



# México

## FOUNDATION IN MEXICO: DISCERNMENT

Dear brothers,

**Greetings on the Solemnity of the Pentecost!**

**W**ith God's grace and the generosity of some confreres, we were able to take a significant step in the project of a possible new foundation in Mexico. The team in charge of the exploratory work: namely Father Harry Florez of Nicaragua, Brother Jean Desiré of Madagascar and Father Gonzalo Tabares from Colombia brought us some good news from their first visit to Mexico.

After having carefully prepared together the visit and went to Mexico for fifteen days, they were warmly welcomed by the Combonian Missionaries. Upon their return, they have presented their report in which they informed us that the doors of three Dioceses are open to us: Ecatepec, Puebla and Cuernavaca.

However, the exploratory team indicated the Diocese of Ecatepec as the best option. The reasons are the following: The bishop opened the doors and offered us a parish to start the foundation. This Diocese is a good place for the Dissemination of our Spirituality. The Bishop himself expressed his support. There is the Sanctuary of the Fifth Apparition and it is half an hour from the Basilica. In addition, this Diocese is geographically small, but densely populated. It is also a Diocese in formation, where the majority of Catholics are from the lower middle class. It is the working force of Mexico City. It is a popular, lively environment, of humble and hardworking people. It is reported that priests have an average age of forty (40) years. They seemed to be very friendly and simple.

From those facts above, it seems that our founding community in the future would be able to create a beautiful life of priestly fraternity. It was finally reported that the Diocese of Ecatepec is a young Diocese with a young population that could possibly generate vocations. It has its own seminar. The Bishop clearly expressed his support for the promotion of vocations for the Company of Mary.

This first report was presented at the Fifth Meeting of the Coordination of Latin America (COOR-LAC) that was held in Joao Monlevade, Brazil, from May 1 to May 12, 2018. It will be one of the subjects in the agenda at the General Council in October 2018.

Let us continue to pray that the Lord will show us his will and his way; that Our Lady of Guadalupe will take us to her Shrine.

With my blessings,

*Fr. Luiz Augusto Stefani, Superior Geral*  
*Fr. Gonzalo Tabares from Colombia*  
*Fr. Harry Florez from Nicaragua*  
*Br. Jean Desiré from Madagascar*

