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## Editorial ♦ 2012 - Year of the Family

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Dear Faithful,

Back in September 1979, on the occasion of his priestly golden Jubilee—50 years of priesthood in the most varied and rich conditions: in Europe and Africa, in the parish life, as seminary professor and rector, and missionary in the bush, Archbishop and Apostolic Delegate, Superior General of a Congregation of 5000+ priests—Archbishop Lefebvre, summarizing all these years of experience, launched a Crusade in order to “*re-establish a Christendom such as the Church desires, such as She has always done, with the same principles, the same Sacrifice of the Mass, the same sacraments, the same catechism, the same Holy Scripture.*”

The Society of St Pius X was not raised by Divine Providence just to preserve the Catholic Priesthood and the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, as a museum would do. No, it was to save the priesthood and the Holy Mass *in order to save the whole of the Catholic doctrine, life and spirituality, the whole of Christendom precisely, “to restore all things in Christ”*. I would like to draw your attention in particular to what he said on this occasion about families as he appealed especially to the youth, to families and heads of families.

The Archbishop continued in this historical sermon:

*“Let us not be borne away by all these worldly ideas, by all these currents of thought which are in the world, and which draw us to sin and to hell. If we want to go to heaven we must follow Our Lord Jesus Christ. We must carry our cross and follow Our Lord Jesus Christ, imitating Him in His Cross, in His suffering, in His Sacrifice.*

*“Thus I ask the youth, the young people who are here in this hall, to ask us to explain to them these things that are so beautiful and so great, so as to choose their vocations,*

*whatever be the calling that they may elect—be they priests or religious men and women, or married by the Sacrament of Matrimony, and, therefore, in the Cross of Jesus Christ, and in the Blood of Jesus Christ, married in the grace of Our Lord Jesus Christ. Let them comprehend the greatness of matrimony, and let them prepare themselves worthily for it—by purity and chastity, by prayer and reflection. Let them not be carried away by all the passions which engulf the world. Thus let this be the crusade of the young who must aspire to the true ideal.*



*“Let it be as well a crusade for Christian families. You, Christian families, who are here, consecrate yourselves to the Heart of Jesus, to the Eucharistic Heart of Jesus and to the Immaculate Heart of Mary! Oh, pray together in the family! I know that many of those among you already do so, but may there always be more and more of you who do so with fervor. Let Our Lord truly reign in your homes!*

*“Cast away, I beg of you, anything which impedes children from entering your family. There is no greater gift that the Good God can bestow upon your hearths than to have many children. Have big families! It is the glory of*

*the Catholic Church—the large family! It has been so in Canada, it has been so in Holland, it has been so in Switzerland and it has been so in France—everywhere the large family was the joy and prosperity of the Church. There are that many more chosen souls for heaven! Therefore do not limit, I beg you, the gifts of God; do not listen to these abominable slogans which destroy the family, which ruin health, which ruin the household, and provoke divorce.”*

In our Asian District, we would therefore like to dedicate this year of the Lord 2012 to the Family. In our various apostolic activities, pilgrimages, retreats, camps, sermons, publications, movements, there will be a campaign of education on the various aspects of family life, its end, its qualities, its difficulties and threats and their solutions.

One aspect of this will consequently be a particular awareness of the need to give proper education to our children, and thus, to support our schools in India and in the Philippines. St. Pius X said that **children’s souls are worth heroic sacrifices**. How true! Let us not just say it, let us prove it.

In 1982, in a Letter to Friends and Benefactors, Archbishop Lefebvre wrote:

*“We need Catholic schools where young people will learn to love the Liturgy, Latin and chant, and where they will be formed in a manly and Christian fashion by sacrificing themselves for the love of Jesus Christ under the care and guidance of their heavenly Mother.”*

And he added at a principals’ school meeting that same year:

*“This apostolate, foreseen in our (SSPX) Statutes has taken off more rapidly than anticipated. This effort must be sustained. It will **save the Church.**”*

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