

Congregation for Clergy

Vatican, April 14, 2015

Prot. No. 20151095

Dear Father,

I have received the file, which you sent me on March 25, to renew the approval of the status of the Priestly Fraternity "Jesus Caritas."

After a careful study of the documentation, which you provided, I am happy to send you the decree, –attached to this letter– signed for a period six years.

I encourage you to continue your efforts so that all members take part in the month of Nazareth, which is a foundational moment for the belonging to your Fraternity. Faithfulness to daily prayer, and to the monthly days of desert, together with fraternal meetings, and the review of life, are the points that characterize the specificity of your charism; they also contribute to make fruitful the priestly ministry of your priests.

Please keep this Congregation well informed about the activities and developments of the Fraternity, especially by sending the magazines, which you publish. The General Assembly of 2018 will be the occasion for a substantial report, held midway through the period of six years that marks this pontifical recognition.

I really encourage you to maintain well the archives of the Fraternity. Because the see of the Association changes every six years, at each renewal of the General Responsible, I would suggest to send the files –of the concluding six-year period– to the central archives, which you established since 1951 at Boulogne Billancourt.

I extend to you my best wishes for this new stage, and I ask you to accept dear Father, the assurance of my highest consideration in communion to the service of the Church.

Card. Beniamino Stella

Prefect

Congregation for Clergy

Prot. N. 20151095

Decree

Born in 1951 and recognized on October 18 1994 as a private priestly association with legal personality given by the Ordinary of Luçon (France); recognized thereafter as an international private association of clergy on April 25, 2002, the priestly fraternity "Jesus Caritas" has requested to this Dicastery the confirmation of its pontifical recognition as an international private association of priests, in accord with canons 298 to 311, and 321 to 326, and in conformity with its own statutes.

Rooted in the spiritual charism of Blessed Charles de Foucauld, this association groups together priests from the five continents, who want to base their own priestly diocesan ministry upon the daily adoration of the Lord in the Eucharist; the month of Nazareth; the monthly days in the desert; fraternity meetings; and the review of life. It is in fact in their daily contemplation, the offering of themselves, the indefectible love of the Church –to the image of Blessed Brother Charles– and fraternal support, that they mutually offer themselves, and nourish their priestly zeal in the force and joy of an open announce of the Gospel, so that from all the nations they make disciples, who receive freely the Good News and get baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit (Mt 28:19).

Considering the great appreciation that the Magisterium of the Church has for priestly associations, which encourage the sanctity of their members in the exercise of ministry in communion with their own Bishops, and the other members of the presbyterate (Vatican Council II, PO 8; CIC, can 278 § 1,2; Apostolic Exhortation Pastores Dabo Vobis 81; Congregation for the Clergy, Directory on the ministry and life of priests 106);

Considering the international development of the priestly fraternity "Jesus Caritas," and the goodwill that it finds in a good number of diocesan ordinaries from different continents;

Considering that this fraternity has been recognized as an international private association of clergy;

Having evaluated well all things,

The Congregation for Clergy concedes to the priestly fraternity "Jesus Caritas" juridical personality, and approves, for a period of six years, its statutes as they are found in the files of this Dicastery, in conformity with the norms of law.

Granted in Rome on April 14, 2015

Card. Beniamino Stella

Prefect