



THE LIGHT RISING FROM THE PACIFIC, EMBRACING THE WORLD

*Words of Gratitude and Communion from the MSC Superior General to the
Chevalier Family on the Canonization of Saint Peter To Rot*



Dear Confreres, Sisters, and Lay Members of the Chevalier Family,

From one of the lands where the sun rises over the Pacific—Papua New Guinea—the simple and courageous faith of Saint Peter To Rot shines today for the entire Church. His witness reminds us that holiness flourishes in the ordinary flow of daily life, and that love—lived even to the gift of one's life—is the most transformative power in the world. His life rekindles in our hearts the fire of Emmaus, reminding us that mission is born of an encounter with the living Christ—the flame of the Spirit—and a love that never fades.

To all of you, brothers and sisters of the Chevalier Family—Missionaries of the Sacred Heart, Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart, and lay men and women who share this same charism—my heartfelt gratitude to those who were able to be present and to those who joined spiritually and actively in this historic moment. Thank you for the celebrations, the vigils, the Triduum, and the prayers shared in so many corners of the world. In every community, parish, mission, or family where the name of Saint Peter To Rot was spoken, the flame of the Gospel was rekindled, together with the joy of belonging to one shared spirituality of the Heart.

I express my deep gratitude to Father Fernando Clemente Santos, MSC, Postulator General MSC, whose dedication and faith have made this canonization possible. His work has been a true service to the charism and mission of our Congregation, to the people of Papua New Guinea, and to the Church.

Today, Saint Peter To Rot belongs to all humanity, to the whole Church, and to our Chevalier Family. A layman, husband, father, and catechist, he stands as a beacon of light—an intercessor and companion on the journey for all, especially for the lay men and women who, inspired by the Spirituality of the Heart, seek to love and serve faithfully, joyfully, and with hope in the concrete realities of our world. His life proclaims that holiness is not a privilege, nor measured by titles or ecclesial roles, but a daily way of loving to the very end—right where life cries out.

I also wish to express my heartfelt gratitude to Mr. Javier Trapero and Fr. Bram Tulusan, MSC, whose talent, creativity, and dedication allowed the story of Saint Peter To Rot—and the radiant joy of Papua New Guinea—to shine across the world, carried on the waves of media and the gentle currents of social networks.

May the witness of Saint Peter To Rot, the living embodiment of Father Jules Chevalier's dream, continue to ignite in us the passion for the Reign of God and the enthusiasm for mission. May his intercession inspire us to live our vocation with fidelity, in closeness to the People of God—pilgrims of hope in a world thirsting for love, justice, and meaning. Under the loving gaze of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, may we keep walking together as the Chevalier Family, striving to respond to the cry of humanity—the cry of the poor and the cry of the earth—sowing hope wherever life cries out, and allowing the love of the Heart of Jesus to transform our world.

In Corde Iesu,



Fr. Mario Abzalón Alvarado Tovar, MSC
Superior General