

General Curia

Rome - From October 23 to November 3, 2006, the new Definitory was in session to make the preliminary programme of the forthcoming sexennium. It is a new Definitory because a part of the members are there for the first time. The points on the order of the day were of varying importance and complexity. To all that one has to add other themes and problems outside the schedule.

Among these were :



- A reflection on the formation of the Fraternities at the General Curia and of the houses that depend on the General Minister, certain central Offices and Commissions. Some changes will have to be made and these will be announced in due time.
- An evaluation and a reflection on the General Chapter (evaluation, impressions...) and on the most important points of the Chapter (Constitutions and general Statutes, Solidarity of personnel, the Order's Identity, financial problems in the light of the VI PCO). Some priorities have been pointed out together with demands which are mostly felt in the Order to respond to new challenges and needs. In the forthcoming Definitory meetings activities of studies and elaboration of the contents of the General Chapter will continue to be able to give to the

Order the line of work in the coming six years.

- The Definitory had to make several appointments : Province of Paraná-S. Caterina: Bro Claudio Nori Sturm was appointed provincial Minister; Bro Darci Roberto Catafesta was appointed IVth provincial Definitor. Province of Rio de La Plata: Bro Juan Marcelo Kippes was appointed provincial Minister. Province of Tamil Nadu: Bro Alphonse Charles appointed provincial Minister. Province of Madagascar: Bro Cyprien Bera was appointed IVth provincial Definitor to substitute Bro Norbert Auberlin Solondrazana who had resigned.
- The programme of all the reunions for the coming sexennium (2006-2012). All the circumscriptions will be soon informed.
- Appointment of General Definitors as delegates of the General Minister for the fraternities that depend immediately on him; others as Presidents, Vicepresidents or Definitors who will accompany the various central Commissions.
- Examination and approval of the projects presented by the Commission of International Solidarity for the year 2007.
- Gave the consent for the convocation of the provincial Chapters in many circumscriptions of the Order for the year 2007 ●

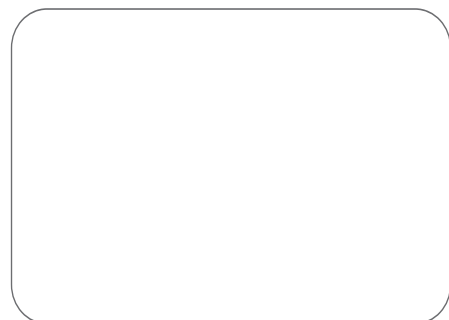
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The first steps of the new Definitory

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The general Minister to the Italian provincial Ministers



Manoppello - On October 12 last, the general Minister Bro Mauro Jöhri, accompanied by the general Vicar, Bro Felice Cangelosi, participated in the Assembly of the CIMPCap that was held in Manoppello. The meeting was very fraternal and cordial. Three were the main objectives proposed to the provincial Ministers : give new life to the capuchin charism in Italy, renewal of our life, the transmission to the new generations of our charism and a new contribution to evangelization. In the Sanctuary of the Holy Face, the general Minister presided over a concelebrated mass for which were also present many brothers of the Abruzzo Province ●

Rotating president

Assisi - The Conference of the general Ministers of the First Order and the TOR met in Assisi on 3rd and 4th October, 2006, for the festivities in honour of Saint Francis and it elected Bro Mauro Jöhri, our general Minister as the rotating President of the same Conference. He will take the place of Bro Joachim Giermek, OFMConv., who terminated his mandate ○

New edition of the “Proper of the Masses in the Order” and of the corresponding “Lectionary”

Rome – These two liturgical books are available at the office of the general Postulator and they are destined to all the brothers of the Order and the Capuchin Sisters. Thus everyone can follow the liturgical norms of the Church and celebrate with due honour the memories of our Saints and Blessed and the Saints and Blessed of our Capuchin Sisters. This is not a true publication in the strict sense of the word, but the books are meant to be a help for internal use only. This edition of the two books has been maturing in the general Definitory to respond to a widely spread need in the whole Order. The project was supposed to be done in the main languages in use in the Order; but it was only possible to carry it out only in Italian. However, now with this in hand it will be much easier to make it in the other languages as well and it is hoped that this will be done soon. For information and demands for these two liturgical books, one can direct his petition to the general Postulation of the Order ●



The Capuchin Poor Clares in South Africa

South Africa: The two monasteries of the Poor Clares in South Africa needed help to renew themselves in the spirit of contemplative life according to our specific vocation. The general Minister of the Capuchin Order, Bro John Corriveau, had asked to the Federation of Mexico to send some sisters to help these two monasteries. In the year 2000, five Mexican sisters arrived in Swellendam and this gave way to a new life. The sisters in South Africa received them with joy and gratitude. Now, after some years, one can notice a refreshing air in the community and great enthusiasm to live the form of life of the Capuchin Poor Clares.

Bro John Corriveau had asked also another group of sisters from Mexico to help the Melville Monastery in Kwa Zulu Natal. The sisters arrived there in June 2004 and on that occasion Sr Maria Guadalupe Solario, Abbess of the Swellendam Monastery, was asked to unite herself to the new group of sisters at Melville to help them start renewal according to the Gospel and the Rule. The Capuchin general Curia assisted these two communities in all efforts of renewal. In both monasteries, the sisters started some new work which was more suitable for their contemplative life like the making of hosts. The sisters received also some financial help from the Capuchins in order to build some new rooms and furnish them in a more convenient way •



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Rome – The general Minister, Bro Mauro Jöhri, accompanied by Bro José Miguel Jiménez, general Viceprocurator, visited briefly to greet and encourage the Capuchin Sisters in their monastery at the Garbatella in Rome. We recall that in this monastery there are six Capuchin sisters hailing from two monasteries in Mexico; they arrived here on March 18 this year to help the Roman fraternity. The general Minister expressed his appreciation for the generosity of these six Mexican sisters and he encouraged all the Sisters to continue to show the beauty of the following of Christ according to the form of life of Saint Clare •

The general Minister at the Garbatella



Degree “honoris causa” for Bro Raniero Cantalamessa

Indiana – The catholic university of Notre Dame, in the State of Indiana (USA) conferred the degree “honoris causa” to Bro Raniero Cantalamessa. The motive of such an event, as described by the Rector himself, is “because in his long career as Preacher of the Papal Household and on Italian TV, he announced the gospel to a difficult world, becoming an example to graduates in this university”. Bro Raniero was invited to withdraw the certificate next May at the seat of the same University which is one of the most prestigious in the United States •

Rome - The seventh edition of the Course of formation for Librarians in the Order was held in Rome from September 25 to 30 at the Central Capuchin Library in the renewed structure of the International College of St Lawrence of Brindisi. The 26 participants, 16 brothers and 10 lay people were given the usual warm welcome in the fraternity. They hailed from 16 circumscriptions of the Order including Angola, North-Eastern Brazil, Colombia, Congo, Emilia-Romagna, Genoa, Navarra-Cantabria-Aragona, Netherlands, Pennsylvania, Portugal, Rhine-Westfalia, Czech Republic, Sardinia, Slovakia, North Tyrol and the Near East. The languages used were Italian and English and the themes discussed were the updating of the OPAC, the cataloguing of old books according to the norms of ISBD(A) and the situation about the creation of an Authority list in various languages within the Capuchin and Franciscan areas. The aim of such an international course of studies which the Central Library has been organizing annually since 2001 is to encourage contacts and collaboration among our Libraries. These will help to offer better services from these important institutions which have the duty to preserve and to hand down to the new generations the treasures of Catholic, Capuchin and Franciscan cultures. The international Catalogue of Capuchin Libraries (WEB address : www.ibisweb.it/bcc) is the most evident result of the commitment of our Librarians. At present there are 20 Libraries in the Order, hailing both from Europe and from outside, which are making available to researchers from all parts of the world a collective data bank specialized with more than 550,000 catalogue cards. This year's meeting saw the addition of four other Libraries from Montreal, Prague, Pezinok in Slovacchia and Washington DC ●

Formation course for Librarians in the Order



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Iasi (Rumania) : The year 2006 is the 450th anniversary from the birth of Blessed Jeremiah from Valacchia (1556). This is an emotional event for Rumania and for the brothers of the Capuchin Custody who had come from the Province of Naples in 1992. The Rumanian brothers set up a programme of activities to commemorate this special event in honour of Blessed Jeremiah. It will also be an occasion to prepare for the return of his mortal remains in Rumania ●

450th anniversary from the birth of Blessed Jeremiah

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