

CONCLUSION

53 1 - At the end of this Declaration the General Chapter repeats its invitation to a profound renewal. It addresses this call to the entire Institute, to Regional and District chapters, and to each individual Brother, whatever his assignment.

2 - Societies, like individuals, grow old and die once the habits inherited from the past outweigh the will to renewal in the light of a twofold fidelity both to the intuitions that sparked our origins and the demands of life today. In the long run the future of the Institute is in the hands of the Brothers. They must not wait for ready-made solutions from those in authority for the new problems that come from a world in evolution. It is up to each Brother in the presence of God to start out along the path of spiritual conversion and determine to have a personal share in the communal work of adapted renewal. This is the price to be paid if the Institute is to ward off the threat of stagnation and live again in youth and vigor.

3 - The General Chapter is well aware of the difficulties, both present and future, that lie in the way of the renewal of the Institute. It reaffirms, however, its confidence in the Brothers and in their mission in the world today. It invites all the Brothers to turn with faith, and in a common prayer, to the Holy Spirit, who renews the face of the earth; to the Virgin Mary, who brings the cooperation of her maternal love to generating and educating people of faith; to Saint John Baptist de La Salle, who drew from his faith and charity the basis that made his life and his work humanly efficacious; to Saint Benilde, who, like so many Brothers who have gone before us, reminds us that God loves young people so much that he consecrates his saints to their welfare.