



Catholic Charismatic Renewal International Service

Dear Friends of Catholic Charismatic Renewal,

In December 2018, I was appointed Moderator of CHARIS by the Dicastery for the Laity, Family and Life. A month later, my oldest daughter had a very serious health accident that left her paralyzed. Her husband having abandoned her, my wife and I had to take her into our family home where she has been living with us since February 2020 and where we also regularly welcome her two children, aged 12 and 10. This has forced my wife to devote herself almost full time to our totally dependent eldest child, and it is clear that our other 6 children and our soon to be 13 grandchildren have suffered from our lack of availability.

During my meeting with Pope Francis on February 19, the Pope asked me about my family situation and showed great compassion for the heavy trial we are going through. He encouraged me to pray and discern how to handle this unpredictable situation in my appointment, leaving me completely free to make the best decision for the good of my family.

After much prayer and consultation with my close advisors, in this year dedicated to the family *Amoris Laetitia*, I decided to step down as Moderator of CHARIS in order to be more available to my family. This was not an easy decision. I have given the maximum of myself for CHARIS for two and a half years and it is not without a twinge of sorrow that I made this difficult decision. While I was discerning this question, in the morning worship with the Rome staff, we sang Don Moen's hymn "God will make a way". It was a real light for me that gave me a deep inner peace and joy. I felt as if the Lord was speaking directly to me through the words of the song, but also to all of you. He was telling us, "I will open a new way where there seems to be none." I am convinced that this is what he will do because CHARIS is his work and no one is indispensable to his service.

I have notified the Dicastery for the Laity, Family and Life of my decision. Cardinal Farrell accepted my resignation and thanked me for the work done during these years to launch CHARIS. The Dicastery is now considering what to do about this situation, knowing that a solution must be found in a relatively short time.

I also just announced my decision to the entire International Service of Communion during a meeting via Zoom.

As I leave my responsibility as Moderator, I would like to assure you that I will continue to pray for all of you and that the stream of grace may reach all the baptized in the Church. I also entrust my family to your prayers.

Roma 27th March 2021

Jean-Luc Moens