

Vatican City, 9 November 2015

His Holiness Pope Francis
Santa Marta House
00120 Vatican City

Most Holy Father,

Gathered for the 25th anniversary of the Catholic Fraternity, we send you our most fraternal greetings in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. We thank you wholeheartedly for your fraternal message addressed to the Catholic Fraternity on this happy occasion.

We are sorry for not having replied to the letters you sent to the Catholic Fraternity and ICCRS which we have received during the III Worldwide Priest Retreat last June. Unfortunately we haven't had since then the occasion to meet again.

Your letter has been for us a surprising challenge. We recognized in it the prophetic direction of the Church to discover more deeply how we are called to serve the current of grace of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal.

Historically, and following the directions in our respective Statutes, the two presidents have often worked together, bearing witness to unity in diversity to the entire current of grace. This equally covers the work done jointly for the organization of the Colloquium on Charisms in 2008, the One Day Retreat for Priests in 2010, and the recent 3rd Worldwide Priests' Retreat.

We are well aware that you are asking us to deepen our communion and our service in a more radical way than we could imagine. This is certainly a crucial moment for our story, which will have consequences well beyond our Jubilee of 2017.

In response to the breath of the Spirit through your words, we give you, in faith, our "yes".

We commit ourselves to walk together in prayer and discernment to concretely implement this new direction.

We are well aware that this path involves not only those responsible, but all the realities we serve. These, certainly, will need time to adapt to this new path; we understand the responsibility of preserving the unity that has been built to date and over the years.

During the preparation of the Jubilee, we will have the opportunity to meet regularly, which will give us the opportunity to deepen our reflection on this vision.

Most Holy Father, we highly value your concern and the pastoral guidance that you offer us in these special moments. We would be very grateful if you could grant us an interview to deepen our dialogue and share face-to-face and in detail the next steps to follow.

We assure you of our prayer and repeat that we are at your service in the grace of the Holy Spirit.

Michelle Moran
President of ICCRS

Gilberto Gomes Barbosa
President of the Catholic Fraternity