



Letter to UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

Adriano Cevolotto

Bishop of Piacenza-Bobbio

DEAR STUDENTS AT ANY UNIVERSITY IN PIACENZA,

my name is don Adriano, bishop of the diocese of Piacenza-Bobbio..

Some evenings ago, I've met a large group of students, who was taking part in a dinner organized by the academic chaplaincy.

My first thought goes to anyone coming from a different place in Italy or in the world: welcome everyone. I do know some of the issues you may have faced: you may feel homesick, with no reference points and you may have troubles with finding an accommodation...

When I left my city, Treviso, three years ago to move to Piacenza, I had to tell myself that all those inevitable efforts should turn into challenges, and I must say: it's worth it.

Piacenza and its surroundings open gradually, and week after week surprise everyone who is ready to dwell the city. Trust me! Get involved!

To my concern are accommodations and I can guarantee you, I will do anything to find sustainable solutions. I believe this is the calling card for hospitality.

As Christian Community we would like to be on your side, by providing opportunities to support your personal, academic, and spiritual path. To do that, there are activities that might meet your needs. I would like to wish you a great and fruitful academic year by sharing some short thoughts.

As a word, "university" includes the lemma "universe" and rings a bell to a feeling of great openness. It is curios, isn't it? The educational context which aims at highly qualify new generations, is also that which is moved by a desire: to broaden the horizons, to widen heart and mind' s boundaries, to enrich relationships, to let the whole world be connected. This is exactly what is happening thanks to you all, who speak different languages and tell different stories. I hope that thanks to the academic experience, anyone can open to a better understanding of oneself, of the world, of the Others. I hope that anyone can make the most of that extraordinary inner dynamic that constantly urges us to understand better, to seek the truth, to desire good and love. Growing requires both commitments, perseverance, focus and willingness to question facts, curiosity and attentions to the outside.

By choosing your academic path, you have made a decisive choice: you have decided to specialize in a field, which will be more and more familiar up to your wishes and professional ambitions.

University has the duty to offer you the best to become specialists able to live the modern world and to contribute to its development. However, let me say that it would be a mistake to stop here. University has a mayor wish contribute to the growth of your humanity, help you understand the complexity of the human being and enable you to cultivate your conscience. We often say that we are experiencing deep and fast changes: science and art need wisdom. The challenges of sustainability, peace, justice do not only need intelligence and technical expertise, but they do need wise people.

I hope that the academic experience let you become a little bit more expert in humanity, too and that you get into the good of each and every one. Let the individual interest open to collective interests, because if the complexity of reality stays together, empathy and heart can ripen.

I am sure that we will have the chance to meet, but whether we will share a direct experience or not, be sure you belong to those to whom the Lord has sent me to proclaim and witness that His love is for each one. Good job!

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About Bishop Adriano

He was born on April 29th, 1958, in Treviso; from Ognissanti Parish in Roncade, Monsginor Adriano Cevolotto is the second of three children of Gino and Carla Brugnaro. He joined the Episcopal Seminar in Treviso in 1969. He was ordained a priest on May 26th, 1984. On July 10th, 2020, Pope Francis named him bishop of the Diocese of Piacenza-Bobbio; the announcement was made on July 16th. On September 26th he was ordained Bishop in the Temple of San Nicolò in Treviso. On October 11th he joined the Diocese of Piacenza-Bobbio.

Since he arrived in Piacenza, he actively got involved in all activities for Youth and Academic Ministry and of his Church.



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