

**Message to the Co-Presidents and Secretary General of
Pax Christi International**

His Holiness Pope Francis was pleased to be informed of the seventieth anniversary of the foundation of *Pax Christi* International, to be observed during the Global Assembly in Bethlehem from 13 to 17 May 2015. He sends cordial greetings to all those present for the celebration and he assures them of his spiritual closeness. Recalling that “to the extent that [Christ] reigns within us, the life of society will be a setting for universal fraternity, justice, peace, and dignity” (*Evangelii Gaudium*, 180), His Holiness prays that the Assembly will be an occasion for all members of *Pax Christi* to open anew their hearts to Christ, and to see their union in him as their greatest offering to the communities they serve. Commending all the Assembly participants to the intercession of Mary, Queen of Peace, the Holy Father willingly imparts his Apostolic Blessing as a pledge of peace and joy in the Risen Lord.

Cardinal Pietro Parolin
Secretary of State