

My dear children: may Jesus watch over my daughters and sons for me!

We are of course keeping very much in mind, in our prayer, the current wars, especially in the Holy Land, and between Russia and Ukraine. Let us continue, also here, being closely united to the Pope and the entire Church.

In several previous messages, I have mentioned the upcoming Work Weeks, also called Regional Assemblies. I am happy to inform you that these will be held in all the regions throughout 2024, in preparation for the Ordinary General Congress in 2025. The theme of these Assemblies is: *The Road to the Centennial of the Work. Going More Deeply into Our Charism and Renewing Our Desire to Serve God, the Church, and Society.*

Thus we will begin preparing in a more specific way for the centennial, in which, as I told you in my 10 June 2021 message, I would like all of you to take part. In each region you will be informed of the dates on which your Work Week will be held and the ways to participate. This will be an opportunity to deepen in the “gift of the Spirit received by Saint Josemaría” (*Ad charisma tuendum*), in the beauty of the mission of service to the Church and society, and in the desire to accompany many people on the path to heaven. It will also be an opportunity to reflect on how to respond to the challenges of the present time in light of the spirit of Opus Dei and how to prepare for the centennial in each place.

On the 18th, twenty-nine faithful of the Work will receive the diaconate. Ask our Lord that they may make good use of their months of the diaconate and preparation for the priesthood.

Your Father blesses you with all his affection,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Gemma".

Rome, 15 November 2023