

Archbishop Pierre's Message to the Graduating Class of 2020
Vietnamese Eucharistic Youth Movement (VEYM)
May 23, 2020

“Chào các con!”

Dear young people,

As you gather for this virtual graduation with your brothers and sisters in the Vietnamese Eucharistic Youth Movement during this most unprecedented time, as the personal Representative of the Holy Father in the United States, I am honored to extend to all of you the paternal affection and spiritual closeness of His Holiness Pope Francis, as well as my own heartfelt greetings.

My dear young friends, the Holy Father wants you to know that he understands your struggle during this challenging time, and he is praying for you. With faith in the Risen Lord, the Pope invites you to have hope in Christ and be the hope for your friends, your family, and your community. In addressing the members of the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network and the Eucharistic Youth Movement at the Vatican last June, when he was also greeted by your President, Dr. Young Hoang, and received from him a beautiful “Shepherd Scarf” presented on behalf of all of you, the Holy Father emphasized that “We are called to be witnesses and messengers of God's mercy, to offer the world a perspective of light where darkness is, of hope where despair reigns, of salvation where sin abounds.” (*Address to the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network and Eucharistic Youth Movement, 28 June 2019*).

As you graduate and pursue your next endeavor in life, I wish to encourage you in this mission of bringing hope and God's mercy to the world. Let the Holy Spirit “set your hearts on fire” as you live the Word of God and remain united with Jesus in the Eucharist through prayer, communion, sacrifice, and apostolic work; what you have come to understand as “Living the Eucharistic Day”.

Commending the Vietnamese Eucharistic Youth Movement's leadership and all gathered now for this virtual graduation to the loving protection of Our Lady of Lavang, I extend to you the Holy Father's Apostolic Blessing as a pledge of joy and peace.

The Lord be with you! – And also with you.

May almighty God bless you, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Xin Chúa chúc lành!

Congratulations, Class of 2020!! Cheers!!