



*To My Dear Brother  
The Most Reverend Mario Grech  
Secretary General of the Synod of Bishops*

I want to offer you this small expression of my closeness on the day of your designation as a Cardinal of the Holy Church of Rome.

It is my hope that this vocation to which the Lord calls you will make you grow in humility and in the spirit of service. "We are useless servants". That is what the Lord taught us to say when once we have done our work, and to demand no other recompense but this, and the grace of having been chosen to serve. I pray that this will be your joy today and all the days of your life, and that, in the end, you will be able to say to the Lord, "I never put your lamp under a bushel basket".

You will receive good wishes and expressions of closeness from many people who wish you well. Receive them with simplicity. It will do your heart good to remember, amid such joy, the entrance of Jesus in Jerusalem... and the Friday that followed. I ask you to take care that the celebrations the faithful will hold for you be simple and far from any worldly spirit.

I remember you in my prayers and I ask you, please, to do the same for me.

May Jesus bless you and the Blessed Virgin watch over you.

Fraternally,

*Francis*

Santa Marta, 26 October 2020