

# FDNSC INTERNATIONAL BURSARS' MEETING

ROME: December 3<sup>rd</sup> to December 14<sup>th</sup>

## Theme: Economy at the Service of Charism and Mission

### Day 3

Today was the day of the Pope's General Audience, and our request for tickets received a positive reply, so the group set off for the Vatican at 6 am, ready for the excitement of the day! We had seats very close to the front of the hall, named Aula Paolo VI or Sala Nervi, where the audience is held in the winter months.

We were delighted to have had this opportunity to see Pope Francis, and also to have his blessing on us and the rosary beads etc which we will take home with us to give to others. Though some of us had been to an audience previously, it was a first for many, to be held among treasured memories.

It is the custom for the Pope to greet some groups at the audience by their name, and sure enough we were the first to be greeted in Italian, *Figlie di Nostra Signora del Sacro Cuore*

Following the audience the remainder of the day was free for sightseeing and trying some of the fine Italian food available here. We were very fortunate that the day was sunny and warm. Tomorrow we resume our meeting.

In the photos which follow, you will see some familiar faces. In the top right hand photo you will see the Sisters waiting at 6.30 am for the Hall to open. Even at this time, there were people before us in the queue! The Hall was opened at 8.00 am and we had seats close to the front, so our view of the Pope was excellent.

