2008 - 2022



Electronic bulletin of quick information from the Servite Communications Center

Piazza di San Marcello, 5; 00187 Roma; Tel.: (+39) 06 699 301; cosmo.osm@gmail.com; www.servidimaria.net

## GENERAL COUNCIL

COMMUNICATION - 17

COUNCIL MEETING (January 23, 2023)

## SANT'ALESSIO BUILDING REDEVELOPMENT

The Prior General, pointing out that we have finally reached the imminent start of the redevelopment works of the College of Sant' Alessio Falconieri of Servants of Mary, located in Rome, Viale XXX Aprile 6, emphasizes that we must proceed with the last juridical steps. Therefore, the contract that must be signed is taken into consideration. The members of the General Council, having already read the text, agree that the contract, as it stands, contains all the essential elements to be okayed. The council then approves it unanimously. With this decision, a mandate is given to the Legal Representative, Fra Stefano M. Viliani, to sign the Contract

in question.

COUNCIL MEETING

## (February 23, 2023)

## 1. CIF SANT'ALESSIO: Report of the canonical visitation - approval

The Prior General asks to read the report drawn up at the end of the canonical Visit to the ICF Sant' Alessio celebrated from 15 to 20 January 2023. At the end of the reading, the Vicar General suggests three questions which, although not part of the text, would help clarify. The Prior General answers them. As there are no other interventions, the report is approved unanimously.

### 2. GENERAL COUNCIL: ZOOM meeting with the Priors/Vicars Provincial - agenda and planning

The Prior General, after having verified the possibility for the Priors/Vicars Provincial to participate in the ZOOM meeting proposed for 14-15 March 2023 at16.00 Roman time, asks the council to suggest topics for the agenda.

The following topics are proposed and unanimously approved:

- a. Brotherly sharing
- b. Celebration of the next General Chapter
- c. Guidelines for the redevelopment of jurisdictions CG 2019, decree n. 29
- d. Update on the redevelopment of the Sant' Alessio building.
- e. Future of San Marcello see CG 2019, decree n. 23
- f. Canonical visit of the Prior General to the jurisdictions
- g. Various communications secretariat, obituaries, updates of the friars' files, etc.

A letter will now be drawn up indicating again: days and time as well as the agenda.





#### 3. PFT MARIANUM: AVEPRO report (11-13 December 2022 visit)

After having forwarded to the General Council the report that AVEPRO made after the visit to our PFT Marianum, the Prior General asks to read the letter accompanying the report in which two aspects are highlighted in particular: (a) a plan for improvement of quality; (b) a five-year strategic plan. In this regard, the General Regent of Studies, Fra Benito M. Isip, is asked to contact the President and the Vice-President and dialogue with them regarding this request, offering the availability of the Prior General and his Council, if needed, to maintain a relationship with the Prior General, through the General Regent of Studies.



## 4. GALEAZZA: Meeting of the Servite Family on February 18, 2023

The Prior General asks Fra Sergio to share his experience in Galeazza with the Servite Family of Emilia Romagna. It was highlighted that there was a good participation (about 80/85 people) from all the components of the Servite Family, where each one (including a report from our sisters Nuns of Montecchio) shared a reflection starting from the booklet Seven Paths of Hope. Fra Sergio instead offered a reflection on the guiding theme from the Legend of our Origin to today.

COUNCIL MEETING (March 14, 2023)

#### 1. OSSM: Erection of a new fraternity in Lucera

The Prior General presents the request for the erection of a new fraternity of the Secular Order in the parish of San Giovanni Battista di Lucera, Diocese of Lucera-Troia.

Having seen the documentation and having heard the favorable opinion of the General Council and positively evaluating the erection of a new OSSM fraternity which can be a presence of our spirituality of the Servants of Mary in the social and ecclesial fabric, the Prior General decrees, in accordance with the Rule of life n. 65, the erection of the Fraternity of Annunziata, which will have its headquarters in the parish of San Giovanni Battista in Lucera.

## 2. SISTERS OF FATIMA: Results of the trip to Fatima

Fra Souriraj M. Arulananda Samy shares a brief report on the outcome of the trip made to Fatima with the Superior General and the General Treasurer of the Congregation of the Sisters of Fatima (FSI). The purpose of the trip was studying the possibility of opening a community in Fatima (Portugal).

In the meeting with the Bishop of the Diocese of Fatima-Lerina, there emerged the possibility for the FSI Sisters to offer a service to the migrants who are in the Diocese. The bishop's offer, very clear and precise, would consist of: (1) in not opening a community canonically, but a simple presence *ad experimentum* for 3 years; (2) committing to learn the Portuguese language and culture; (3) offering a service to the migrants from India, Pakistan, and Bangladesh. The FSI Mother General, Sister Maria Goretti said she was happy with the proposal which she hopes could be realized.

Fra Souriraj also communicates that the FSI Congregation will send two nuns from June 2023 to do licentiate at the Pontifical Gregorian University.





## GENERAL OFFICIALS AND SECRETARIATS

# 1. CURRENT ARCHIVE OSM: Formation Itineraries for Archivists in the Communities of the Servants of Mary and the Carmelites

On 25 February, the in-person workshop on the "Ownership, protocol and management of the Current Archive" was held in the Aula Magna of the Marianum Theological Faculty, which continues the training process for archivists and secretaries that began last year, organized by the Families of the Servants of Mary and the Carmelites. This initiative, much appreciated by the participants of various congregations and by lay archivists, had Dr. Emanuele Atzori presenting in the first part of the morning a brief compendium on the importance of the Archive in every institution, on the typology of archives, on the need to adapt to the new regulations, to continue to guarantee the custody and transmission of our historical and cultural heritage in a precise and usable way.

After an initial greeting by fra Sergio M. Ziliani on behalf of the Prior General, fra Amalraj M. Arockiasamy, head of the OSM General Archive, and Dr. Simona Serci, archivist of the General Archive of the Carmelite Order, we listened to the presentation of Dr. Atzori reinforcing the knowledge already learned, last year, on the compilation of the protocol. Afterwards we practiced the compilation individually and, after lunch, the correction of the same was held. The last part of the meeting ended with an open session for clarifications and further presentations of special cases that occur in the various institutions.

In the next sessions scheduled for April and June, training will continue with two other important areas: the digital as well as the historical archive.

It was truly not only a rich experience in knowledge, but also a good moment of sharing that made us feel united and collaborators in a reality that is a gift and that reminds us how important it is to care for and transmit "the memory and lived experience", made up of the story of individuals and... we are the custodians of this gift for the Church and for the world!



## 2. CURRENT ARCHIVE OSM: Annual Statistics of the Order (31 December 2022)

|                                  | ANN | AUS | BRA | CAN | EAF | ESP | IND | ISL | MEX | PHI | PRG | SMA | TIR | USA | VEN | ZUL | Total |
|----------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| (NV) Novices                     | -   | -   | -   | -   | 06  | -   | 09  | 01  | 06  | -   | -   | -   | -   | 01  | -   | 03  | 26    |
| (PT) Temporary<br>Professed      | 06  | -   | 09  | -   | 16  | 01  | 17  | -   | 67  | 24  | -   | 04  | -   | 01  | 02  | 03  | 150   |
| (PSL) Lay Solemn<br>Professed    | 04  | 01  | 03  | 03  | 01  | -   | 01  | 01  | 02  | 01  | 02  | 04  | 05  | 03  | 09  | -   | 40    |
| (PSC) Solemn<br>Professed Cleric | -   | -   | 02  | -   | 01  | -   | 01  | -   | 07  | 01  | 01  | -   | -   | -   | 01  | -   | 14    |
| (DI) Deacons                     | -   | -   | 01  | -   | 10  | -   | 02  | 01  | 01  | 01  | 01  | -   | -   | -   | -   | -   | 17    |
| (PB) Priests                     | 41  | 05  | 32  | 17  | 40  | 08  | 70  | 15  | 67  | 37  | 39  | 18  | 15  | 30  | 58  | 09  | 501   |
| (EP) Bishops                     | -   | -   | 01  | 01  | -   | -   | -   | -   | -   | -   | -   | 02  | -   | -   | -   | -   | 04    |
| Total                            | 51  | 06  | 48  | 21  | 74  | 09  | 100 | 18  | 150 | 64  | 43  | 28  | 20  | 35  | 70  | 15  | 752   |





## 3. CURRENT ARCHIVE OSM: Number of friars and novices of the Order in each Nation (December 31, 2022)

| Nations                  | Bishops | Priests | Permanant |               | rofessed<br>on-Priests      | Novices | Total |
|--------------------------|---------|---------|-----------|---------------|-----------------------------|---------|-------|
|                          |         |         | Deacons   | Lay<br>Friars | To be Ordai-<br>ned Priests |         |       |
| Argentina                |         | 5       |           | 2             |                             |         | 7     |
| Australia                |         | 9       |           | 1             |                             |         | 10    |
| Austria                  |         | 14      |           | 5             | 1                           |         | 20    |
| Bolivia                  | 7 /     | 4       |           |               | 1                           |         | 5     |
| Brasil                   | / 1     | 27      |           | 2             | 14                          |         | 44    |
| Canada                   | 1       | 17      |           | 3             | 6                           |         | 27    |
| Chile                    | 2       | 12      |           | 2             | 1                           |         | 17    |
| Colombia                 |         | 6       |           |               | 5                           |         | 11    |
| Congo                    |         | 2       | -         |               |                             | 4       | 2     |
| eSwatini                 |         | 6       |           |               |                             |         | 6     |
| France                   |         | 3       |           | 1             | 11                          |         | 4     |
| Great Brittain           |         | 10      |           | 1             | 11                          |         | 11    |
| Germany                  |         | 1       |           |               |                             | 137     | 1     |
| India                    |         | 45      |           |               | 17                          |         | 62    |
| Indonesia                |         | 12      |           |               | 35                          | 6       | 53    |
| Ireland                  | 1       | 7       | 1         |               |                             |         | 8     |
| Italy                    |         | 165     |           | 16            | 25                          |         | 206   |
| Kenya                    |         | 4       |           |               | 5                           | /       | 9     |
| Mexico                   |         | 33      |           | 2             | 22                          |         | 57    |
| Mozambique               |         | 5       |           |               | 1                           |         | 6     |
| Myanmar                  |         | 3       |           |               | 2                           | 9       | 14    |
| Philipines               |         | 25      |           | 1             | 21                          |         | 47    |
| Romania                  |         | 1       |           |               |                             |         | 1     |
| San Marino               |         | 1       |           |               |                             |         | 1     |
| United States of America |         | 39      |           | 3             | 1                           | 2       | 45    |
| Spain                    |         | 14      |           |               | 5                           |         | 19    |
| South Africa             |         | 4       |           |               |                             |         | 4     |
| Uganda                   |         | 19      |           | 1             | 18                          | 9       | 47    |
| Hungery                  |         | 1       |           |               |                             |         | 1     |
| Zululand                 |         | 8       |           |               |                             |         | 8     |
| Total                    | 4       | 501     | 1         | 40            | 180                         | 26      | 752   |

fra Amalraj M. Arockiasamy, Archivist















## 4. REGENT OF STUDIES: Formation meeting about economy in CIF S. Alessio



On 11<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> March 2023, a course on economy was held in Sant'Alessio International Formation Community in Rome. This is inspired by the General Chapter's decree to draw up °a training course on economy in our life as friars" (GC 2019 n. 14). This formative input gives information to our friars on how to manage our small and large resources. Our observance of poverty teaches us to be good stewards of what we have at the service of our charism and our mission. The course was conducted by Stefano M. Viliani, current General Treasuretr of the Order. The participants are the members of the International Community of S. Alessio in Rome, with 22 friars, the team of formators led by fra Rhett M. Sarabia and the professed.

In the first meeting, fra Stefano discussed about the theoretical aspects of economy, touching on some pertinent points from the Bible, the Rule of Saint Augustine, the Legenda de Origine, our Constitutions, the documents of the Church in particular "Economy at the service of the charism and mission"; Canon Law and the practices of taxation and financial aid between the jurisdictions of the Order. Co-responsibility in managing our convent's resources is recommended. It is done not to control one another but a kind of support to one another. We cannot leave our treasurer and procurator alone to do everything related to management, we must support them by caring about how we spend and how we contribute to our community.

In the second meeting, fra Stefano spoke about the practical aspects, such as spending our money on necessary things. Financial reporting, registering our expenses and incomes, security funds and separate registry and administration in a community, such as administration of a convent and another for the parish.

The sessions were very interesting and informative. Questions and clarifications were asked. We talk about how to use and safeguard our money, it's up to us to put it into practice. Always keeping in mind that "money must serve and not govern".

Benito M. Isip, Regent of Studies

## **JURISDICTIONS AND CONVENTS**



## 1. USA PROVINCE: Vicar Apostolic of Ingwavuma (South Africa)

On 20 March 2023, Holy Father Francis appointed as Apostolic Vicar of Ingwavuma (South Africa), Father Vusumuzi Francis Mazibuko, O.M.I, currently parish priest of St. Mary's in Pietermaritzburg, archdiocese of Durban.

Congratulations to the new Apostolic Vicar. We accompany with our prayers the new Apostolic Vicar, our brothers in Zululand and the people of God of the Vicariate in this time of transition and new beginnings.





## 2. Pontificia Academia Mariana Internationalis (PAMI): Observatory for Miraculous Apparitions of Mary

An observatory for apparitions and mystical phenomena related to the figure of the Virgin Mary in the world. It was established at the Pontificia Academia Mariana Internationalis (PAMI) with the aim of analyzing and interpreting the various cases of Mariophanies: apparitions, tears on statues, but also internal locutions, stigmata and other mystical phenomena that are in progress or have already occurred, but still awaiting a pronouncement from the ecclesiastical authority regarding the authenticity.

The Observatory will operate in a systematic, strategic, multidisciplinary and qualified way, also in collaboration with experts and researchers, high-profile personalities in the scientific field and ecclesiastical authorities. It is important to clarify, because alleged messages often generate confusion, spread fearful apocalyptic scenarios or even accusations against the Pope and the Church. How could Mary, Mother of the Church, undermine her integrity or sow fears and oppositions, she who is Mother of Mercy and Queen of Peace? In the same way, it is important to provide formative support because dealing with certain cases requires adequate preparation.

The Observatory is made up of a Steering Committee and a Central Scientific Committee. The first includes, in addition to Father Stefano Cecchin and his confrere, Friar Marco Mendoza, secretary of PAMI, Sister Daniela del Gaudio, professor of Ecclesiology and Mariology at various Pontifical Universities (PUA, PUSC, APRA, Seraphicum) in the role of director, and Father Raffaele Di Muro, of the Friars Minor Conventual, dean of the Pontifical Theological Faculty "San Bonaventura" who edited the Dictionary of Christian Mystical Phenomena as vice-director.

In the Central Scientific Committee, however, Fr. Gian Matteo Roggio, Missionary of Our Lady of La Salette, PAMI councilor and professor of the Pontifical Marianum Theological Faculty, the dean of the same Faculty, Friar Denis M. Kulandaisamy, of the Order of the Servants of Mary, Mariology expert, Fr. Salvatore M. Perrella, also of the Order of the Servants of Mary, Luciano Regolo, co-director of Famiglia Cristiana and Maria con te, and Paolo Cancelli, a lawyer specialized in protecting fragile persons from the crime of circumvention.

In addition, local scientific committees will be formed soon, in the logic of an operational network that can increasingly extend its reach. The Observatory, which officially begins its activity with the first session on Saturday 15 April 2023 at the PAMI headquarters, where it will usually work, will also be able to meet and operate "in the field" based on needs or requests for support.

Thanks to Vatican News:

https://www.vaticannews.va/it/chiesa/news/2023-04/pami-osservatorio-fenomeni-apparizioni-maria.html

## Professions, Ordinations, Anniversaries







## UNIFAS

## 1. SMB: XV General Elective Chapter

The Servite Sisters of Brazil celebrated their Fifteenth General Elective Chapter from 3 to 6 January 2023 with the theme, "The Servants of Mary in communion, participation and mission". "Behold the handmaid of the Lord" (Lk 1:38). There were moments of reflection, sharing, listening and discernment. During the Chapter they elected the New General Administration of the Congregation for the next four years.

Prioress General: Sr. Maria Aparecida de Oliveira;

Assistant General: Sr. Agnela Alda da Silva;

Councilors: Sr. Rita Cássia Soares da Silva, Sr. Maria Imaculada Gomes and Sr. Maria Leonice Brondani;

General Secretary: Sr. Agnela Alda da Silva; General Bursar: Sr. Aparecida Emília Ferreira.

Best wishes to all!

## 2. CHG: 150th anniversary of the Servants of Mary of Our Lady of Sorrows, Chioggia

On 18<sup>th</sup> March 2023 in the cathedral of Chioggia, at the end of the celebrations of the jubilee year for the 150th anniversary of the Congregation, we were able to experience a moment of high culture and spirituality with a concert by the Cappella Marciana of the Basilica of San Marco in Venice directed by maestro Marco Gemmani.

This extraordinary event was possible, thanks to the generosity of some local people and the local companies, a true demonstration of trust in the Congregation and a great love for their city, as works by Chioggia musicians such as Gioseffo Zarlino, Giovanni Croce known as Chiozzotto, Paolo Quagliati and the unforgettable Vittore Bellemo.

All the songs were performed in the chapel with the intervention only in two cases of organ pieces written by Quagliati, who remained famous for this role of his, developed above all in the Basilica of Santa Maria Maggiore in Rome, where he is buried.

The following day, 19 March 2023, at 5 pm the solemn liturgy of thanksgiving was held in the cathedral presided over by Mons. Giampaolo Dianin, bishop of Chioggia, concelebrated by about twenty priests including the general secretary of the Order, fra Sergio M Ziliani. Many nuns and faithful were present, including the treasurer of the Order, Fra Stefano M. Viliani.

In the entrance procession, the three flags of the countries in which the sisters work stood out: Italy, Mexico, Burundi (with a significant similarity of colours: red, white, green!) carried by three sisters of their respective

nationalities, while the Prioress General Sr. Antonella Zanini carried the commemorative lamp of the 150th anniversary of the foundation.

The Mass began with the greeting of the prioress Mother Antonella Zanini: thanking the bishop, the priests, the faithful present, and those who organized the various events of the 150th anniversary. She recalled that as the fruit of these celebrations a new school will be built in Bwoga-Chioggia in Burundi.

The songs, as for the opening of the jubilee year in 2022, were animated by the Choir of the Navicella while a dance by African nuns accompanied the presentation of the gifts.

At the end, Mr. Tommasi, on behalf of the Polesine communities where the congregation

served, donated to the prioress a work he had made with copper cut-outs depicting a rose bush.

In his homily, Bishop Giampaolo thanked the nuns for the testimony that honors the city and referring to the Gospel (healing of the man born blind) he invoked for all eyes that believe, that see goodness, that know how to be compassionate.

At the end of the mass Fr. Ziliani recalled the charism of the Seven Founders of the Servites and, also in the name of the Prior General, Fra Gottfried M. Wolff, invited them to increase fraternity.

There was no lack of group photo with the nuns and the organizers and a moment of celebration for everyone in the oratory of the cathedral.







#### 3. DIA: ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF THE DIACONIES

## 2 February 2023, Feast of the Deaconry of Hope (Silvana di Cinisello Balsamo)

Upon arrival, Silvana welcomes us moved in the faithfulness of her XXXV Feast of the house together with a large group of old friends of the house to whom each is given a lighted lamp.

Fra Moreno who presides over the domestic Eucharist taken from the Marian Lectionary "Santa Maria di Nazareth" n.8/i, explains to us that in the light, there is still the echo of Christmas, and while the lights of the illuminations have already gone out, the Church gives us signs, and the lighted candles (usually given on the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord) that everyone holds in their hands today remind us that the light of Christ is always present in our lives.

#### 11 February 2023, Feast of the Diaconia of Proximity (Giuseppe and Cristina of Spezzano Modenese)

Intense and joyful moments in the house of Cristina and Giuseppe, Diaconia of Proximity, the anniversary of the Blessed Virgin of Lourdes and World Day of the Sick, were an opportunity to reflect on faith, illness, and Proximity.

We recognize that the Lord got his hands dirty with each one of us...he became my neighbor in sin and death, he became my neighbor and it all that starts from there...and when for His love we too become neighbors, we become bearers of life new... not teachers of all, not experts of the sacred, but witnesses of the love that saves..."

## 19 March 2023, Feast of the Diaconia of Listening (Marina and Cleto Vecchi of Renazzo (Fe)

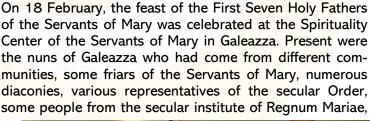
In memory of St. Joseph, at the home of Marina and Cleto, Fra Moreno presided over the domestic Eucharist on St. Joseph, celebrated by friends, diaconies and relatives who had been asked in the invitation to bring their dreams. From the homily with references to Patris Corde by Pope Francis, the traits of St. Joseph were underlined.

## 4. Feast of the First Seven Holy Fathers



and numerous friends from our communities.

Organized by the diaconies, the feast involved all the various groups belonging to the Servite Family, through reflection/echoes on the seven words found in





the "Seven Paths of Hope" booklet of the general community: courage, creativity, diversity, patience, beauty, memory, silence.

The reflection on the spirituality of the First Seven Holy Fathers presented by Fra Sergio M. Ziliani, secretary of the Order of the Servants of Mary was appreciated.

After the Eucharistic celebration, the feast continued with a joyful and fraternal agape, where relationships and friendships continued to deepen.







## 5. UNIFAS-USA: National Congress on Zoom platform

UNIFAS-USA held a Congress on October 27-29, 2022. It was the first joint Congress of Secular Servites in the USA and UNIFAS. And it was the first Congress held virtually using Zoom technology.

The number of professed sisters and friars are decreasing in the USA, as is happening in Europe and Canada. The number of OSSMs is growing. In recent years OSSMs held a Congress every four years with friars and sisters invited to attend, and OSSMs attended the UNIFAS-USA congress held every four years. It was time to hold one joint Congress! The virtual joint Congress offered opportunity for more Servites to attend without the cost of travel and lodging. It was a very successful experience attended by more Servites than past Congresses.

On the first day, Dr. Jacqueline Battalora presented information on "Unconscious Bias." Bro. Arnaldo Sanchez, OSM provided simultaneous translation from English to Spanish.

On the second day, Servites shared in small groups and large group on questions related to the presentation by Dr. Battalora.

- 1. What does it mean to be white or Hispanic or immigrant?
- 2. Hearing the history of the invention of white people has caused me to FEEL (not think) \_\_\_\_\_. When I feel this way I know that \_\_\_\_\_ helps me to work through the feeling and get to a place of solid ground from which I can take action consistent with my values.

We also shared in small and large groups on the topic of "What difference does being a Servant of Mary make in your life?"

The third day focused on the Secular Servites (OSSMs) but all Servites were welcome to attend. The OSSM National Council shared about servant leadership, organization structure, and finances. In a large group discussion, participants addressed the common problem of "Keeping Our Communities Together" in the aftermath of COVID isolations. And finally, Father Eugene installed the new National Council. All of the members of the current council agreed to serve another four-year term until 2026.

Debbie Nunes – National Prioress
Paulette Martin – Assistant National Prioress
Sue Weigand – National Secretary
Michael Williams – National Treasurer
Valentin Rosario – National Liaison. Latino Community

### 6. UNIFASI: XXXV National March of the Servants of Mary

Marina di Massa – Viareggio, May 6-7, 2023

"Starting afresh with Mary, in the footsteps of Curatino, to serve our brothers and sisters"



With the XXXV March of the Servants, scheduled for the night between 6 and 7 May 2023, the entire Servite Family (friars, sisters and friends), after the years of the pandemic, gets back on its way. We pick up where we left off: the 2019 March in Viareggio to celebrate the two hundredth anniversary (1819-2019) of the birth of Curatino. And it is precisely in the footsteps of St. Anthony M. Pucci that we set out again, looking and letting ourselves be accompanied, like him, by the Virgin Mother. In harmony with and in preparation for next summer's WYD in Lisbon, we were inspired by the decision of Saint Mary to set out and quickly reach Elizabeth.

We will start from our church of Santa Maria della Consolazione in Marina di Massa, where Bishop Vaccaro, will celebrate the Eucharist. This first stage is characterized by the question asked by Jesus to his disciples: "Do you also want to leave?" We are called in life to decide whether to "stay or not" with the Master. Stay to learn and be in communion with him. Only in this way, after his invitation, will we be able to set out to proclaim the Gospel and serve our brothers and sisters.

We will leave, trusting not on our strengths and strategies, but on the word of Christ: "Go therefore", prompted and animated by the Spirit of the Lord. This is the second stage that we will experience in Forte dei Marmi at the Church of St. Hermes. To help us in our reflection will be Sr. M. Loretta Sella, Servant of Mary.





Like Mary of Nazareth in the visitation, we too, servants and disciples, will set out. Humanity has always lived the experience of exodus, by choice or by necessity. Even today, men and women leave, leaving their lands for new shores of hope. In the parish church of Sant'Antonio, in Marina di Pietrasanta and in the middle of the night, we will experience a moment of intercultural joy, song and dance, proposed to us by young friars and sisters from different parts of the world. As Servants we are invited not only to go, but also to welcome with joy those brothers and sisters who come in our daily stories.

In the next stage we will be welcomed at the church of the Holy Spirit in Lido di Camaiore, by Bishop Giulietti, a pilgrim with us. Going always means leaving to meet, heading towards something or someone. Mary set out on a journey to meet Elizabeth and the Gospel and art tell us of that joyful embrace full of blessing between these two life-bearing women. The embrace, a sign of welcome, of sharing, of friendship, will be the focus of Bishop Paolo's reflection.

And finally, at the dawn of the new day of the Lord, we will find ourselves like the disciples-fishermen on the seashore. And here Saint Mary of Sorrows, the woman of joyful faith but also filled with the pain of her Son and children, will accompany us from the Viareggio dock to the Church of St. Andrew. Curatino used to bring the statue of the Mother of Sorrows right there where the fishermen left and arrived, to make them feel the maternal presence of Mary in the hardships and adversities of life. And in the Church of St. Andrew, which had him as parish priest for very many years, our March of the Servants will end in front of his urn, to ask for the protection of this "little holy brother" on "our daily journey", the intercession of the Mother and the blessing of the Risen Lord.

The National March of the Servants of Mary is organized by the UNIFASI, Union of the Servite Family in Italy; participants will come from all over Italy; this walk in the night is not reserved only for members of the Family of the Servants of Mary but is open to all those who in the Versilia area or in any other part of Italy who wish to walk together, in prayer, in fraternity, in joy.

## 7. Statistics of the Members of the Servite Family (31 December 2022)

| ABB | SERVITE FAMILY  | Novices | TEMP. PROF. | Sol. Prof. | TOTAL |
|-----|---|---------|-------------|------------|-------|
| OSM | Ordo Servorum Mariæ                                   | 26      | 150         | 576        | 752   |
| MON | Moniales Servæ S. Mariæ                               | 04      | 11          | 98         | 113   |
| CHG | Serve di Maria Addolorata - Chioggia                  | 05      | 14          | 59         | 78    |
| СОМ | Compassioniste Serve di Maria                         | 05      | 60          | 295        | 360   |
| FIR | Serve di Maria SS. Addolorata - Firenze               | 2       | 9           | 148        | 159   |
| FSI | Sisters of our Lady of Fatima - India                 | 33      | 80          | 362        | 475   |
| GAL | Serve di Maria - Galeazza                             | 15      | 46          | 95         | 156   |
| INS | Sisters of Mother of Sorrows Servants of Mary - India | 25      | 48          | 872        | 945   |
| LAD | Servants of Mary – Ladysmith                          | -       | -           | 26         | 26    |
| LON | Servite Sisters – London                              | 04      | 18          | 135        | 157   |
| MAR | Soeurs de N.D. de la Compassion – Marseille*          |         |             |            |       |
| MMD | Misioneras de María Dolorosa – México                 | 02      | 01          | 44         | 47    |
| MSM | Mantellate Serve di Maria - Pistoia                   | 04      | 21          | 203        | 228   |
| NAP | Suore di Maria SS. Addolorata - Napoli                | 18      | 58          | 160        | 236   |
| PIS | Suore dell'Addolorata Serve di Maria – Pisa           | 17      | 50          | 165        | 232   |
| RAV | Serve di Maria - Ravenna                              | -       | -           | 20         | 20    |
| SMB | Servas de Maria do Brasil                             | 1       | 1           | 22         | 24    |
| SMC | Servas de Santa Maria do Cenáculo*                    |         |             |            |       |
| SMN | Serve di Maria Addolorata - Nocera                    | 05      | 32          | 31         | 68    |
| SMR | Serve di Maria Riparatrici                            | 14      | 13          | 227        | 254   |
| SWS | Servite Sisters – Swaziland*                          |         |             |            |       |
| REM | Istituto Secolare Regnum Mariæ                        | 08      | 32          | 18         | 58    |
| SSI | Servite Secular Institute                             | -       | 3           | 34         | 37    |
|     | Total   | 188     | 647         | 3,590      | 4,425 |

\*The data has not arrived.

Members of the secular order and lay groups of the Servite Family are not included in these statistics.