

OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

ARCHDIOCESE OF BALTIMORE

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June 6, 2008

The Very Reverend Álvaro Corcuera Martínez del Río
Superior General
The Legionaries of Christ
Via Aurelia, 677
00165 Rome, Italy

Dear Father Álvaro,

1. On several occasions, Pope Benedict has reconfirmed that ecclesial movements and new ecclesial communities can have an important role in building up the one body of Christ and that the pastors of local Churches, that is, bishops in their dioceses, are called on to reach out to those groups with love. He has further confirmed that the freedom and specific charisms of those groups are protected by the groups' full communion with the whole Church, of which the local bishops, in union with the Successor of Peter, are the servants, the guardians and the guides:

2. Knowing that your willingness to accept the discernment of ecclesiastical authority is but a further proof of the authenticity of the charisms of the Legionaries and Regnum Christi, as pastor of the local Church of Baltimore I need the following from you:

a. By June 13 of this year, please propose a priest member of the Legionaries of Christ, fully knowledgeable in all the activities of the Legion and of Regnum Christi in Baltimore, to serve as liaison with my office on matters concerning these groups.

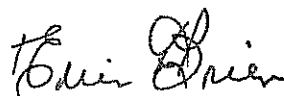
b. Once that priest is proposed by you and accepted by me, please have him give me the following information by June 30 of this year:

- i. The name and ministry site of all the Legionary Priests ministering in the Archdiocese of Baltimore.
- ii. Identification of all Regnum Christi groups active in the Archdiocese, including their activities, meeting locations and schedules, membership rolls and methodologies for gaining new members.
- iii. Identification of all Legionary/Regnum Christi youth programs in the Archdiocese, including their activities, meeting locations and schedules, membership rolls and methodologies for gaining new members.
- iv. Identification of all other Legionary/Regnum Christi ministries and

apostolates in the Archdiocese, including a description of their activities and the location and frequency of those activities.

- c. Also by June 30 of this year, please have that priest give the pastors of the parishes where Legionary/Regnum Christi ministries or apostolates are carried out full written information about those activities. Likewise, in the future, please have him give the relevant pastors prompt notice of any change in those ministries and apostolates. Please have him send a copy of all that correspondence to me as well.
 - d. Promotion of vocations to the priesthood and religious life is an important duty of the Church, and ecclesial movements and new ecclesial communities often distinguish themselves in this area, but I want to ensure that encouragement of vocations is carried out in a way that respects the rights of parents in the upbringing of their children and the rights of young persons themselves to be able to make free and fully informed decisions about their futures. Thus I ask the following of the Legionary/Regnum Christi members active in the Archdiocese:
 - i. To avoid any undue sense of vocational obligation, ongoing and individual spiritual direction is not to be given to persons under the age of 18.
 - ii. Through the liaison priest referred to above, notify the Archdiocese of the content, timing and location of all Legion/Regnum Christi summer programs and the names and addresses of all persons under the age of 18 who will participate in those programs. The Archdiocese will then give that information to the Pastors of the participants.
 - iii. Through the liaison priest referred to above, notify the Director of Vocations of the Archdiocese of all candidates for the priesthood or religious life who plan to attend Legion high school seminaries or boarding schools. The Director will review that information with the parents and pastors of those candidates.
3. Finally, because I know of the deep commitment of the Legion and Regnum Christi to carry out their mission and exercise their charisms in support of the unity and communion that Christ wants for his Church, I would ask you to assist me in my own mission by sharing with me every six months, through the liaison priest referred to above, those groups' long- and short-range planning goals and objectives as they relate to the Archdiocese.

In the Lord,



+Edwin F. O'Brien
Archbishop of Baltimore