



December 2019

Year 12 - N. 12



COSMO On line



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THE GENERAL COUNCIL

COMMUNIQUÉ – 01

COUNCIL SESSION November 22, 2019

1. EUR: Novitiate House

The Prior General described the new situation of the novitiate house at the Genoa Community. This location was linked to the presence of the novice master, Fra Benito M. Isip who lived in that community. The General Chapter elected Fra Benito a General Councilor. As a result, the European Conference had to choose a new novice master and a new community for the novitiate. The EUR Conference decided to ask for the erection of a House of Novitiate at the Santissima Annunziata Priory in Florence.

2. PRG: Canonical closure of the Superga Priory (Turin)

The Prior General presented the documentation from the PRG Prior Provincial, Fra Pietro M. Andriotto, concerning the canonical closure of the Superga Priory in Turin. In conformity with article 252/i of the Constitutions the General Council gave its consent for the Prior General to proceed with the canonical closure of the Superga Priory.

3. OSSM: National Council on November 18-19, 2019

Fra Sergio and Fra Souriraj presented a brief report on the meeting of the new OSSM National Council celebrated in Rome on November 18-19, 2019.

COUNCIL SESSION December 4, 2019

1. Marianum Pontifical Theological Faculty: Approval of new statutes

The General Council discussed a letter from the President of the Marianum Pontifical Theological Faculty date December 3, 2019. Attached to this letter were the minutes of the Faculty Council and the new Statutes of the Faculty that follow the guidelines of the Apostolic Constitution *Veritatis Gaudium*. The Statutes will be submitted for approval to the Congregation for Catholic Education by December 8, 2019. In his letter the President asks for approval of the Statutes.

The General Council read and gave its approval to the Statutes approved by the Faculty Council on December 2, 2019.

2. Diakonie: choice of juridical status

The Prior General read a letter from the *Animatrice Diakonia* stating that after careful study and discernment the *Diakonia* Movement has decided not to request a change in its juridical status. The Movement is happy "to maintain the present status of private association of the faithful," and is satisfied with its aggregation to the Servite Family.

The General Council responded the *Animatrice Diakonia* letter and thanked them for the letter and it further asked that the movement's Rule be approved by the appropriate authority in the *Diakonia*.

3. EUR: temporary move of the pre-Novitiate house and appointment of a Master

The Prior General reported on the decision of the EUR Conference to temporarily move its pre-Novitiate house to the Mislata community (Spain) and to appoint Fra Antonio M. Nofuentes as Master of the pre-novices.

4. OSSM Italy: Confirmation of the National Assistant

The Prior General informed us that he had received a request from the OSSM of Italy to confirm Fra Sergio M. Ziliani as National Assistant. Since that friar is under the obedience and authority of the Prior General, he was confirmed. The Prior General gave his consent and a letter will be sent immediately to Signora Antonietta Trombadore, the National Prioress.

COUNCIL PLANNING SESSION
December 16-20, 2-19

The General Council met at the house of the Sisters of Reparation (*Riparatrici*) in Santa Marinella (Rome) from December 16th to 20th (2019) to lay out plans for the coming six years. While meeting they decided on their commitments for 2019-2020 and discussed several other subjects.

PLANNING FOR SIX-YEAR TERM (2019-2025)

1. Responsible general councilors (Const. 263)

The Prior General initiated the discussion on the work of General Councilors responsible for the various jurisdictions and Regional Conferences of the Order. After careful discussion the Council approved the following distribution of responsibility:



FRA DAVID M. MEJÍA CISNEROS

Jurisdictions: Mexico (including Indonesia), Brazil, Santa Maria de los Andes

Regional Conferences: NAC and CONO SUR CLIOS; Historical Institute; Postulation



FRA SERGIO M. ZILIANI

Jurisdictions: SS. Annunziata, Veneto, Piedmont-Romagna, Spain and General Houses

Regional Conference: EUROPA CAOS; Historical Archives



FRA BENITO M. ISIP II

Jurisdictions: Canada, USA, Philippines, East Africa, Zululand

Regional Conference: AFRICA



FRA SOURIRAJ M. ARULANANDA SAMY

Jurisdictions: India, Tyrol, Isles, Australia

Regional Conference: CASA

After appointing jurisdictions, the Council decided:

- a) The single community in the Kingdom of Eswatini (Swaziland) and Mozambique will be visited during canonical visitations in Africa. The co-visitor with the Prior General will be Fra Benito Isip.
- b) Indonesia will be assigned to the Councilor responsible for Mexico since he spent so many years in that foundation and knows the situation well.

2. General Secretariats and Officials (Const. 269)

The Prior General listed the various General Secretariats and Officials that must be appointed (Const. art. 269). He further described how these positions were appointed in the previous six years. After careful and prolonged discussion, the Council elected:

Councilors:

Souriraj: Secretary for Communications; General Secretary for OSSM and Lay Groups;

David: General Secretary for the Evangelization of Peoples and Justice and Peace; General Secretary for Permanent Formation;

Benito: Coordinator of Vocation Promotion; General Regent of Studies; President of the Secretariat for Formation and Studies.

The General Council elected:



FRA FRANCO M. AZZALLI
President of the Historical Institute; Postulator for the Causes of Beatification and Canonization



FRA PAOLO M. ORLANDINI
President of CLIOS



FRA AMALRAJ M. AROCKIASAMY
Archivist of the Current Archives; Archivist for the Servite Historical Archives

The General Council discussed at length the appointment of Fra Amalraj to the Historical Archives. The Council reflected on the office of Annalist of the Order which existed until a few decades ago and decided to appoint Fra Franco M. Azzalli, the President of the Historical Institute, as primarily responsible for the Historical Archives. He will supervise and support Fra Amalraj.

Election of the General Treasurer

At the suggestion of the Prior General the General Council elected Fra Stefano M. Viliiani as General Treasurer for the next six years (2019-2025).

Prior General's Delegate for Extraordinary Administration at Monte Senario.

It is within the competence of the Prior General to appoint a delegate for extraordinary administration at Monte Senario without consultation but he believed it important to have the opinion and consent of the General Council. The Council agreed with the Prior General's proposal to appoint Fra Stefano M. Viliiani once more.



FRA STEFANO M. VILIANI
General Treasurer

3. Responsibilities and Function of the Secretariats (Const. 269/b) and of other Secretariats and offices (Const. 270)

The Prior General asked the General Council to consider the responsibilities and function of the Secretariats (Cf. Const. 269/b) and the possible need to establish other Secretariats and Offices (Cf. Const. 270). During the discussion it came to light that there is a "Statute of Secretariats." It would be good to examine this document and determine its usefulness. At the same time, we discussed the make-up of the Secretariats and emphasized the need and practicality of appointing collaborators who can work together effectively.

We believe there is no need to establish other secretariats the present ones are sufficient.

The Prior General proposed the creation of a new office: *Pro-Secretary of the Order* in conformity with article 270 of the *Constitutions*. The Secretary of the Order was asked his opinion and was in favor; so were all the other members of the Council. The Council voted unanimously for the appointment of **Fra Juan M. Olivares Troncoso** as *Pro-Secretary of the Order*.



FRA JUAN M. OLIVARES TRONCOSO
Pro-Secretary of the Order

4. General Houses: appointments and elections

The Prior General introduced another subject: the composition of those communities under his jurisdiction and the necessary elections. The Prior General discussed this with the members of the General Houses and proposed the following.

Composition of the communities

SAN MARCELLO AL CORSO GENERAL CURIA

Arockiasamy Amalraj M.
Arulananda Samy Souriraj M.
Casini Enrico M.
Isip Benito M.
Masetti Luciano M.
Mejia David M.
Olivares Troncoso Juan M.
Viliani Stefano M.
Wolff Gottfried M.
Ziliani Sergio M.

Fra Sergio M. Ziliani was elected Prior of the San Marcello Community

The General Council appointed:

Fra Enrico M. Casini, *Rector of the Church of San Marcello al Corso*

MARIANUM STUDY COMMUNITY

Antonini Bernardo M.
Bosin Fabrizio M.
Danieli Silvano M.
Di Girolamo Luca M.
Kulandaisamy Denis Sahayaraj M.
Maggiani Silvano M.
Minatto Dagostim Davi M.
Perretto Elio M. (at Istituto Missi-
oni, Monte Berico)
Perrella Salvatore M.
Scorrano Francesco M.
Serra Aristide M.
Zanini Paolo M.

Fra Luca M. Di Girolamo was elected Prior of the Marianum Study Community.

COMMUNITY OF MONTE SENARIO

Chinnappan Arockiasamy M.
Da Silva Bruno Wilson M.
Gabellini Maurizio M.
Gonzales Ladislao M.
Hernandez Olvera Gerardo M.
Perri Ferdinando M.
Sperman Giovanni M.
Tondo Roger M.
Zanarini Floriano M.
Le Stinche Domus:
Bonomi Lorenzo M.
Bruni Giancarlo M.
Grassi Eliseo M.

The General Council discussed postponing the election of a conventual prior for Monte Senario. In the meantime, fra Nando would continue his service as prior.

ST. ALEXIS FALCONIERI INTERNATIONAL FORMATION COMMUNITY

Azzalli Franco M.
Bustillos Marrufo Ramon M.
Byomuhangi Tadeo M.
Moons Hubert M.

Fra Ramon Bustillos Marrufo was elected prior of the St. Alexis Falconieri Community.

The General Council then made the following appointments:

Bustillos Marrufo Ramon M. – Master of Professed
Byomuhangi Tadeo M. – First Assistant Master
Moons Hubert M. – Second Assistant Master

5. Canonical Visitations in General

- a) The Prior General asked the Council if it was wise to plan canonical visitations of all the jurisdictions of the Order during the next six years so far in advance. Would it not be better – he suggested – to include visitation plans for the following 18 months in annual planning sessions. The Council listened to the experiences of the Prior General and Fra Souriraj during the previous six years and bearing in mind the time demands that will be placed on the Prior General and his Council decided to include visitation plans for the following 18 months in the annual planning session.
- b) The Prior General asked the Council to consider the experience of the previous six years during which the economic visitations to the jurisdictions of the Order were delegated to the General Treasurer or to a member of CAOS. The Council recognized the positive value of this experience and reconfirmed the same method for the future.
- c) Canonical visitations to the monasteries (cloistered convents) dependent on the Prior General. The Prior General informed us that according to the new Statutes of the Federation of Servite Nuns approved by the Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life canonical visitations should be carried out by the Ordinary accompanied by the Federal Mother.
- d) The Prior General read an extract (see below) from the decisions of the 2019 General Chapter regarding canonical visitations. Members of the Council are asked to bear these decisions in mind during future canonical visitations.

“During the canonical visitation ... the Prior General should see if there are suitable friars available to work in other parts of the world (Const. 254/b).”

“Each jurisdiction in their own communities should establish a day to benefit the Marianum.”

6. COSMO on line

The Prior General asked the General Council for its opinion on publishing brief communiqués on the Council's discussion. This was the practice in the previous six years. The Council believed that the practice of the past six years was valuable and should continue during this term. There should of course be a certain reserve in speaking of individuals or delicate matters.

The Prior General will assume responsibility for writing these communiqués.

7. "Sowing Hope for the Planet" (Union of Superiors General)

The letter of the USG and UISG on care for our common home was read. It is a follow-up to Pope Francis' encyclical, *Laudato si'*. The Council deems it important that this very delicate and meaningful subject should be the concern of the General Secretary for Permanent Formation. We suggest that the new Secretary should prepare the publication of a paper COSMO and become involved in Papal institutions to understand this subject ever better and be able to provide guidelines for reflection and action.

8. Commissions proposed by the 2019 General Chapter

a. Sexual abuse: a permanent international commission

The General Council read the General Chapter decree on preventing sexual abuse and caring for its victims. The Council defined the name of the Commission:

Guidelines for preventing and confronting cases of abuse

The General Council decided to appoint a President and to ask this president to provide to the Council the names of those who might be members of this commission.

President: **Fra Souriraj M. Arulananda Samy**

b. Commission "Remodeling the Building at Viale XXX Aprile"

The Prior General realizes that the General Chapter did not decree the establishment of a commission for works that must be carried out in the building at Viale XXX Aprile. But after a discussion with the General Treasurer, Fra Stefano M. Viliari, he favored the establishment of a simple commission that could assist the General Treasurer. The Council favors appointing the following members:

President: Prior General **Fra Gottfried M. Wolff**, General Treasurer, **Fra Stefano M. Viliari**, **Fra Sergio M. Ziliani**, **Fra Denis M. Kulandaisamy**, **Fra Ramon M. Bustillos Marrufo**.

The task of the commission will be to complete work on this project and to transfer the General Curia to the Viale XXX Aprile building.

PLANNING 2020

1. Chapters of Election in 2020

The Prior General listed the Provincial Chapters of Election that will be celebrated starting in January 2020 and named the Responsible Councilor who will attend those chapters.

SMA	15 - 21.01.2019 - David	ANN	18 - 23.05.2020 - Sergio
BRA	09 - 14.01.2020 - David	VEN+PRG	08 - 13.06.2020 - Sergio
USA	17 - 21.02.2020 - Benito	TIR	15 - 19.06.2020 - Souriraj
CAN	13 - 17.04.2020 - Benito	ISL	22 - 26.06.2020 - Souriraj
MEX	20 - 24.04.2020 - David	PHI	24 - 29.08.2020 - Benito
IND	04 - 09.05.2020 - Souriraj		

2. Canonical Visitations 2020/2021

a. Canonical Visitations to the Jurisdictions

The Prior General suggested that the 2020 and 2021 visitations begin with these jurisdictions:

ANN Province – The Prior General will conduct the visitation accompanied by the responsible Councilor; Fra Sergio. **Period foreseen for the visit: Autumn 2020**

PHI Vicariate - The Prior General will conduct the visitation accompanied by the responsible Councilor; Fra Benito. **Period foreseen for the visit: end of January beginning of February 2021.**

MEX Province - The Prior General will conduct the visitation accompanied by the responsible Councilor; Fra David. **Period foreseen for the visit: Late Spring 2021** (This should take about four weeks because of the communities in Colombia and El Paso).

b. Canonical Visitations to General Houses in 2020

The Prior General proposed to the General Council dates for the Canonical Visitation of General communities. He will be accompanied by the responsible councilor, Fra Sergio.

St. Alexis International Formation Community	March 1-6, 2020
Monte Senario	September 6-12, 2020
San Marcello	September 22-24, 2020
Study Community	Sept. 28 – Oct. 2, 2020

c. Visitors for San Marcello Community

The General Council considered the experience of the past six years as positive. During that time the visitors involved in the Canonical Visitation were not changed every year. The positive aspect of this arrangement derived from its continuity and the extent to which it was effective.

After discussing various names, the General Council was unanimous in the choice of Fra Paolo M. Orlandini (ANN Prior Provincial) and Fra Anthoni Kolandaisamy M. (IND/ESP).

3. “9 f” Meeting

The Prior General described the contents of article 9/f of the Marianum Pontifical Theological Faculty Statutes. The article envisions an annual meeting between the General Council and the Servite teachers and officials of the Faculty. The President suggested possible dates for this meeting: between May 25 and May 27, 2020.

After consideration of the schedules of individual members the General Council decided to hold the meeting on May 25, 2020.

4. Marianum Pontifical Theological Faculty – New Partner

The Prior General began a discussion of this subject. He explained to the new members of the Council that because of the Apostolic Letter, *Veritatis Gaudium*, the Augustinianum Patristic Institute can no longer be a partner to the Marianum Pontifical Theological Faculty. In this situation the Marianum had to consider the benefit and possibility of finding a new partner for the three-year theology course. After research and discussion, it seems that collaboration with the Benedictine foundation, *Sant’Anselmo Pontifical Athenaeum*, is possible. We will have more detailed information (after further research) for the May 25 meeting.

5. Assembly and Council of UNIFAS

The Prior General mentioned two important events for UNIFAS in the coming year:

UNIFAS Council: will be celebrated at the General Curia (San Marcello) March 17-18, 2020.

UNIFAS Assembly: will be celebrated at the General Curia of the Compassionist Servite Sisters in Via Appia October 608, 2020.

DECISIONS

1. Jelimpo: canonical erection of priory (MEX)

The Prior General presented documentation requesting the canonical erection of the community at Jelimpo. After a brief discussion the General Council approved the erection of the Priory of Jelimpo in Indonesia.

2. Confirmation of two “Domus” (ANN)

The Prior Provincial of the Santissima Annunziata Province requested confirmation of the constitution of two communities as “*domus*” in conformity with the decrees of the 2013 General Chapter. This will last until the Provincial Chapter of Elections (May 18-23, 2020). The two communities in question are: Santa Maria in Valdragone (Republic of San Marino) and St. Philip Benizi Priory in Todi.

The General Council discussed the reasons for this request and the situation brought about by the sudden and unforeseen death of Fra Antonio M. Pacini. The Council approved the Prior Provincial’s request with a separate vote: Santa Maria in Valdragone is now a Domus of the Santissima Annunziata Community in Florence; San Filippo Benizi is a Domus of the *Sette Santi Fondatori* Community in Rome.

3. Approval and publication of the texts of the 2019 General Chapter and other texts

a. Decrees and Texts of the 2019 General Chapter

The Prior General asked the Secretary of the Order to present the work done by the Commission appointed by the General Chapter to revise the draft of the Chapter Acts. The Secretary presented this effort and pointed out the suggestions and corrections the commission offered. There was a suggestion to include the revised text of the General Directory after the appendix to the Chapter Acts.

The General Council approved the work and suggested that the guiding image of the General Chapter painted by Fra Bernhard M. Alpers OSM (1937-1997) be on the cover. The Council suggested that the logo of the General Chapter also be on the cover. The suggestion to include the revised General Directory after the Acts was approved. The Council decided to provide the whole Order with a printed version of the Acts in six languages: Italian, English, German, Spanish, French and Portuguese. The Italian version will be printed as soon as possible and the other language versions after that. The Council approved all the above-mentioned suggestions.

b. Message to the Servite Family

The General Council noted and accepted the suggestions and corrections made to the Chapter text of “*Message to the Servite Family*” by the Commission.

The General Council gave the revised text its unanimous approval.

It was suggested that the speeches concerning the audience with the Holy Father, Pope Francis, be included as an appendix to the printed text. The image of Steffi Mol John Jonson (an Indian painter) will be on the cover: the eight points “Servants of Hope, Guardians of our Common Home, Workers for Justice and Peace.” It was suggested that the text be the size of a pocket book, easy to handle.

As with the Acts of the Chapter, the General Curia will provide printed versions of the *Message* in the same six languages. It was also suggested that two photographs of the Papal audience be included in the text.

In approving this work the Council reserved the right to put all the texts in appendices lest the publication become lengthy and distract from the significance of the “*Message to the Servite Family*.”

4. St. Alexis International Formation Community: Approval of 2019-2020 Planning

The Prior General asked the Council to examine St. Alexis International Formation Community planning for 2019-2020. After reviewing the text, the Council found certain points to be corrected or modified and then approved the planning. It asked that the plan be revised including these corrections and modifications and that it be written out in Italian.

JURISDICTIONS AND PRIORIES

SMA PROVINCE: Election of the Prior Provincial



On July 12, 2019 on the first ballot, Fra **Marcelo Ignacio M. Henriquez Trujillo** was elected Prior Provincial of the SMA Province.

BRA PROVINCE: Election of the Prior Provincial



On August 30, 2019 on the first ballot, Fra **Charlie M. Leitão de Souza**, was elected Prior Provincial of the São Peregrino do Brasil Province.

USA PROVINCE: Election of the Prior Provincial



On December 16, 2019 on the second ballot, Fra **Eugene M. Smith** was elected Prior Provincial of the United States of America Province.

CAN PROVINCE: Election of the Prior Provincial



On December 16, 2019 on the first ballot, Fra **Camille M. Jacques**, was elected Prior Provincial of the Canadian Province.

PROFESSIONS, ORDINATIONS, ANNIVERSARIES

Solemn Profession

Congratulations to friars **Julio Cesar M. De Oliveira** (BRA), **Luiz Fernando M. Dionisio** (BRA) and **Ivan M. Siqueira dos Santos** (BRA) who made their Solemn Profession on November 16, 2019.

Ordination to the Diaconate

Congratulations to friars **Dionisio M. Ant6nio Manuel** (BRA), **Cosme M. Jos6 Mucupa** (BRA) and **Lafim M. Rafael Monteiro** (BRA) [December 8, 2019) on their ordination to the diaconate.

Ordination to the Priesthood

Congratulations to friars **Paulus M. Nua** (IDS/MEX) [November 10, 2019], **Frederick M. Kalyesubula** (EAF/VEN), **Joseph M. Ssekaswa** (EAF/VEN), **Francis Xavier M. Zimula Bagaalaaziba** (EAF/VEN), [November 12, 2019], **Ryan A.M. Ipili** (PHI) and **Richy M. Sister** (PHI) [November 16, 2019] on their ordination to the priesthood.

Congratulations to fra **Alfred D.M. Biong** (PHI) [January 22, 1995] on the twenty-fifth anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood.

UNIFAS

MON: From Rome Monastery (Cloistered Convent)



November 21, 2019 is *Pro Orantibus* day. A day on which the whole Church prays for those who spend the whole year praying for everybody. The monastic community in Rome enjoyed a visit from the Cardinal Vicar of His Holiness, His Eminence Angelo Di Donatis. At 7 in the morning the Cardinal Vicar came to our convent. He was accompanied by the Episcopal Vicar for Consecrated Life, Don Antonio Panfili and our parish priest, Don Elio Leli.

A guest priest, Don Antonio Onana, concelebrated with them.

In communion with all nuns we thanked the Lord for the gift of monastic life – a life of prayer.

After the Eucharist we celebrated a moment of joyous fraternity.



December 23, 2019, the Vigil of Christmas: We placed the statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary with the Baby Jesus at the entrance to our monastery. The statue came from the Carpenedo monastery. It is a sign of communion with our sisters in the monasteries of Carpenedo (recently closed) and Verona which made the transfer of the statue to Rome possible. All who enter our monastery will be welcomed by the Baby Jesus in the arms of his Mother.

Vigil of the Solemnity of the Mother of God

This year again – it has become a tradition – we had the joy of inaugurating the New Year with a Midnight Mass celebrated by our newly re-elected Prior General, Fra Gottfried M. Wolff, OSM.

The celebration was preceded by the Office of Readings and the *Akathistos* Hymn. After prayer and thanksgiving, we celebrated a fraternal Agape to wish each other, Happy New Year.

