



The Brothers of the Sacred Heart

THE SUPERIOR GENERAL IN COUNCIL

Rome, January 4, 2016

INFORMATION LETTER TO ALL THE BROTHERS

INTRODUCTION

Dear Brothers

We have just experienced the joy of welcoming the Emmanuel in our hearts at Christmas and of receiving the gift of a new year. May the grace of these events strengthen our trust in God who journeys with us, pilgrims on earth.

In this document, you will find information from the Superior general in council.

1. The general conference of 2015

The general conference was held in Rome from October 11 to October 25, 2015. Characterized by very enriching exchanges, the working sessions evolved in a fraternal atmosphere. The main themes developed during the meeting had been defined by the general chapter of 2012. They were first studied by the general council then by the assembly of participants. The themes were as follows:

- solidarity in the Institute
- the structures
- the enduring mission
- the shared mission
- the charism of foundation

Each theme was presented by a member of the general council. The participants had the opportunity to exchange in workshops on the contents of the theme and on the new questions that arise. In plenary sessions, the report of each workshop, the contributions or questions brought by the assembly enriched the contents. Questions of clarification were taken up either by the presenter or a member of the assembly during the plenary assembly.

An important moment of the conference was the presentation of the plan of action of each entity for the prophetic mission. Each provincial superior or de-legate was given the opportunity to present the project of his entity.

The general council thanks all the Brothers for their contribution in the elaboration of the plan of action of the different entities. For each project, the presentation was required to underscore the key elements:

- the name of the project
- the place
- the justification
- the objectives
- the actions
- the persons involved.

Some of these projects are in the process of being realized while others will begin shortly; however, all of them aim to be a prophetic response to an urgent need concerning children and the young. All of these plans of action, translated in French, English and Spanish will be published in the near future for the benefit of all the Brothers of the institute.

Furthermore, during the general conference, all the provincial administrations received the 2015 digital version of the Administrative guide. The updating of this reference document integrates hyperlinks to facilitate its consultation. This guide is particularly useful for provincial superiors or delegates, for local superiors, for provincial officers and formators.

2. The General chapter of 2018

The General chapter of 2018 will be held from April 29 to May 26, 2018 at the General House in Rome. The preparation committee is made up of the members of the general council, with the advantage of facilitating the many necessary meetings for a good preparation. Brother Serge Toupin has been named president of this commission. The General chapter of 2018 will have the distinct feature of taking place during the bi-centennial year of the Pieux-Secours and the coming of the bi-centennial of the foundation of the institute which will be celebrated in 2021.

3. The anniversary of Pieux-Secours

In 2018, we will be blessed by the celebration of the 200th anniversary of the Pieux-Secours, a very significant place for the institute. On this occasion, we are invited to undertake a pilgrimage – at least spiritually - to return to this time of our history filled with meaning and encouragement for today. This return to our sources leads us to a spirit of thanksgiving and gratitude for Father André Coindre's initiative in favor of abandoned youth or delinquents "whom no one wanted to care for".

Within the framework of the commemoration of this event, the general council is planning to publish a brief history of Pieux-Secours along with animation tools for all the partners in mission: Brothers, other religious and laypeople.

A range of activities are possible whether at the level of the institute or that of entities, specifically in Lyon, the place of foundation. These activities could take the form of conferences, historical journey, formation sessions; adapted prayers, etc.

The general council plans to link the two anniversaries for a three-year period of celebrations. The general chapter of 2018 could serve as an opening framework for this three-year period of celebrations with a symbolic gesture that could be repeated in all the entities. The celebrations in 2021 will be the highpoint of this journeying.

4. New commission for the promotion of the charism of foundation

The General council named the members of the commission for the Promotion of the Charism of Foundation (CPCF). It is made up of:

- Brother Serge Toupin, respondent-councillor for the general council
- Brother Ivy LeBlanc for the English-speaking conference
- Brother Antonio López García-Nieto for the Northern and Southern francophone conference
- Brother Emilio Rodrigo for the conference of Latin America and Spain
- Brother Stéphane Léon Sané for the Conference of french-speaking Africa and Madagascar.

After consultation of the members of the Commission for the Promotion of the charism of Foundation, the general council set the meeting of this commission for June 22 -24, 2016 at the General House.

The Superior general in council thanks the members of the previous commission for their dedication, and the new members for having accepted this service of animation which is an added responsibility to the ones they already have.

5. History of the Superiors general

The Superior general in council approves the publication of the history of the superiors general (period covering 1952 to 1958) written by Brother Bernard Couvillion. This publication will be edited in French, English and Spanish in the same format as that of the *Annuaire*. The Superior in council heartfully thanks Brother Bernard Couvillion for having taken on and achieved this important project in terms of research and the many hours of writing. The three publications will be available in March 2016 at the latest.

6. Province of Oceania: Renewal of the provincial administration

The Superior general in council, taken into account the written consultation held in the province of Oceania and in conformity with article 255 of the Rule of Life and article 524 of the provincial Directory names the following administration:

- Brother Vincent Bae, provincial superior
- Brother Antonio López García-Nieto, first councillor
- Brother Lino Saksak, second councillor
- Brother Eliko, third councillor
- Brother Delphino Baticklamap, fourth councillor

The Superior in council thanks Brothers Vincent Bae, Antonio López García-Nieto, Lino Saksak, Eliko Selui and Delphino Baticklamap for their availability and

generosity to serve the province of Oceania. He wishes them a successful mandate for the good of the entity and the institute. The new administration took office on January 1, 2016 and will continue for three years.

7. Amatongas: assignments

The Superior general in council appoints Brother Keith Zivanai from the province of Eastern and Southern Africa (ESA) to join the community in Amatongas following the naming of Brother Fabian Jongwe as Novice master in Lusaka (Zambia). Brother Keith Zivanai availed himself of the opportunity to study Portuguese during the transition period. He joined his new local community during the month of December, 2015.

8. Scholasticate in Nairobi (Kenya)

This year, the Nairobi scholasticate welcomes five scholastic Brothers and one formator from the province of Madagascar. They thus join the two formators and five scholastics of the Province of Eastern and Southern Africa (ESA).

The Superior general in council sincerely thanks the province of Eastern and Southern Africa and the province of Madagascar for their openness and collaboration in this new experience.

9. International session in Rome for the preparation of perpetual vows (SIR-PPP)

SIR-PPP 2016 will take place from January 20 to May 20, 2016. The group will be made up of ten Brothers from the following entities: Central Africa, Brazil, Eastern and Southern Africa, Haiti and Madagascar.

10. International session in Rome, July, 2016 for the formators

The international session of Rome for the formators will take place at the General House from July 3 to July 29, 2016. This is the second part of the session of 2015, New participants could possibly integrate the group. In conformity with article 262 of the Rule of Life, the Provincial superior in council will address a request for the approval of these candidates to the General council no later than February 29, 2016.

11. Formation session for the new provincial superiors

Following the renewal of a few provincial administrations, a formation session will be organized for the new provincial superiors at the General House from June 27 to June 30, 2016.

12. Instruction on the Identity of the religious Brother

On December 14, 2015, the Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated life and Societies of Apostolic Life published an Instruction entitled: « Identity and Mission of the Religious Brother in the Church ». The objective of this document is to foster a better understanding, to appreciate and to promote the vocation of the religious brother in the Church and in the world of today. We recommend this document to all the Brothers.

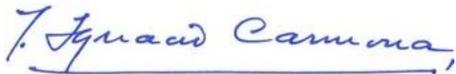
13. The sending of documents to the General administration by internet

In order to facilitate the data-processing in the archives of information addressed to the General administration, we request that all provincial administrations send the documents concerning all matters to the General secretary and to the liaison-general councillor of their entity. For financial matters, also send a copy to the General treasurer.

CONCLUSION

This letter, addressed to all the Brothers was sent by email to all provincial secretaries; we ask them to forward this information to each Brother of their entity. Other information like the calendar of the general council's visits is available on the website of the institute. (www.coindre.org)

The Superior general



José Ignacio Carmona Ollo, s.c.

The General secretary



Albert Khamade Faye, s.c.