

Vatican City, December 19, 2014

Dear Brother:

I thank you for your letter, in which you make me aware of the young people from the Kino Teens who work on behalf of migrants in that border city, and who live daily the immigration phenomenon that generates all sorts of inhumane consequences.

I also received several letters from these young persons. I beg you to give them my regards, along with my grateful acknowledgement for their generous commitment and above all, my nearness and encouragement to them not to tire in their labor of edifying love of others and embrace against discrimination and exclusion.

These young people, who have come to learn how to strive against the propagation of stereotypes, from people who only see in immigration a source of illegality, social conflict and violence, can contribute much to show the world a Church, without borders, as Mother of all; a church that extends to the world the culture of solidarity and care for the people and families that are affected many times by heart-rending circumstances. I am also pleased to see that in their project, these young people do not forget the spiritual and religious attention, which provides a source of hope for those that have been hardest hit in their lives.

Dear Brother, your letter and the ones from the Lourdes Catholic School students have touched my heart, not only because of the drama they describe, but also for the hope they manifest. I wish for all of you a Holy and Happy Christmas.

I beg you to please pray and ask them to pray for me. May Jesus Christ bless you and the Holy Virgin care for you.

Fraternally,

Francisco