

Getting to Know the Pious Schools of Hungary

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During April 12-14, I visited the Piarist Province of Hungary to know better their reality and strengthen the cooperation between our Provinces. Besides, as a member of the General Secretariat of the Piarist Ministry, I took advantage of the meeting to deepen their plans and projects.

Viktor Zsódi and I discussed the challenges facing our Provinces (vocation and identity of our teachers, pedagogical innovation at the service of the mission...). Later I met the coordinators of the Provincial Administration teams, and we shared our forms of organization.

I also participated in a meeting with the directors of the Piarist schools in Hungary, presenting the Province of Emmaus, our model of presence and management, and the options of life and mission to which we are committed.

András Guba and I visited our Piarist school in Budapest and met with its director,

It was very gratifying to share these spaces of reflection and dialogue, deepening in the challenges that a Piarist education focused on social transformation asks us to face.

On 13 and 14, I visited the schools of Szeged and Kecskemét with their directors Aliz Juszttinné Nedelkovics and Domonkos Mikulás, members of our Piarist fraternity in Hungary and very close people with whom we have shared internationalization plans through Erasmus+.

This visit is an opportunity and a gift. I especially appreciate the opportunity to know in situ the strengths and difficulties of these Piarist schools. I have been moved by their projects and by the generosity with which they have opened their doors and shared their time with me. I am incredibly grateful to the people who translated for me. Without their help, the experience would not have been so enriching.

I have come to know more deeply the Province of Hungary, its history, and its people, I have understood more of its culture, and I have felt at home in these schools, where, as in so many others, many people strive to follow in the footsteps of Calasanz. To announce, to educate, to transform... I feel very fortunate to be part of sharing our mission and life with so many good people.

I am sure that this path of cooperation, which we began a few years ago, will be strengthened, and we will be able to continue to move forward with the brothers of other Provinces. Sharing enriches us all. As I have already expressed on one occasion, from the General Secretariat, we want to listen to the Demarcations, accompany, attend, support... we want to weave networks that inspire and sustain. Still, we also want to promote, encourage and provoke reflections and actions. This visit is a step forward in this common path.

Szívemből köszönöm! Thank you from the bottom of my heart

