

[Translated from the original Spanish]

Thy Kingdom Come!

October 2, 2014
Memorial of the Guardian Angels

To all the first and second degree members of Regnum Christi

Dear friends in Christ,

I send you my heartfelt greetings and prayers. With this letter I want to announce to you the beginning of a process in which you, the first and second degree members are going to be able to delve deeper into your life, spirituality and mission as Regnum Christi members, just as we Legionaries and consecrated men and women have done. I pray that this journey might be an occasion for you to better understand, love and live your vocation to *Regnum Christi*; that it might “*stir into flame the gift of God*” (see 2Tim 1:6) and that you might experience more deeply the great trust God shows you by making you stewards of this gift (see 1Pet 4:10).

Once you have completed this reflection, we will discuss the canonical configuration of the entire Regnum Christi family, that is, the most appropriate juridical expression in order to foster communion in the mission we share as consecrated women, consecrated lay men, Legionaries of Christ and first and second degree members.

Right now your life, spirituality and mission as first and second degree members are explained in a part of the Statutes of Regnum Christi that were approved by the Holy See in 2004. These are still in force. The goal of this journey you are about to undertake is to express more clearly the life-style you are called to live. The final draft of proposed changes to the text of the Statutes will be written during the international convention convoked for Pentecost of 2016. This proposal will subsequently be submitted to the Holy See for approval.

From now until April 2015 the different localities will organize activities so that you can familiarize yourselves with the teachings of the Magisterium regarding the role of the laity in the Church. Study materials prepared by the Central Commission for the revision of the Statutes will be made available to you. Understanding these issues will help you to contribute maturely and responsibly in the discernment that will take place in the next phase of the process.

From May to November 2015 you will be able to participate in groups to discern about themes such as the identity, mission, spirituality of the first and second degree members, what it means for you to belong to the Movement, formation, structure, organization, and so forth. To guide these reflections you will have at your disposal a

working document that will contain, among other texts, the part of the Statutes that pertains to you, the Members' Handbook, and the proposals made here in Rome by the representative first and second degree members back in July of 2013.

During this phase, the incorporated members of the first and second degree will elect the delegates who will participate in a territorial convention to be held at the beginning of 2016. After profound discernment, each territorial convention will submit its recommendations to the international convention and will elect the delegates who will attend it. The international convention will write up the proposal for the section of the Statutes that refers to the first and second degree members. This proposal will be submitted to the Holy See. When this is concluded, we will then address the issue of the canonical configuration of Regnum Christi as a whole.

All of the aforementioned materials (the study guides, the documents for reflection, the plan for how the process will be carried out, the contact information for each territory, and the like) will be available in greater detail on the website created for the revision of the Statutes: www.rcstatutes.org. *[Translator's note: this site will be live in English after the official launch in the North American Territory on Columbus Day weekend. For now it is only in Spanish.]*

I invite you to undertake this journey with an attitude of openness to the Holy Spirit. Our reflections and dialogue will be authentic and fruitful to the degree that the charism of Regnum Christi continues to be expressed in our lives, prayer, charity and apostolate. With this letter I am sending the text of a prayer that implores the Lord to bless this journey with his grace and presence.

May this process of revision be an occasion for each of us to strengthen our personal encounter with Christ and to hear once again the invitation to be his apostles. I implore the Blessed Virgin Mary that, like her, you might respond to the Lord's gifts with dedication and joy.

With the assurance of my prayers,