## Lasallian Pilgrims of Hope: International Gathering of Young Lasallians at Youth Jubilee 2025

As the Church celebrates the Jubilee Year 2025 proclaimed by Pope Francis under the theme "Pilgrims of Hope", the Lasallian Family is ready to walk this journey with energy, faith and a spirit of renewal. From July 28 to August 3, the Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools will actively participate in this global celebration of the Youth Jubilee, bringing the Lasallian mission and values to the heart of the Eternal City.

Guided by the commitments of the 46<sup>th</sup> General Chapter, especially the 5<sup>th</sup> Pathway of Transformation, the Institute remains focused on strengthening the Lasallian Family "together and by association," ensuring that its ministries become true places of encounter, meaning, and salvation—especially for young people.

Thanks to the coordination of the District of Italy, around 300 young Lasallian pilgrims from different corners of the world will gather in Rome to participate in Jubilee activities. The program includes a meeting with the new Pope, various cultural and evangelization experiences in the city of Rome, a penitential reflection at Circus Maximus on Friday, a prayer vigil on Saturday evening and the concluding sending-off Mass on Sunday, August 3, to close this youth gathering. These moments will be both deeply spiritual and profoundly communal, as Lasallians walk side by side with other pilgrims from across the globe.

On July 30, the Lasallian Family in Rome will open its doors—literally. The Office of Vocations and Volunteering Ministry together with the Commission on Youth, the La Salle Foundation, the Standing Committee of Young Brothers and the Office of Lasallian Heritage and Research will host an Open House at Collegio San Giuseppe – Istituto De Merode, located in the bustling Piazza di Spagna. This initiative is more than a welcome: it's a celebration of Lasallian identity.

Through interactive stations, games, and creative reflections, visitors will explore themes such as vocations and the call to serve, Lasallian spirituality and education, children's rights and youth empowerment as well as opportunities for volunteering and formation. This is an invitation to dialogue with society and the Church—to share who we are and what we believe, in the very heart of Rome.

The week's Lasallian highlight will take place on July 31, when the Institute's Youth Commission hosts the International Gathering of Young Lasallians at the Generalate. All Lasallians in Rome are warmly invited to join for a special encounter with Brother Armin Luistro, Superior General, members of his Council as well as Lasallians from all over the world and community-building activities and discussions on what it means to live out the Lasallian vision in the 21st century. It will be a sacred and joyful space to share stories, nurture vocations, and strengthen global Lasallian bonds while getting to know our Mother House, the Casa Generalizia. Registration information for this event can be found at this link: https://forms.gle/sJgpDY3SYrZ1WTGM7

This Jubilee week promises to be an unforgettable moment of grace and renewal. It reflects Pope Francis's call to journey from the peripheries with courage and faith, and echoes the Chapter's invitation to dream boldly and act collaboratively. Together, let us walk the streets of Rome as *Lasallian pilgrims of hope*—and from there, return to our homes and ministries ready to illuminate the entire Institute with the Lasallian spirit.

For any further questions, please reach out to the Commission on Youth via **giovani@lasalle.org**