Hermano Emili Turú, FMS

Superior General de los Hermanos Maristas

Medellín, Colombia

My Dear Brother Emili:

May the Holy Spirit be with you and all the capitulants as you begin to create this new Pentecost, this new LaValla in the name of the Little Brothers of Mary!

We would like to congratulate you on this, your XXII General Chapter, that, for the first time has been held outside of Europe. I can imagine the Joy that your Colombian Brothers, other religious and your lay colleagues must feel hosting this Chapter in Medellin, and at the same time how significant it must be for the entire institute that it is here, in the heart of your province. For all that the name of Medellin, tells us about audacity, prophetic nature and the incarnation, our respective charisms in our needed so much in our towns. How providential all this is within this context, the best to help bring about the new LaValla, on the edge of waiting.

The CLAR has felt very supported by your institute, with the presence of the Brothers, in particular, Brother Angel Medina and Brother Ignacio Nestor Edges, who have so generously collaborated and contributed to the office of the presidency of CLAR, in the last several years. In addition, the Brothers have also contributed by serving on various commissions as well as economically supported projects that help to create seminaries throughout the continent. The presidency of CLAR had the pleasure to be welcomed to the General House in Rome in 2014. The prayer service and the opportunity to be at table with the General Curate, allowed us personally to experience your witness your Marial presence.

Be assured of our prayerful support as you, members of the General Chapter create a new Pentecost so that you may be attentive to the whispering of the Spirit, the Divine Ruah, so that this experience may truly be for you a parable of fraternity and of the Magnificat.

May the visit of Pope Francis, not only move your hearts, but also mark this event as a sign of grace. Undoubtedly, may his words and invitation to “Remain in Christ”, and maintain with God a “significant relationship of dependence “which will help you to focus, from the beginning of your Chapter, the centrality of the presence of God and of the Kingdom.

Thank you for the fidelity of your vocation as Marist Brothers. Not because you are diminishing in numbers, that is of little regard. It is because of who you are as brothers; your sense of humility, simplicity and modesty that brings to life the presence of the Kingdom of God among those who come into your presence.

May Mary, Our Good Mother, teach you to collectively be the Magnificat during this Chapter and together, in communion with your lay partners, create the New LaValla.

Con mi gratitud hecha oración por este XXII Capítulo General, tu hermana en Él y Ella,

Mercedes L. Casas Sánchez, fsps

President of the CLAR (Confederation of Latin-American Religious)