

To all the readers of the Bulletin “SVD Brothers”

Rome, 13 May 2011.

Dear confrere,

Fraternal greetings to you and to your community!

I am glad to get in touch with you again; this time, to share with you a new proposal regarding the continuity of our bulletin “**SVD Brothers**”. As you know, the last issue (March 2011) reported on the *evaluation* of our bulletin, which was carried out at the beginning of this year.

Now, after taking note of the remarks and suggestions that were made by the confreres who participated in the said evaluation, we will try to improve the layout of the bulletin, its length and content. Therefore, the editing team of the bulletin and I have decided the following:

- 1) We will focus in the next issues mainly on *SVD Brother Vocation*.
- 2) For that purpose, some Brother candidates (at the Pre-novitiate, Novitiate and Juniorate stage) will be contacted in the different zones to share their vocational journey experience.
- 3) Along with their experiences and suggestions, we would like to include also interviews of a few Brother Formators so that they can communicate something about their field of work.
- 4) The bulletin will also integrate a few articles on missionary experiences of some of our Brothers.
- 5) Our bulletin will conclude with a short reflection on the Brother vocation today.

As a result, the coming three issues of our bulletin shall publish each time a few (and short) articles of our SVD Brother candidates, one interview with a formator, and an article on a Brother working in a given field. The bulletin will conclude with a reflection on vocation promotion for our Brotherhood. In this way, we hope to address an important proposal of the evaluation that was supported by several confreres.

Obviously, by implementing the above approach, our bulletin will “lose” its openness to the contribution of a large variety of confreres, as it was the case over the last years. On the other hand, however, we also consider the fact that we “gain” a better focus for our bulletin for 2011. In this regard, we can already foresee that in 2012, our bulletin would focus more on the General Chapter; hence, other confreres shall be approached to contribute their reflections, experiences and proposals, etc.

Another advantage we see in re-orienting our bulletin is that each digital copy can be posted on different Websites of our Society to boost the vocation promotion for our Brotherhood. As it was also suggested in the evaluation, some confreres by province/region need to print out a copy of it for the use in the main houses of the province/region for those who do not have e-mail addresses.

Dear confrere, I wish to conclude here, otherwise my letter will become too long. I wish you God’s blessing upon your missionary life and work!



Bro. Alfonso J. Berger, svd.