

See! The winter is past; the rains are over and gone. Flowers appear on the earth; the season of singing has come, the cooing of doves is heard in our land. (Song of Songs 2, 11-12)

Dear brothers and sisters,

I greet you from my heart and wish you God's abundant blessings. My hope is that you are all well and the wishes and plans you had in the Lord for this year had already started to come true. (Ps 37, 4-5). Thank you for letting me be and stay a part of your life. I sincerely appreciate it and it is why I'm genuinely grateful to you. I always gladly pray for you, for God's guidance of all your steps, and it is my great wish to get to know you even better. I warmly hope that this will happen this year, more and more...

In my neighborhood, these days, winter is passing, withdrawing into the mountains, and spring in its variety of beautiful colors is increasingly mastering the nature that surrounds us. It's nice and exciting to observe this everyday and winning process of change ... In such circumstances, one cannot but ask himself "and where does my own life go, what do I exactly want, will my great wishes come true, how does God look on all that, what are His plans", etc., etc... This year is – after my last year's leaving the Social Care Center, in which I've spent twenty beautiful and blessed years in helping those in need – my first year in the so-called "full time ministry". (Note: I'm aware of all the limitations, incompleteness and illogicality of this title).

As I think about my future and service, I again realize how every person I meet is extremely important and precious, and a great reason for gratefulness to God. And in this mosaic, young people which God brought on my way, have their inevitable place. In my ministry, all from conversion to today, I keep seeing how young people have always been, and stayed, in the center of my focus. So it is today, and it will be. Simply, God is giving them on my heart in special way. So, dear

friends, this truth I want to share with you. Every moment, every hour, every day, every year, all that by the grace of God I have left... opportunities are great, but also a time that will never happen again. I am very aware of all that. I do feel young, I still have a lot of plans, my doctor says I'm in excellent health, but still I'm not a student any more, neither a young man only starting his journey of discovering his own identity in Christ.

Therefore I ask you to pray for me, for my well-centered focus, for guidance in my approach to youth who are in great need of Gospel and new life in Jesus Christ. In this effort, the irreplaceable role have young people who already live with Christ and want to serve Him. With them especially I want to share my time and future, and help them that exactly they (new generation of young disciples) faithfully and competently continue to develop God's work in our region and our country. So, dear coworkers, thank you for all your prayers for me and us here in Croatia, especially for development of new young disciples.

I heartily greet you and wish you, as always, the abundance of God's peace, joy and blessings (Ps 23, 1).

With you, in Christ,

Zvonko Kovačić



One of the youth meetings.