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

INVISIBLE MONASTERY

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Dear friends, HABEMUS PAPAM! May 8, 2025 Leo XIV

He presented himself with the greeting of the risen Christ: "Peace be with you all", repeating it several times during his first greeting and wish, also recalling the weak but courageous voice of Pope Francis. He immediately expanded the boundaries, telling himself and all of us about God's love, "God loves you all".

He expanded the boundaries from East to West and from all other parts of the world in the mission of continuing what the Lord said to the apostles, the mandate of salvation, of the immeasurable gift of eternal life. Together! This was also the word he repeated to us over and over again. We are together, we do things together, we share brothers and sisters of all languages, backgrounds, ideas. "God loves you all," this was his pressing and continuous wish. We will get to know him better, to feel his sensitivity, to rejoice in his presence, to intercede also so that this peace may be concrete, which he called "Disarmed and disarming."



We are glad that he was chosen by the Holy Spirit! It is never easy to overcome sensitivities, currents, sympathies, origins, roped parties, as is done with many other realities of our daily life, of our politics, of our living in a social context. Let us continue to be confident that the Spirit is truly the One who chooses and guides the Church in the fragile but trusting and prayerful hands of Pope Leo

And we too will pray for him and continue to be brothers and sisters, pacified and sent to proclaim Jesus.

From the Acts of the Apostles (2, 36-48)

Therefore let the whole house of Israel know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified." Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart, and they asked Peter and the other apostles, "What are we to do, my brothers?" Peter (said) to them, "Repent and be baptized, 7 every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the holy Spirit. For the promise is made to you and to your children and to all those far off, whomever the Lord our God will call." He testified with many other arguments, and was exhorting them, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand persons were added that day. They devoted themselves to the teaching of the apostles and to the communal life, to the breaking of the bread and to the prayers. Awe came upon everyone, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their property and possessions and divide them among all according to each one's need. Every day they devoted themselves to meeting together in the temple area and to breaking bread in their homes. They ate their meals with exultation and sincerity of heart, praising God and enjoying favor with all the people. And every day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

From: Thoughts of the Founders on: Formation (EMM vol. VIII p. 402); edited by Fr. Diego Spadotto, nos. 2 and 13, at www.santitacavanis.org/fratelli-cavanis/pensieri/

To form to the Cavanis consecrated life, means to propose a "form" as a way of life.



What form? "Have in yourselves such feelings as were Jesus Christ's" (Phil. 2:6). It is the form of the Crucified One that is reached by following the Lord's examples of life: "Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you might follow in his footsteps" (1 Pet. 2:21). It means coming together, in ongoing formation, to the essentials of following Christ according to the spirituality of the Lord's Five Wounds, to welcome, guard and orient children, youth and young people.

Formation in the deepest meaning of the word, "in which a different way of being and living in relationship, of loving and being loved, of thinking and wanting, of evaluating what counts and what at some point becomes garbage, of feeling responsible for oneself and for the other, for good and bad, for the present and the past...it is the moment in which the educator becomes a formator."

The Founders seem to take the word of the Gospel literally: "He constituted twelve of them that they might remain with him..." (Mark 3:13-14).

The Founders formed by "abiding" with the Lord by breathing the same anxieties and suffering for the same missionary ideals; they formed by "abiding" in fraternal charity with those who asked to experience and learn about the Congregation; they educated children and young people by "abiding" with them. Only by "abiding with" are we mutually formed.

Formation needs projects that address the changes that have taken place and are taking place in the church and society, the changes related to the inculturation and internationalization of the congregation; it needs strong Cavanis spirituality of communion and fraternity and a sufficient number of formators who love the service they do, who do their work well without letting it weigh them down and without making them "pay" for it with humility and a sense of humor. After all, even trainers have only "five loaves and two fish" at their disposal and have to feed a lot of people....

But woe to think that if we had more all problems would be solved!