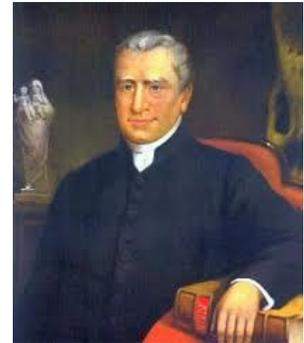




**CONGREGATION OF CHRISTIAN BROTHERS
EUROPEAN PROVINCE**

3rd May 2017

*Feast of Blessed Edmund Rice
5th May 2017*



Dear Brothers and Friends of Blessed Edmund,

Greetings and good wishes to you from Marino.

I write on behalf of the Province Leadership Team as we approach the Feast Day of our Founder. We wish you all a very happy feast day and thank all those who have arranged special events for the day and for this week.

The day calls us to remember one another in prayer with hope and love for the precious life and inspiration which we all share. The blessing of the memory of a person like Edmund Rice is that it calls us to live with his spirit in our world today.

One of the best contemporary and concise statements on the meaning and purpose of life has been given recently by Pope Francis in his TED talk. We share the internet link with you as a gift with which you might connect. The Pope's reflection, in very simple language, is a wonderful expression of where we are in today's world, and where we might be going, as we follow the inspirations of Jesus. Above all, it is a message that calls us to be people of hope, living, with what Pope Francis calls, "the revolution of tenderness."

Among other things the Pope speaks about "educating people in true solidarity," and he also says that "we need memory, we need courage and we need creativity." Surely these qualities were present in abundance in Blessed Edmund. May we all abide in that living memory.

The link you need is:

https://www.ted.com/talks/pope_francois_why_the_only_future_worth_building_includes_everyone?language=en

Please visit this papal message and pray that we may all take it to heart.

Yours sincerely,

Brother Edmund Garvey
Province Leader