



ORDINE DEI SERVI DI MARIA - CURIA GENERALIZIA
PIAZZA DI SAN MARCELLO, 5 - 00187 ROMA
Telefono: (+39) 06 699 30-1 - Telefax: (+39) 06 679 21 31

Ave Maria

Prot. 2/2019

Rome, January 5, 2019

To all the brothers of our Order

Dear Brothers,

with this letter from our priory of San Marcello and in compliance with article 240 of our *Constitutions*, I am convoking the 214th General Chapter of our Order. It will have its theme:

SERVANTS OF HOPE IN A CHANGING WORLD

Our General Chapter will be celebrated at Casa Divin Maestro, Strada Statale 218, km 11, 00072 Ariccia (RM) Italy, beginning on Monday, October 7 and continuing until Sunday, October 27, 2019.

Ordinary General Chapter

This will be an ordinary General Chapter: we will hold the prescribed elections and discuss matters concerning the protection of our spiritual heritage, its renewal, an increase in the number of its members, updating its legislation, plans for the next six-year period and general administration. All of this is described in article 239 of our *Constitutions*.

In October 2017 I sent a letter to all the communities of the Order (Prot. 321/2017) in which I announced the time determined for celebration of the General Chapter. Afterwards the General Council established committees to study specific items. A commission was also established to survey each of our friars for the purpose of drawing up an agenda for the General Chapter.

Election of Delegates

Eighteen friars will attend the Chapter *ex officio*: [the Prior General, four General Consultors (one of whom is also Secretary of the Order), the Procurator of the Order, the Priors Provincial (ANN, BRA, CAN, IND, ISL, MEX, PRG, SMA, TIR, USA, VEN) and one Vicar Provincial (PHI) and according to previous directives (Cf. *Const.* 243; *CG 2013*, no. 46) and the current statistics of the Order an additional 32 delegates: General Houses, 2; ANN 2; BRA 2; CAN 2; EAF 1; ESP 1; IND 3; ISL 2; MEX 3; PHI 2; PRG 2; SMA 2; TIR 2; USA 3 (including AUS and ZUL), VEN 3.

You are asked, therefore, beginning with the date of this letter, to proceed to the election of Delegates to the Chapter in compliance with what is laid out in the *Constitutions*, article 243, your *Directory* and the *General Chapter 2013* Decree no. 46.

We also ask that you provide the General Curia with the names of the Delegates elected as soon as possible.

Agenda

I would remind the Provincial and Vicarial Secretaries to carry out faithfully all that is prescribed in article 241 of the *Constitutions*.

Three months before the General Chapter begins the Agenda will be sent to all the friars of the Order and to those allowed to participate in the Chapter according to article 241 of the *Constitutions*.

My dear Brothers, every General Chapter is a solemn act of review, discussion and planning. It requires prayer, preparation and a sense of responsibility and courage.

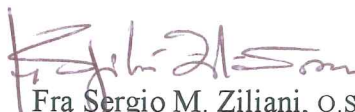
I ask all of you to pray with special intensity during this time of preparation for the General Chapter *with the certainty that wherever two or three are gathered together in His name He is there in their midst* (Cf. Mt 18,20).

I would thank, beginning right now, all our brothers and sisters in the Servite Family and especially our cloistered Servite Sisters who will follow our General Chapter with their prayer and concern.

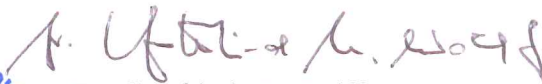
I am certain that this unanimous prayer through the power of the Holy Spirit will produce hope and results in a changing world.

Through the intercession of Our Lady and all our saints and blesseds may the Lord God watch over the vine from Mount Senario; may He care for it and make it fruitful in every land where it has been planted.

Fraternal greetings *in Domina nostra*.


Fra Sergio M. Ziliani, O.S.M.
Secretary of the Order





Fra Gottfried M. Wolff, O.S.M.
Prior General