

From the Vatican, 1 October 2018

Prot. N. ST/75/2018/P

Reverend Rector,

As you may already know, Pope Francis has invited the faithful throughout the world to pray the Holy Rosary, followed by the ancient invocation *Sub tuum praesidium* and the *Prayer to St. Michael the Archangel*, every day in the present month of October. The Holy Father's intention is to ask the Blessed Virgin and St. Michael to protect the Church from the devil who constantly seeks to sow division between Christians and God, as well as among Christians themselves.

With this request for intercession, Pope Francis is asking the faithful to pray that the Holy Mother of God continue to keep the Church under her protection, preserving her from the attacks of the evil one, and, at the same time, making her more aware of her faults and errors, as well as of abuses past and present.

This Pontifical Council, which has the task of promoting an organic pastoral care in Shrines and Sanctuaries as places of New Evangelization, wishes to support the Holy Father's request. Thus we ask that you promote, both individually and publicly, the daily recitation of the Holy Rosary – followed by the invocation *Sub tuum praesidium* and the *Prayer to St. Michael the Archangel* – among the faithful who visit your Shrine/Sanctuary. Both these prayers have been widely translated into the vernacular and these translations are often very dear to our people.

As we thank you and your collaborators for all your work, we take this opportunity to encourage you to continue in the work of the New Evangelisation.

Looking forward to meeting you personally at the International Congress to be held in the Vatican this coming November, we remain

Yours sincerely in Christ,

Rino Fisichella

President

₩ Octavio Ruiz Arenas

Secretary