

Dear Fr Francis and all the members of the Ratisbonne community,

Greetings from Japan!

I hope you are all keeping well and enjoying the academic life there.

First of all, I would like to express to you my deepest gratitude for your prayers at the time of my priestly ordination last September. The ordination was blessed by the presence of Fr Andrew Wong, the Regional of East Asia and Oceania. A lot of people came together at the ordination because, I guess, they felt a tremendous need of prayer for this weak and poor priest. That was the first priestly ordination of the Province in four years. Because of this, there was a great joy among the members of the Salesian family and the people gathered.

The day before the ordination I visited the tombs of the Province. On the tombstone, there are engraved the names of the Salesians who have passed before us. I asked for their prayers that I may stand fast to the grace of priesthood and that, someday, my name also be written on the stone along with theirs, as a Salesian and a priest.

The obedience I received is to work for the 20 junior aspirants with other three confreres. I hope good Salesians will come from among them. Please keep these boys in your prayers as well. Some of them may come to Ratisbonne in the future. Who knows...?

Again, thank you very much. May the Blessed Virgin Mary always guide you and be our model of the true Christian discipleship.

In prayers,

Daisuke (GIA)