



APOSTOLIC NUNCIATURE

Stockholm, 4 June 2026

N. 712/26

Most Reverend and Dear Monsignor Georg,

On the occasion of the fortieth anniversary of your priestly Ordination, I wish to offer you my cordial congratulations. I join you in giving thanks to the Lord for the gift of the priesthood and for the years of ministry which He has granted you.

The words of the Apostle Paul seem particularly fitting for this occasion: “*We are God’s fellow workers*” (1 Cor 3:9). They remind us that every ministry in the Church is a humble participation in the work of the Lord, who continues to build up His people through the dedication and service of His ministers.

During these forty years of priestly ministry, the Lord has entrusted to you various responsibilities. Among them, I wish to recall with gratitude your work as Secretary General of the *Bonifatiuswerk*, in support of Catholic communities in the Nordic countries.

Since the beginning of my service as Apostolic Nuncio to the Nordic countries, I have been able to appreciate the importance of this work for many local communities. Through the various initiatives, activities and subsidies promoted by the *Bonifatiuswerk*, Catholic communities living in minority contexts have received concrete support and encouragement and renewed confidence in their ecclesial mission. Your services have contributed in a valuable way to sustaining the life of the Church where Catholics often live their faith in small communities, with limited resources, but with fidelity and hope.

In this spirit of gratitude, I join you in giving thanks to the Lord for these forty years of priestly service, praying that He may continue to accompany and sustain you in the service of the Church.

Rev. Msgr. Domenico Vitolo, Secretary of the Apostolic Nunciature, and the community of the Religious of the Virgin Mary join me in this joyful jubilee remembrance, assuring you of their prayers and cordial best wishes.

With cordial congratulations and fraternal esteem in the Lord, I am

Yours sincerely in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Julio Murat".

✠ Julio Murat

Apostolic Nuncio to the Nordic Countries

Most Reverend
Monsignor George AUSTEN
Secretary General
Bonifatiuswerk
PADERBORN