

Joy, welcome and fraternity: the conclusion of the Generalissimo Chapter



The Bull *Ite vos* of Pope Leo X, May 29, 1517 sought to reconcile the differences that were already apparent between the Friars Minor about the way of authentically living the charism of the Founder. Instead, this Bull decreed the split into two branches (Friars Minor of the Regular Observance and Friars Minor Conventual) to which a decade later a third branch was added, that of the Friars Minor Capuchin. Since then, each of the three male branches has pursued its own traditions, increasingly reinforced in differentiating from other friars, expressing in some circumstances mutual support and collaboration, but in other occasions some form of clash.

In recent years, the sons of Francis of Assisi, especially those of the region of Umbria – where the charism was born and a place to which all the brothers of the Order refer back to – began a journey of reconciliation that came with great support from their respective General Ministers. This four-year itinerary has already seen the General Ministers mutually asking and giving pardon at the Porziuncola on July 11, 2016, a significant date for this process. An important event for this year is the common celebration of a Chapter, called: “Gen-

eralissimo”, which falls on the same significant date of May 29.

A representation of the Friars of the one Franciscan Family (an expression of the presence in Umbria of the male Franciscan Orders) gathered for four days with the General Ministers at the Oasis of St. Francis in Foligno. The get-together concluded on the morning of June 2 in Assisi, in order to “return or give back”: to the friars, the lived experience of the Chapter, and to the Lord, with praise and thanksgiving for the work He is doing.

The first of these moments happened at the Press Room of the Sacro Convento of the Basilica of St. Francis and began with three testimonies. The first to talk was Br. Mauro Botti, OFM. He said that it was a “beautiful journey of mutual listening that has already led to a reconciliation celebrated before the Lord”. Br. Ivan Scicluna, OFM-Cap, read a text on the Holy Spirit. He concluded by expressing the urgent need to share the beauty of this experience with the Fraternity of Spello and invited everyone to do the same to generate a good, positive, and fruitful “chain reaction”.

[Read more on the website](#)

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Unity: within arm's reach

The participation of the three OFM General Ministers in the seventh Congress of the School of Higher Franciscan Studies (ESEF) concluded on May 23, 2017. After having listened to the three I have the certainty that the unity of the Obediences will occur sooner or later. In his final speech the three Ministers encouraged the bases to take initiative, to “test” new forms of community and brotherhood.

Friar Marco Tasca, OFMConv, remarked that when “speaking of brotherhood, it is important to have the courage to try new forms of community. When in a province, 4 or 5 friars, after a discernment and dialogue, decide they want to try something new, I say, let’s try. What can happen? It is very important to have this courage today. This is the time of attempts. Let us try things! What can we lose? Let’s try! And let’s see what happen, we will guide you, we are near, we will accompany you... so don’t be afraid to try!... This morning Sebastian (Mora, general Secretary of CARITAS Spain) said we all have the right to fail... If we fail... patience. We have this compulsion to always be 100% certain...”

The “unity” to which we walk, is already a reality in some projects. As friar Michael Perry OFM indicated “for three years now we have given freedom to those brothers who want to experience

new things, like the experience of Emmaus, which will begin in September, with five brothers, two OFM, two OFMConv and one from the Holy Land custody “. These new experiences do not so much seek to strengthen ties between the obediences but, rather, search to share specific missions, such as the ongoing formation. But “common mission” is not something new, as friar Michael explained. For example, in Lusaka (Zambia) joint training has been going on for 25 years in St. Bonaventure University – College and the respective houses of formation. “All of these experiences are indicative that history is important but not decisive,” said Perry, referring to unity.

Meanwhile, friar Mauro Jöhri, OFMConv noted that “the reality of the collaboration is a growing reality. In an increasingly multicultural world, more interrelated, we can build all the walls that we want... but that is not the way, that doesn’t work”. In that context, these “small significant projects of living together, facing difficulties, because there are (hardships) and I think that this is part of what the spirit is saying to us at this time”.

[..] Questioned by the reality of the Iberian Peninsula and the difficulties of walking together, I urge the General Ministers to point to ways to create spaces for participation

and joint formation. Friar Marco’s response expresses, in my point of view, the way to go: “often we, the general Ministers, who push to make these experiences of communion, but I would so much prefer that you at the grassroots would be the ones to tell us: we want to try this, what do you think?... a little bit of “vamos” ... Let’s get going!” Let’s go! Let’s go! We’re so imprisoned by the things we do that we are killing dreams.”

In these times (and every era) we should let God act freely, as Friar Michael said: “there is much talk of our realities, but this is not enough, that is not the main reason to unify us. The main reason, for me, is our common charism, our identity and our common vocation. I don’t want to block the grace of God, I don’t want to hinder what God desires for our future and saying this, I do not want to block the possibility of a future of unity of the three orders. We must open our hearts, I do not know how we will be able to do this, but the grace of God is great.”

By Gabriel López Santamaría in Pazybien.es: *Viviendo el Evangelio al estilo de Francisco*





Europe Project Cracow Meeting

The coordinating group of the friars commissioned by the General Minister for the Europe Project met from May 16 to 20, 2017. The Province of Cracow (Poland) welcomed the participants at the friary of Cracow (Olszanica).

of Cracow; Br. Eduard Rey, Provincial Councilor of Catalonia; Br. Gaetano La Speme, Provincial Minister of Syracuse, and Br. Jean-Marcel Rossini of the Province of Sardinia and Corsica as secretary.

the friars took an interest. Having the meeting in Cracow allowed the friars to visit these places— itinerant communities, communities with the poor, houses of prayer—and to know the Province better.



A second, larger meeting was held in Venice in July 2016, at which about sixty friars from the various provinces and custodies of Europe participated. In this meeting the friars were able to reflect on the future of our communities on the European continent. By means of conferences, talks, and work in groups, they shared their hopes and concerns.

What was discussed?

During the meeting the friars reflected on the guidelines of the Project, according to which the fraternities of Clermont-Ferrand (France) and Kilkenny (Ireland) have taken off. They also spoke of the most recently started communities within the Project, at Spello (Italy) and at Lourdes (France) as well as looking forward to others.

A little history

The first meeting of the Europe Project group took place at Fátima in December 2014. The General Council, conference presidents, and all the major superiors of Europe participated. At the end of this meeting the General Minister, Br. Mauro Jöhri, sent to the whole Order the letter “Fraternity for Europe” which described everything that would become the Europe Project. A commission was also established: Br. Pio Murat, General Councilor, as president; Br. Eric Bidot, Provincial Minister of France; Br. Tomasz Żak, Provincial Minister

Why Cracow?

Already during the meeting in Venice, certain initiatives in Capuchin life in the Cracow Province were presented and many of

Toward Lourdes

The next meeting of the Europe Project group will take place in Lourdes (France) from July 22 to 25, 2017.





Reading of the decree *super virtutibus* of Ven.

M. Costanza

Panas

Capuchin Poor Clare



Fabriano, Italy, 28 May 2017 – On the afternoon of the solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord, in the cathedral of Fabriano (Ancona province, Italy), which has just reopened after the earthquakes of last summer and fall, the decree to recognize Servant of God Mother Costanza Panas, Capuchin Poor Clare, as venerable was read to the faithful in a solemn celebration.

Most Rev. Stefano Russo, the bishop of Fabriano-Matelica, presided at the event, and was also celebrating the first anniversary of his episcopal appointment. Present also were: Br. Carlo Calloni, General Postulator; Br. Marzio Calletti, Provincial Minister of the Marches; Br. Lorenzo Carloni, Vice Postulator of the cause who read the decree, and a good number of Capuchin friars, priests, and faithful. In the homily the bishop recalled how Venerable Maria Costanza had been a noted presence in Fabriano, gathering from between the lines of the decree the most important aspect of her personality: “She welcomed those who knocked on the door of the monastery, especially priests, some of whom be-

came her spiritual sons, and broadened the apostolate of the monastery grille with a voluminous correspondence. She welcomed them without ever hurrying, giving time, listening with interest and giving counsel in a confident way that put everyone at peace. In her letters she taught her correspondents to look for the meaning of certain ex-



istential situations, especially moments of aridity or darkness, with the finesse and familiarity of someone who had experienced similar purifications and had learned to walk in pure faith. To those who approached her she taught a way to keep serene and peaceful in the midst of one’s own limitations and weakness and to be understanding

with oneself and with others. With great perception she developed the pedagogical dimension of the faith, gathering around herself every sort of person: children, novices, spiritual directees, priests, and her own sisters in religious life.”

Unfortunately, the Bishop continued, today the Capuchin Poor Clares are no longer present in Fabriano and the church where the mortal remains of Venerable Maria Costanza rest is unusable because of the earthquakes, but the hope is to reopen it as soon as possible. In conclusion, the Bishop exhorted those listening to look to Our Lady of the Sea, so dear to the people of Fabriano, who has been a guest in the cathedral, but will soon be placed anew by the tomb of Venerable Maria Costanza, who was so devoted to her.

Hoping to be able to see Venerable Maria Costanza declared a blessed soon, a diocesan inquiry into a presumed miracle attributed to her intercession is already going ahead. The Bishop asked all present to get to know even better the life and person of Venerable Maria Costanza.

Venerable

Giacomo of Balduina

Rome, June 16, 2017 – Giacomo of Balduina (1900-1948), Capuchin priest

On June 16, 2017, Pope Francis authorized the Congregation for the Causes of Saints to issue the decree *super virtutibus* for Giacomo of Balduina, priest and confessor, member of the Province of the Holy Cross (Veneto-Friuli Venezia Giulia-Trentino), who died at Lourdes and is buried there.

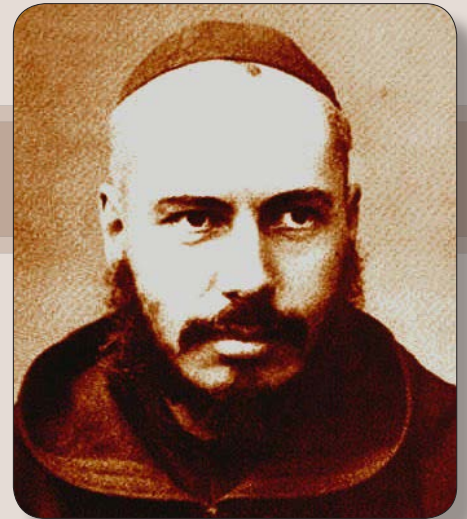
The Servant of God was born, the eighth of the ten children, in Balduina di San Urbano (Italian province of Padua), on August 2, 1900 and was baptized three days later with the names Beniamino Angelo. From 1906 to 1909 he attended the first three grades of elementary school. After this, from 1910-1914, he studied in a professional school in Lendinara.

Impressed by the friar questors, it was at Lendinara that the young Beniamino began to visit the friary of the Capuchins. Under the guidance of the pastor, on October 13, 1917 he entered the Seraphic Seminary of the Capuchins in Rovigo. There, at seventeen years old, he found himself in a group of eleven year-olds. When World War I broke out he was called into the army, where he remained until 1921. Once discharged, after a brief visit to his family, he was sent to the Seraphic Seminary in Verona for further studies. Beniamino then entered the novitiate at Bassano del Grappa on September 28, 1922 was given the name Brother

Giacomo of Balduina. After he made his temporary profession on September 29, 1923, the novice master declared to his mother that Br. Giacomo knew nothing 'except to pray.' It was during his second year of theology, however, that Br. Giacomo began to feel the first symptoms of the disease that would be with him until his death: encephalitis lethargica.

This medical situation raised serious doubts about proceeding towards priestly ordination. The superiors, however, fearing a premature death, decided to dispense Br. Giacomo from the last year of theology. Thus, on July 21, 1929, in the church of St. Nicholas of Tolentino in Venice, the Servant of God was ordained priest by Cardinal Pietro La Fontaine, Patriarch of Venice (himself Servant of God), offering his suffering and mortification for the salvation of souls, for priestly vocations, and for the sanctification of priests.

After a brief stay in Capodistria, on November 28, 1931, Fr. Giacomo arrived in Udine where he soon underwent a thorough examination. The diagnosis was grave: postencephalitic parkinsonism. The prognosis was difficult as well: only a few years to live. Even though Fr. Giacomo's health declined steadily from this time forward, this did not keep him from living the Rule faithfully. His cell on the first floor of the friary was set up to serve as a confessional where he was granted to receive penitents.



Knowing how sick Fr. Giacomo was, Msgr. Pietro Baldassi, a priest who was very active in UNITALSI (Unione Nazionale Italiana Trasporto Ammalati a Lourdes e Santuari Internazionali, an association that assists the sick with transport to Lourdes for pilgrimage), invited him to make a pilgrimage to Lourdes. On July 19, 1948 the Servant of God left for the journey on the UNITALSI train, reaching Lourdes after thirty-five hours of travel, after which he was not able to go to the Grotto immediately as he had wished. By the next evening his condition had worsened and he died on July 21. The funeral was held in the presence of many pilgrims and priests. Fr. Giacomo's remains were entombed in a corner of the cemetery for foreigners, but later translated, on October 15, 1949, to a more dignified grave. His tomb is always adorned with fresh flowers, candles, and ex-voto.



Elections and appointments



Provincia di St. Joseph, Kerala-India – elections:

MP: fr. Joseph Puthenpurackal (reelected)
VP: fr. George Antony Assaricheril
2C: fr. Sebastian Chundakkattil
3C: fr. Mathew Mulangacherryil
4C: fr. James Vazhacharickal

Date: 24.05.2017

Place: Assisi Renewal Centre, Bjarananganam,
Kerala - India

President: fr. Michael Baptist Fernandes, General Councilor



Provincia di Genova-Italia – elections:

MP: fr. Francesco Rossi
VP: fr. Walter De Andreis
C2: fr. Teobaldo De Filippo
C3: fr. Vittorio Casalino
C4: fr. Marian Zieliński

Date: 24.05.2017

Place: Convento di San Bernardino, Genova, Italia

President: fr. Raffaele Della Torre, General Councilor



Provincia delle Filippine - elections:

MP: fr. Eugenio Juanilo Lopez (reelected)
VP: fr. Ron Artemio Ojeda
2C: fr. Edgar Martinez
3C: fr. Cesar Acuin
4C: fr. Antonio Yapchiongco

Date: 26.05.2017

Place: Capuchin Retreat Centre, Lipa City, Philippines

President: Victorius Dwiardy, General Councilor



Conferenza Cappuccina di Brasile (CCB) – elections:

Nella riunione della Conferenza Cappuccina di Brasile (CCB) tenutasi a Chapada dos Guimarães, Mato Grosso, Brasile, è stato eletto il nuovo Consiglio di Presidenza della Conferenza, il 25 di maggio 2017, per i prossimi due anni dal 2017-2019.

President: fr. Carlos Silva (São Paulo)

Vice-President: fr. Eliseu Menegat (Cu. Brasil Ovest)

Segretario: fr. Cláudio Sergio de Abreu
(Paraná-Santa Catarina)

Economo: fr. Cleonir Dalbosco (Rio Grande do Sul)



Provincia di St. Fidelis, Nord India- elections:

MP: fr. Remish Ekka (reelected)
VP: fr. Gregory Bilung
2C: fr. Dominic Karketta
3C: fr. Kalyan Paul Lakra
4C: fr. Marcel Dayasagar Barla

Date: 06.06.2017

Place: Provincial House, Lucknow, UP, India

President: fr. Michael Baptist Fernandes, General Councilor

Custodia Generale dell'Arabia - elections:

CU: fr. Paul Koenig – reelected (Calvary, Detroit, USA)
1C: fr. Lennie Connully (St. Francis, Kerala, India)
2C: fr. Troy De Los Santos (Filippine)
3C: fr. Valerian Fernandes (Karnataka, India)
4C: fr. Luca Piantanida (Lombardia, Italia)

Date: 06.06.2017

Place: Abu Dhabi – Musaffah, UAE

President : fr. Pio Murat, General Councilor



Provincia d'Austria-Sud Tirolo – elections:

MP: fr. Erich Geir
VP: fr. Marek Król
2C: fr. Zbigniew Żaba
3C: fr. Markus Kerschbaumer
4C: fr. Rudolf Leichtfried

Date: 07.06.2017

Place: Johannes Schloessl der Pallottiner,
Salisburgo, Austria.

President: fr. Mauro Jöhri, General Minister



Provincia di Croazia – elections:

MP: fr. Jure Šarčević (reelected)
VP: fr. Goran Rukavina
2C: fr. Anto Barišić
3C: fr. Branko Lipša
4C: fr. Mijo Šarčević

Date: 08.06.2017

Place: Zagreb, Convento san Leopoldo B. Mandić, Croazia

President: fr. Štefan Kožuh, General Vicar



Provincia di Calvary, Detroit, USA – elections:

MP: fr. Michael Sullivan (reelected)
VP: fr. Steven Kropp
2C: fr. Jerome Johnson
3C: fr. David Preuss
4C: fr. Daniel Fox

Date: 08.06.2017

Place: St. Xavier University, Chicago, Illinois, USA

President: fr. Mark Schenk, General Councilor



Provincia dell'America Occidentale, California, USA - elections:

MP: fr. Harold Snider (reelected)
VP: fr. Joseph Seraphim Dederick
2C: fr. Tran Vu
3C: fr. Antonio Martí
4C: fr. Hung Nguyen

Date: 14.06.2017 Place: St. Francis Retreat Center,
San Juan Bautista, California, USA

President: fr. Mark Schenk, General Councilor



Elections and appointments



Custodia Generale della Repubblica Dominicana - elections:

CU: fr. José David Vásquez Guzmán
1C: fr. José Ramón Infante Carbonel
2C: fr. Pedro Abad Moreno
3C: fr. Demetrio de la Cruz Jiménez
4C: fr. Teódulo Adolfo Jiménez Jiménez

Date: 15.06.2017

Place: Fraternità San Lorenzo de Brindis - Santo Domingo

President: fr. Hugo Mejía Morales, General Councilor



Custodia della Costa d'Avorio – elections:

CU: fr. Oliviero Bergamaschi (reelected)
1C: fr. Antonio Forchini
2C: fr. Zacharie Kolantrin

Date: 15.06.2017

Place: Abidjan, Costa d'Avorio

President: fr. Angelo Borghino, Provincial Vicar,
Provincia di Lombardia



Custodia Generale dell'Olanda – appointment:

The Province of Holland becomes a General Custody.

CU: fr. Piet Hein van der Veer
1C: fr. Antonius Mars
2C: fr. Adrianus Vermeulen

Date: 16.06.2017

Place: 's-Hertogenbosch, Olanda.

Presenti: fr. Mauro Jöhri, General Minister
e fr. Pio Murat, General Councilor



Custodia del Korea - elections:

CU: fr. Laurence Kettle (reelected)
1C: fr. Stephen Kim
2C: fr. Michael Choi

Date: 19.06.2017

Place: Yangpyeong-gun, South Korea

President: fr. Adrian Curran,
Provincial Minister, Irlanda



Elections CIMPCAP

Conferenza Italiana Ministri Provinciali Cappuccini

President: fr. Gianfranco Palmisani
Vice President: fr. Michele Mottura
2 Cons.: fr. Matteo Siro
3 Cons.: fr. Pietro Ammendola
4 Cons.: fr. Salvatore Zagone
Segretario: fr. Ciro Polverino

Place: Albino, Lombardia, Italia

Date: 20.06.2017



Madrid, The Capital of Franciscan Studies

The VII Congress of the Estudios Franciscanos school of higher studies, which took place in El Pardo (Madrid, Spain) from May 22-24, saw good participation by Franciscan friars and sisters of various religious institutes together with Secular Franciscans. Also present at the Congress were MARCO TASCA, General Minister of the Friars Minor Conventual, MICHAEL PERRY, General Minister of the OFM, MAURO JÖHRI, General Minister of the Capuchins, and TIBOR KAUSER, General Minister of the Secular Franciscan Order, in addition to other general superiors of the various religious families of the TOR.

The Congress began with commemorating the 500th anniversary of the Bull *Ite vos* of Pope Leo X in 1517, also called the Bulla unionis because it brought together many reformed groups. On the other hand it was the bull that definitively divided the Order of Friars Minor.

The theme of the Congress was United through Fraternity. The connectedness that comes to exist among the friars minor was treated from various spiritual perspec-

tives. Marco Tasca presented on Franciscan fraternity as a common richness, which begins, in his judgment, from a passion renewed by a baptismal spirituality. Michael Perry explored the theme of Ecclesial communion as the cradle of fraternity, insisting that the place of a friar minor in the Church is with those who suffer most for lack of dignity and peace. Mauro Jöhri spoke on the Apostolate of fraternity, which is nothing else than to say to people to today that fraternity is possible for human beings and creation.

To these three perspectives were added the contrast of presentations by three philosophers, who contributed to situating better the reflection in the social context in which we find ourselves today. Francesc Torralba spoke on the Bonds of human quality, proposing social fraternity as an ideal for civil life. Sebastià Mora made this vision more specific in his talk on The Church of the poor, the Church of minors, emphasizing the relationship between fraternity and social poverty. Finally, Luis Maria Cifuentes presented on the theme of Fraternity and secularity in an inter-cultural

world, shedding light on the social and political concepts to a more civil and fraternal citizenship.

These reflections were brought to a conclusion with a round table entitled Journeys of fraternity, during which Juan Carlos Moya and Joaquín Agesta gave concrete suggestions on possible paths to growth in fraternity today. Mary Melone and Luca Bianchi presented to the Congress on the current initiative for a united Franciscan university in Rome.

A moment of relaxation and of reflection on language was provided by Rafad Alvarez 'el Brujo,' a well-known Spanish story-teller, who presented some scenes from his opera, Francis, Jester of God.

Given the intensity of the Congress and the distinction of the participants, that the experience of these days in Madrid was a historic moment for Franciscanism in the peninsula. The memories remain and will serve to inspire the Franciscan family to journey with enthusiasm on the paths of social and fraternal unity.

To the praise of Christ, Francis, and Clare!



Finishing the Academic Year at the International College



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BICI
N° 305

Rome. Each year in the month of June we have the official closing of the academic year at the International College ‘San Lorenzo da Brindisi’ of the Capuchin Friars Minor. This year it took place on June 17, with the solemn celebration of the Eucharist at which Br. Mauro Jöhri, General Minister of the Order, presided, to close the academic year 2016-2017.

“The International College is a place of great importance for the Order,” said Br. Mauro in his homily, “not only because one comes to study, but also because here we have a very multicultural place. Here we find ourselves together. Our Order becomes ever more international. It’s clear that it is a struggle to live together in such a multicultural place, because we are very different. But this is a challenge for all of us. The Order is becoming multinational because we are always in greater collaboration and for this reason the College carries out a very important role.”

This year was also special because it marks the end of the service of Br. Isidor Peterhans (PR Tanzania) as Rector of the College and of Br. Jozef Timko (Pr Slovakia) as Spiritual Director. “These years spent in the College,” said Br. Isidor, “have been for me an experience rich with a diverse fraternal life in which all have been called to accept one another with generosity, with a spirit open to the diversity of culture, of origins, and of preferences and personal interests.”

During the celebration the new Rector, Br. Francesco Neri (PR Bari, Italy) was presented. He will begin his service this July. “This is a responsibility that I certainly did not expect,” says Br. Francesco, “but I am happy to be able to give myself to service to the fraternity, as in the end has happened to me from the beginning of my life in the Order, having always worked as a friar on behalf of the friars, first in twelve years as a formator, then six years as minister, and in the last five years

as professor in our theological institute in Bari. I am counting on the collaboration and prayer of all the brothers.”

After the Eucharist there was a grand party on the piazza of the College, together with many friends, during which there were also diverse delicacies to be tasted, prepared by the students themselves according to the cuisines of their various countries of origin.

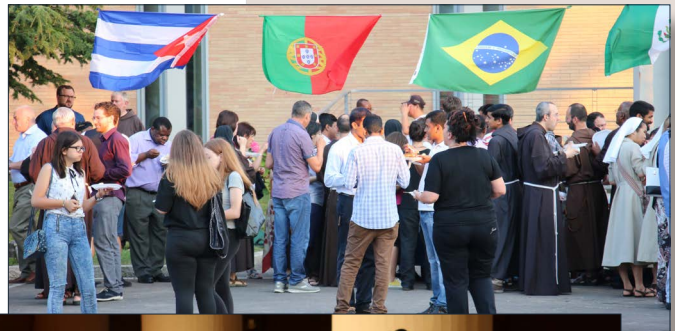
“Following my recent pastoral visitation to the College, during which I was able to meet all the members of this largest fraternity of our Order,” said Br. Štefan Kožuh, Delegate of the General Minister for the College, “I am especially happy with the growing personal responsibility to seek the necessary balance between the intense commitment to study and the spiritual journey, such that one is able to return to his own circumscription enriched both spiritually and culturally.”

[Video of the Eucharist and the party](#)
[Photo gallery](#)

International College 'San Lorenzo da Brindisi' in Rome, Academic year 2016-2017

Number of friars at the College - 117;

- Permanent community – 20 friars
- Students – 92 friars (studying for licentiate, 50; for doctorate, 13; for Master in Formation, 4; for Italian language course, 24)
- Historical Institute – 6 friars



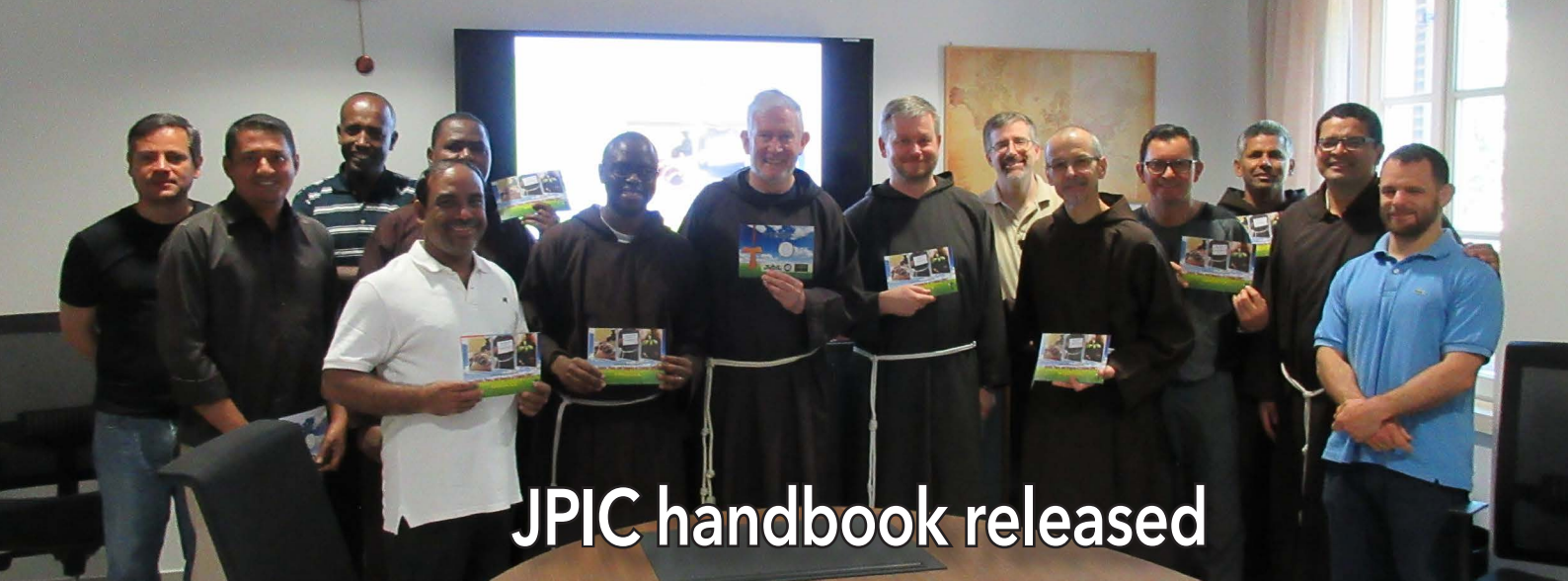
Other important statistics Where student friars are from:

- o Africa – 19
- o Latin America – 9
- o Asia – 31
- o Europe – 14

Universities attended:

- o Antonianum – 26
- o Gregorian – 12
- o Lateran – 11
- o Anselmianum – 6
- o Other academic institutes - 8





JPIC handbook released

Br. Mauro Jöhri, General Minister, released the JPIC HANDBOOK prepared by the Office of Justice, Peace, and Integrity of Creation (JPIC) on May 27, 2017 at the Curia, on the last day of the annual JPIC Commission meeting. The JPIC Commission, in one of its previous meetings, had proposed to prepare a Handbook for easy reference and use for all the friars to familiarise with the JPIC concepts and values for their practical application in the individual and community life. The work was carried out under the guidance and approval of the General Council.

stitutions: A way of life and mission, JPIC structures and roles of Coordinators/Animators in the Order, Toward a life plan and mission consistent with JPIC values, Care for creation in our daily lives as Capuchins, and Methodology, Collaboration, and Networking.

Copies of this English Handbook will be available in the Curia. The PDF version of this Handbook will be available on the website

The Handbook will be published soon in other languages as well.

“My hope is that no fraternity — nor any individual friar — dispense themselves from reading this Handbook and putting into practice these suggestions that touch our life so closely,” writes Br. Mauro Jöhri in his Foreword.

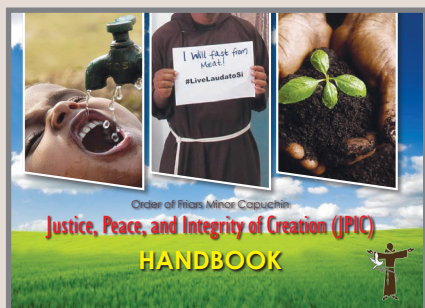
The 32-page Handbook was prepared by Br. Benedict Ayodi, the Secretary of the General Office of JPIC and Br. John Celichowski, the President of the JPIC Commission, and edited and designed by Br. Jacob Kani, member of the JPIC Commission.

The Handbook explains in simple terms and language ‘JPIC AS A WAY OF LIFE AND MISSION’. It begins with a Foreword by the General Minister. The main contents include:

The basis of our commitment to JPIC in the Order, JPIC as a dimension of our charism and Con-



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For many years the Bulletin of International Capuchin Information (BICI) has been a means of communication between the General Curia and Capuchin friars all over the world. In recent years, technology has offered us more and more possibilities, such as video, audio, and the possibility of seeing not just a single photo, but an entire photo gallery collected on the internet. Toward this end, for some months BICI has changed, not in the sense of the layout, but in the way it works. BICI is now more than just a newsletter that can be printed and put on the bulletin board of the friary. It has now become interactive for use on a computer or a tablet, such as an iPad. This is why we are inviting the brothers of the Order to subscribe to BICI, so that everyone can receive it personally in their own email. Thus, everyone will be able to use the new functionality that has already been offered for some time. In recent months we have uploaded more than forty videos, many photo galleries, and much audio material. Much of this is only available in the electronic version. We have maintained the layout so that BICI can still be printed, but now the electronic version is much better.

Subscribing to BICI is very easy. Just go to the internet address www.bici.ofmcap.org, choose your language preference from the seven languages available, and sign up with your name and email address. That's it! Everyone who signs up will receive BICI personally, just as it is online each month for the use of the brothers. Let the friars know of this new way to enjoy BICI, which will allow a greater sharing of communication between the General Curia and the friars in the world. We hope that these new means of communication foster fraternal communion among us Capuchins all over the world.



Key:

-  • A red 'play' button means that there is a video to see. Click to watch the video.
-  • A blue 'play' button means that there is a photo gallery to see. Click to see the photos.
-  • A green 'play' button means there is audio to listen to. Click to listen to the audio.

[Watch the video – how to subscribe to BICI](#)

