecration.

The liturgy reminds us that when we approach the altar we bring the “joy and the struggle of everyday life.” Perhaps, without wanting to be pessimistic, due to objective or even to personal problems, we sometimes perceive more the weariness rather than the serenity and joy.

Hence we are invited to listen to the assuring words of the Lord, which Pope John Paul II reminded us in his speech on October 17, 2004, at the beginning of the Eucharist Year: “*I am with you always, to the end of the world*” (Mt 28, 20). Gathered before the Eucharist – he said – we experience with particular vividness the truth of Christ's promise: He is with us!

He is with us and his presence wants to be for each one of us a constant and strong invitation “to be with Him” every day.

Dear brothers and sisters, with this joint letter, we would like to announce to you the closing of our Eucharist Year, this coming 1st of July 2012.

We know however that the years that will follow, enlightened by the Spirit of the Lord, will equally be Eucharistic years, and close to the Eucharist we wish that the Lord may continue to let his seasons and days flow upon us.

We know that in the Eucharist our prayer for vocations finds its most significant expression. We would like to call your attention, at this moment, to an important event that will involve us as members of the Family of Rogate: the 50th World Day of Prayer for Vocations, to be held on the Fourth Sunday of Easter in 2013.

This annual Day that unites the whole Church together, in a cenacle of prayer for vocations, responds to the aspiration of the Heart of Jesus and to the ideal that Father Hannibal sought with great zeal throughout his existence. Such cenacle, according to the mind and heart of our Founder, as well as according to the exhortation of the Supreme Pontiffs during these years, should be extended in time and space in order to become an unceasing prayer for vocations by all.

We urge you, therefore, to look forward to this Day and prepare it in gratitude and with particular fervor.

The closing of the Eucharist Year, as it already happened in its opening, foresees a special memorial in Messina, but it will be celebrated in all our Communities. It will be characterized by the adoration to the Blessed Sacrament.

The day of July 1st will be prepared by a triduum, with a time dedicated for Eucharistic adoration. A Eucharistic vigil could also be organized on Saturday evening.

On Sunday, the TV station RAI 1 will broadcast the Holy Mass, presided by the Superior General, Fr. Angelo A. Mezzari, from the Basilica shrine of St. Anthony and the Temple of the Evangelical Rogation in Messina.

Soon after, the Eucharistic adoration will begin in the church of the Holy Spirit, Mother House of the Daughters of Divine Zeal.

As it was the case at the opening, also in these closing days of the Eucharistic Year, we will all be spiritually present in Messina and will be united with all those, Daughters of Divine

Zeal, Rogationists, Rogazionist Lay Missionaries and Laity of the Family of Rogate, who will have the opportunity to participate personally. Activities will be organized in the individual Communities as they deem it opportune.

Together with this letter we are sending to the Circumscriptions the Aids for the Eucharistic adorations, so that they can provide with the appropriate translations. They are just intended as simple aids, and therefore they can be suitably adapted to the different contexts and cultures, as well as to the specific formative, community or pastoral needs.

In particular, the scheme for the vigil is provided so that it could be done wherever it is deemed opportune.

Finally, in these final days of the Eucharistic Year, we would like to renew our gratitude to our Divine Superiors for the 125th foundation anniversary of the Daughters of Divine Zeal, and to present together as well the needs of the Congregation.

Dearest brothers and sisters, as we learned from Father Hannibal, let us live these closing days of the Eucharistic Year with hearts full of gratitude. Let us present to Jesus in the Sacrament our resolve to stay with Him who “came to dwell among us”. Let us ask Him, through the intercession of Mary, His Mother and our Mother, to learn to accept Him and keep Him in our hearts and in our lives.

With this wish, we bless you in the Sacred Hearts, our Divine Superiors.

Rome, June 15, 2012
Solemnity of the Sacred Heart

(Fr. Angelo A. Mezzari, R.C.J.)
Superior General

(Mo. M. Teolinda Salemi, F.D.Z.)
Superior General