

## June 22, 2010 - Italy – To you our thanks, a letter from Mother Reungoat to Salesian priests



**(ANS – Rome)** – Mother Yvonne Reungoat, Superior General of the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians, has sent the Rector Major a letter at the conclusion of the Year of the Priest. Signed also in the name of the FMA council, the message speaks of gratitude and of a greater commitment by the sisters to the accompaniment of vocations and in the Salesian Family.

At the conclusion of the retreat which the FMA general council made at Colle San Rizzo, Messina, Mother Reungoat wanted to write a message to Salesian priests at the end of the Year of the Priest. "Thank you for your priestly ministry." Thanks for the priestly ministry undertaken by the Salesians in various parts of the world on behalf of the sisters, of young people, and in particular for their accompaniment in vocational discernment: "So many of us are FMAs because we have had as guides Salesians who have directed us, supported us, and helped us to discover and to discern our vocation."

Renewing fidelity to the teaching of Fr. Chavez – "which we recognize as being deeply ecclesial and Salesian" – Mother Reungoat shares a concern that the passion of "da mihi animas cetera tolle" be kept alive and that a culture of vocations may be developed. "The gift of the vocation of consecration is carried in earthenware vessels, but we believe that through human weakness God continues to show his love to the world."

The "gift" which the Superior General of the FMAs offers to the Rector Major "is the pledge of greater communion within the Salesian Family as we go to the roots of what makes it possible: the gospel joy of following Jesus with the gift of everything; the happiness of feeling within ourselves that we belong to this great Family and the greater responsibility of handing on to the next generations who will follow us the vital charism through a youth ministry with an explicit vocational dimension."

Fr. Chavez immediately replied to the message of Mother Reungoat: "First of all I should like to give you my personal thanks but also that of the council and of all the confreres of the Congregation, especially the Salesian priests for this delicate expression of thanks and esteem for the gift of the priesthood which God has given us, and for the service undertaken in particular on behalf of our sisters."

The text of the **letter** of Mother Reungoat is available in the Service section of ANS, in the SDL, and in [sdb.org](http://sdb.org).