



Cavanis Lay Fraternity
Sacred Heart House, CAVANIS INSTITUTE
Via Col Draga - Possagno (TV)

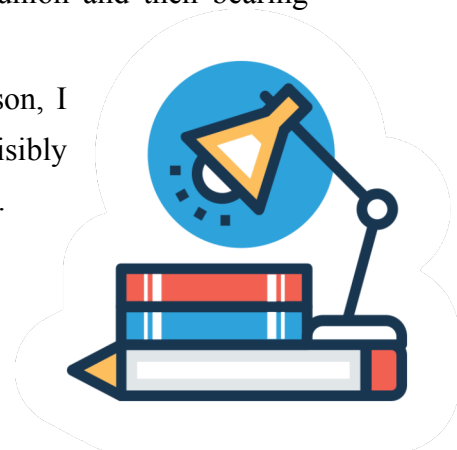
INVISIBLE MONASTERY

01.2023

Dearest friends!

As always, while drafting these lines, I live a singular time lag between the writing of these notes and the moment when we will celebrate together the joy of the fraternity that binds us. On one hand, I look at the coming Christmas of the Lord; and on the other hand, I think that we will live our experience of the Invisible Monastery immediately after the solemnity of Mary Most Holy Mother of God. Yet both these moments constitute a profound and privileged gaze on the great mystery of the Incarnation of the Lord. In Christmas the focus of attention is fixed on the Son who is born; and in the Solemnity of Mary, it is placed instead on the mother who generates him; but the event is the same and from memory it becomes a prophecy for each of us, for our fraternity, for the same Congregation of the Schools of Charity whose charism we aspire to share. The Lord's Christmas reminds us that Jesus is made flesh today, in the folds of our tormented human life, through our presence: Jesus is present in our homes, schools, workplaces, the great scenes of our history, to the extent that we know how to allow him to manifest himself through our humanity. Bossuet, a great 17th-century French bishop, said that: *"the Church is the extension of Jesus in history"*. Mary, for her part, reminds us instead of the need to give our faith a generative character; therefore, not an intimate faith that pushes us to retreat into ourselves, but a faith capable of generating in our hearts that same Christ that we must know how to manifest to our brothers and sisters. From this view of the mystery of the Lord's Incarnation, a precise commitment that concerns us as individuals but also as an association derives: generating unceasingly Christ through faith, prayer, and eucharistic communion and then bearing witness to him effectively in our missionary action.

In extending to you all the warmest wishes for the holiday season, I would like to remind you of the next occasion in which to visibly express our commitment, the Online Meeting on January 15, 2023.



From the Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke (2,1-14)



In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see - I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying: “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

From The Cavanis Educational Project, art. VI, §§ 70-72:



70. The Cavanis lay, inspired by the love for the youth and by the desire to form them in mind and heart, to accompany them to discover themselves as children of God and to live as such, in response to the Holy Spirit’s solicitation:

- a. lives out his baptismal vocation by placing his charisms at the service of the Church, working in unity of purpose and in communion of spirit with the Cavanis

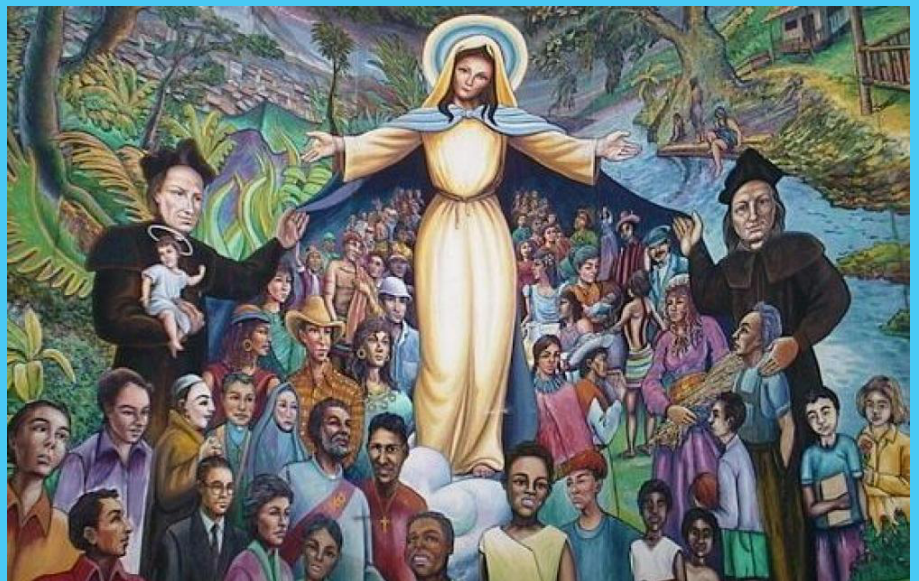
Institute family, sharing with the Congregation the apostolic hardships, the sufferings that across along the way and the fruits of grace that the Lord will grant;

- b. nourishes one's life of grace and strengthens the awareness of one's mission by drawing on the triple source: the Word of God, the Magisterium of the Church and the Cavanis sources;
- c. commits to collaborate in pastoral and apostolic projects and initiatives elaborated by the person in charge of the community to which he belongs, by the government of the province or of the Congregation, working with his own abilities, within his specific sphere of activity, in order to realize them.

71. The Cavanis lays, regardless of the nature of their collaboration, can live the spirituality described above in the formative context of the Cavanis Lay Fraternity, an association created to support the religious family of the Institute with prayer, fraternal communion and apostolic commitment.

72. Within the context of Cavanis lay commitment, there are many activities of different associations, groups and/or experiences: Alumni Associations (*Ex-Allievi*), Distant Friendship Association (*Amicizia Lontana*), Sola in Deo Sors Association, Sacred Heart House - the Renewal in the Spirit Group and the like.

Beloved mother Mary, turn your eyes of mercy toward us sinners and move to compassion for our worries and difficulties, pray your son Jesus to help us with his grace so that we may generously cooperate for our own and other people's sanctification.



Beloved mother Mary, do not look at our unworthiness, but rather on your most gentle maternal love, and implore for us the great grace to see our devout Congregation grow up with renewed strength, to the greater glory of God and the salvation of many helpless young people.

Beloved mother Mary, you are so terrible against evil repress with your power the dreadful slaughter the devil is doing of poor children lacking in education and support by your protection the efforts we made to gather them, watch over them and lead them to our heavenly home.