

The Pope meets with Franciscan Superiors



It was a conversation of about thirty-five minutes; among the topics were the tragedies in Syria, the unity of the Franciscan family, and the role of the laity in its respective Orders. The Pope's thoughts this morning turned to the victims of yesterday's double attack against the Coptic community in Egypt, as he also received the four General Ministers of the Franciscan Orders.

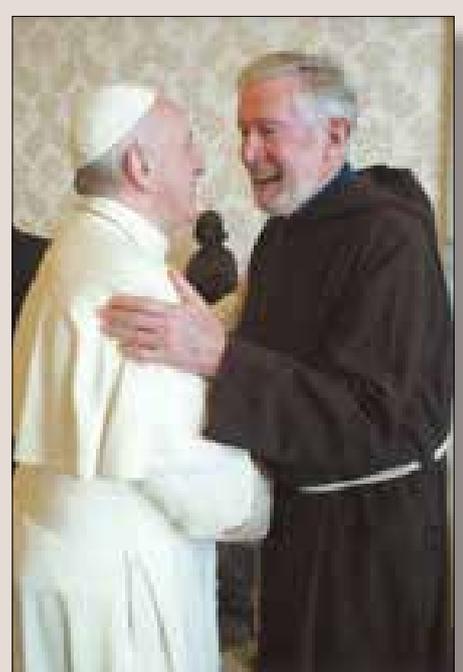
"The Pope has been very much informed and has strongly confirmed his journey to Egypt," as Vatican Radio quotes Br. Marco Tasca, General Minister of the Friars Minor Conventual. "The Pope will not be stopped by these unfortunate events, but with great firmness and conviction will depart for Egypt in order to strengthen and assist Christian dialogue and communion."

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Easter greeting of the General Minister

Easter 2017



Dear Brothers, it's **Easter**. Christ is risen!

This feast is an occasion not just about Him, but also all of us.

Christ told the women to go to his disciples and to tell them he would go before them to Galilee. There is a Galilee, my brothers, for each of us! Christ will make the journey with us, as he did with the disciples of Emmaus. It is the same Christ who said to Martha: *I am the resurrection and the life!*

Recall the raising of Lazarus in the Gospel of John and how Jesus said to him, "Lazarus, come out!" This Easter I believe that Jesus says to each of us: *Brother, come out from everything that is for you sadness, resignation, and isolation. Come out and rise up! Walk with your brothers. Have no fear of committing yourself anew, nor of making mistakes, but walk with the brothers in order to build the Kingdom of Heaven together.*

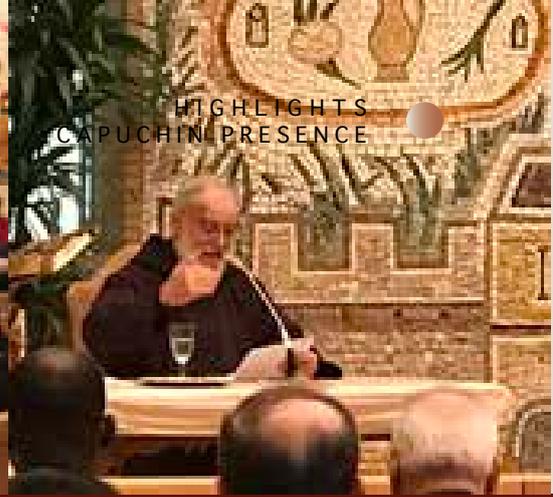
This is the message that I leave you this year, my brothers. At the same time I thank you for all the greetings that you have written to me. It is not possible to reply to everyone, but may best wishes for a blessed Easter reach each of you from the heart of the fraternity of the General Curia.

Happy Easter.

Br. Mauro Jöhri, General Minister of the Order of Friars Minor Capuchin

[Watch the video of the greeting](#)





HIGHLIGHTS
CAPUCHIN PRESENCE

Lenten Sermons 2017

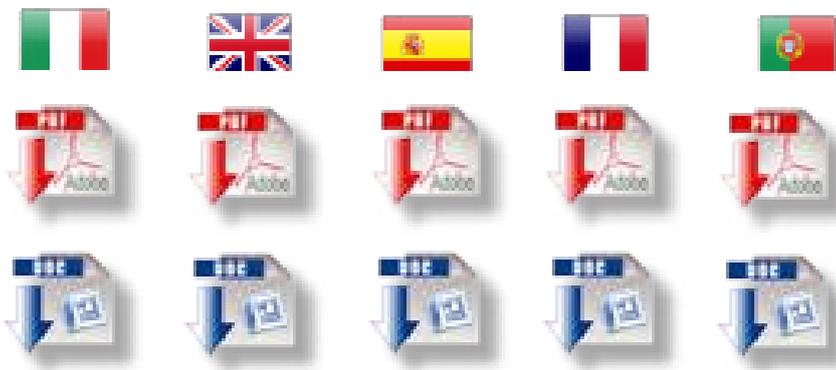
R. Cantalamessa

Following the Advent reflections on the Holy Spirit who grounds all the life and preaching of the Church, the Lenten meditations have aimed to return from the third to the second article of

the Creed, shedding light on how the Holy Spirit 'brings us into the fullness of truth' about Christ and his paschal mystery, that is to say on the being and activity of the Savior. In harmony with the litur-

gical time of preparing for Easter, the project was to study the role of the Holy Spirit in the death of resurrection of Christ and in death and resurrection as our destiny as well.

Download the sermons



[Visit Br. Raniero's website](#)

Photos:

[Redemptoris Mater](#)

[Advent 2016](#)

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Meeting Jesus in **Lent** - TV2000

Father Raniero Cantalamessa OFM Cap., Apostolic Preacher, speaks on TV2000 of Jesus' journey

on the streets of Jerusalem and the different people we meet in Lent: Lazarus, the Samaritan Woman, the

man born blind, and of Martha and Mary.

[Watch the video](#)



Elections and appointments



Provincia di Goa, India - elezioni:

MP: fr. Waldheim Rodrigues

VP: fr. Dominic Ferrao

2C: fr. Estevao Rodrigues

3C: fr. Paul Alvares

4C: fr. Gabriel Fernandes

Data: 19.04.2017

Luogo: Monte Girium, Mapusa, Goa, India

Presidente: fr. Michael Fernandes, Consigliere Generale



Provincia di Cracovia, Polonia - elezioni:

MP: fr. Tomasz Żak (confermato)

VP: fr. Tomasz Protasiewicz

2C: fr. Waldemar Korba

3C: fr. Augustyn Chwałek

4C: fr. Marek Miszczyński

Data: 19/20.04.2017

Luogo: Cracovia, Polonia

Presidente: fr. Mauro Jöhri, Ministro Generale



Provincia di Spagna - elezioni:

MP: fr. Benjamín Echeverría (confermato)

VP: fr. Carlos Coca

2C: fr. Víctor Herrero

3C: fr. Carlos Gil

4C: fr. Javier Morala

Data: 20.04.2017.

Luogo: Convento El Pardo – Madrid, Spagna

Presidente: fr. Hugo Mejía, Consigliere Generale



Custodia del Camerun – elezioni:

CU: fr. Felice Trussardi

1C: fr. Kenneth Kinyuy Ayeni

2C: fr. Felix Lukong Afoni

3C: fr. Derick Ajeande Ajende

Data: 27.04.2017.

Luogo: Bambui, Camerun

Presidente: fr. Sergio Pesenti, Min. Prov. Lombardia



Provincia di Portogallo – elezioni:

MP: fr. Fernando Alberto Pedrosa Cabecinhas (conf.)

VP: fr. Antonio da Silva Martins

2C: fr. João José da Costa Guedes

3C: fr. José Maria Araújo Carvalho

4C: fr. Luis Manuel Lovais Leitão

Data: 27.04.2017.

Luogo: Centro Biblico dos Capuchinhos - Fátima

Presidente: fr. Hugo Mejía Morales, Cons. Generale



Rome International College San Lorenzo da Brindisi

Course for **Capuchin Librarians,** Archivists, and Curators

4-9 IX 2017

Again this year we will have our traditional event for the friars and their lay collaborators in the cultural institutions of our Order, which since 2002 has been held each year. This year the Course for Capuchin Librarians, Archivists, and Curators will be held at our International College ‘San Lorenzo da Brindisi’ during the week of September 4 to 9, 2017.

This latest offering of the course will develop certain topics of common interest. A member of the management of the Vatican Library will present on the juridical responsibility of directors; a noted information technology expert will show us how to develop the treatment of materials in digital and multimedia formats in archives; a

worker from the Diocese of Rome will speak on the organization and use of museums; an official from Vatican Secretary of State will speak on the formative and pastoral value of cultural heritage; and finally the staff of the Capuchin Central Library will present on recent directives from the General Curia on cultural heritage and will continue to take up certain technical questions regarding our cumulative catalogue and consulting it on the internet. On an afternoon in the middle of the course there will also be a guided visit to the Franciscan friary of San Bonaventura and to the complex of San Sebastiano on the Palatine Hill.

Lectures will alternate with study meetings and common dialogue.

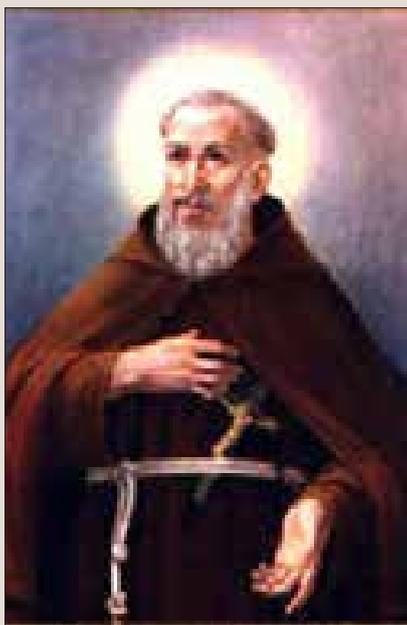
English and Italian are the official languages, with simultaneous translation. The experience of past years together with what has been expressed by participants themselves, reveals that the value of this initiative consists in an opportunity to know each other, to discuss, to collaborate, and to encourage each other in our work in the field of our cultural heritage. It would be good, however, if each circumscription of the Order could send at least one participant, and so to offer its own contribution to our common cultural service to the Order, the Church, and to civil society.

[2017 course – letter](#)

[2017 course – program](#)

Watch the video presentations from 2016 [Video n. 1](#) [Video n. 2](#)





Canonization of Blessed Angelo d'Acri: 15 October 2017

Rome – 20 April 2017. During the ordinary consistory held at the Apostolic Place at the Vatican, Pope Francis announced that the canonization of Blessed Angelo d'Acri will be held on this coming October 15, 2017 in St. Peter's Square.

It was long ago on December 18, 1825 when Pope Leo XII celebrated his beatification, following the long journey that began five years after Angelo's death with the process *de non cultu* after which followed the informational processes at Bisignano (1748-1759), Cosenza (1764-1769, 1786-1789, 1791-1792, 1793-1795)

and again at Bisignano (1793-1796). Though more than ninety years have passed since his beatification, Blessed Angelo's reputation for sanctity has not diminished, especially among the people of Acri but not only there. The Order of Friars Minor Capuchin rejoices to have this new saint, a witness to Christ, an untiring preacher of the Gospel, faithful disciple of the Cross, defender of the poor and the excluded, confessor of the mercy of God. Saint Angelo, in opening himself to the Lord in his life, learned how to be a humble worker in the vineyard of the Lord.

Madagascar

In the early hours of the night between Saturday and Sunday on April 23, 2017, our brother Njiva Lucien, Guardian of the novitiate friary of the Province of Madagascar, was murdered in an attempted robbery. A young novice was also gravely injured. The

Friar killed and a novice gravely wounded in attempted robbery

tragic events occurred in the area of Ambendrana. The robbers, a gang made up of four persons, entered the friary with the clear intention of theft and plunder, especially of some bells. Some days ago was the first attempted robbery.

Br. Edouard, the Provincial Minister of Madagascar, reports that already "in mid-February the bandits were seen, in their first attempt, in the bell tower of the novitiate, but they didn't succeed. On April 14, in a second attempt, they were able to bring down the bell. The brothers, however, were able to intervene and recover it. A week later we have witnessed this armed attack. The case is already in the hands of the police. The Premier of the country and four ministers, as well as some representatives,

have visited the friary to give their condolences and have promised to conduct a thorough investigation and to guarantee the security of our friary. The bishops' conference and the nunciature have been informed of the situation. They are all in communion with us [...]. Our novices are somewhat traumatized."

The funeral of the Guardian will be held on Wednesday afternoon. Though his body and blood have fallen to the earth of Madagascar amidst our pain and tears, Br. Lucien is before us for what he really was; not a sign of a life taken by pointless violence and tragedy, but a life offered and lived each day in his mission as a friar, as a friend of peace, as a brother to all for the love of Christ the Lord.





Good Friday at the Vatican

Pope Francis presided over the Passion Liturgy in St. Peter's Basilica on Good Friday.

In keeping with tradition, the Preacher of the Papal Household, Fr. Raniero Cantalamessa, OFM. Cap., preached the sermon on the occasion.

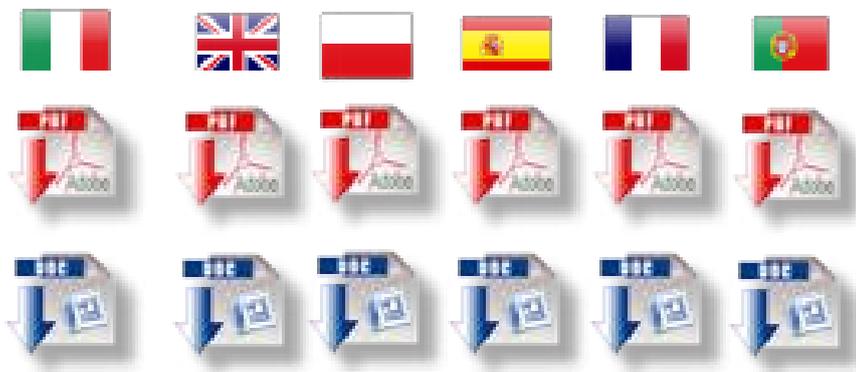
This year, the Preacher's remarks focused entirely on the Cross of Christ: the only hope of the world. "The Cross," said Fr. Cantalamessa, "does not 'stand' against the world but for the world: to give meaning to all the suffering that has been, that is, and that will be in human history."

The Preacher of the Papal Household went on to say, "It is written that at the moment of Christ's death, 'The curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom; and the earth shook, and the rocks were split; the tombs also were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised (Matt 27:51).'"

Though these signs often receive an apocalyptic explanation, he said, "[T]hey [also] indicate what should happen in the heart of a person who reads and meditates on the Passion of Christ."

[Read on the website](#)

Download the sermon



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Subscribe to BICI, because...

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.

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

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.

