

Remarks at the Mass of Ordination
6/4/16

Mis felicidades a los nuevos diáconos y sacerdotes. Toda la iglesia se regocija por estos nuevos colaboradores que Jesús, el buen pastor, nos ha brindado. Este acontecimiento sacramental contiene para nosotros un sentido todavía más profundo por haber sido celebrado el día siguiente de la Solemnidad del Sagrado Corazón de Jesús y en la mañana del día dedicado al honor del Inmaculado Corazón de María. Esperamos que estos nuevos sacerdotes y diáconos siempre mantengan el ritmo de estos dos corazones, el sagrado y el inmaculado. Que la caridad inagotable de Cristo y la ternura materna de María nutren y alegren a estos nuevos misioneros de la misericordia.

My dear brothers, your jubilant smiles radiate joy to all of the bishops, priests, religious, and laity who have witnessed the sweet favor the Lord Jesus has brought to you. May the same Lord Jesus make his joy in you complete as you begin this exciting pastoral journey in his company with us as your companions.

Much of today's rituals have taken place around this sacred altar. May the ministry you now assume always draw you nearer to this sacred place of sacrifice and may the mysteries here celebrated become dearer to you each day. Yesterday, we celebrated the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Such providence provides you a reminder that all that we do flows from the wounded side of the crucified Christ. In your care for God's people, do not neglect to allow yourselves to drink from the streams of His abundant mercy. Your lives will then truly be a living spring of hope and joy for the Church and the World.

While much of our liturgy has focused our attention on the altar of sacrifice, may I also remind you of another sacred place. You entered this morning through the Holy Door for this Jubilee Year of Mercy. As we leave, again you will cross its threshold. Let that be a sign and an encouragement for you in your ministry. Make it a personal habit to welcome the faithful at the door of the Church. Invite them to crossover the threshold of Christ's mercy. After the liturgical celebrations, lead them into the

world with the joy of the gospel and a desire to heal this broken world with the saving bonds of charity. Do not let yourselves close the doors of mercy. Conform your hearts to that of the Sacred Heart of Jesus whose wound is the portal of eternal love.

May God bless you. Dios les bendiga. Pagpalain ka ng Diyos.