



Committee of Franciscan family for the Franciscan Centenary

Rome, 11 November 2023

To the Leaders of the Franciscan fraternities
and to all the Brothers and Sisters of the Franciscan Family

Dear sisters and brothers,

As the Committee of the Franciscan Family for the Franciscan Centenary, we address and invite all of you to participate and promote participation, in person or online (on the centenary website www.centenarifrancescani.org), in the celebration on the anniversary of promulgation of the *Later Rule*.

This celebration will be held in Rome, at the Basilica of St. John Lateran, on 29 November 2023 at 3.00 pm.

In a climate of prayer, the Chapters of the Rule will be re-read with brief reflections and testimonies of updating and in conclusion, the Archpriest of the Lateran Basilica, Cardinal De Donatis, will read a special message from Pope Francis written for this occasion.

Just as Pope Honorius III on 29 November 1223, right at the Lateran, confirmed the Rule presented to him by Saint Francis and returned it to him and his brothers as a mandate from the Church, so Pope Francis, eight hundred years later, will return the Rule to us, with the mandate to go around the world to live and bear witness to the Gospel.

We hope that this important moment of this year's centenary will be experienced and participated by all members of the Franciscan Family, lay people, sisters and friars.

As we celebrate this centenary together, we greet you fraternally.

The Committee of the Franciscan Family
for the Franciscan Centenary