

Frascati 2017



The meeting of **new provincials**

The Meeting of Newly Elected Provincials and Custodes with the General Minister and his Council was held from the 2-9 July at our Capuchin Friary in Frascati, Rome. This meeting, now in its 15th edition, is directed towards providing the brothers elected as Major Superiors for the first time or re-elected after a long period the necessary tools for the animation and government of their respective circumscriptions. The participants, 25 in all, expressed great satisfaction at getting to know the different offices of the General Curia as well as their personal interaction with the General Minister and the General

Councillors. The discussions centred on the several topics among which the Figure and Role of the Minister, Animation of a Circumscription, Fidelity to Consecrated life – issues connected to the vow of chastity, authority and obedience, Government of a circumscription from a juridical aspect, International Fraternal Collaboration, Fraternities in Europe, etc. It was indeed a very intense meeting of fraternal sharing and mutual enrichment. Wishes to all the participants the very best in animating the brothers in your respective circumscriptions.

[Read more on the website](#)



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On July 3 we recalled the beginnings of the Capuchin reform on the anniversary of the bull *Religionis zelus* (1528) of Pope Clement VII, by which Matteo da Bassio and those who would join him were granted to restore the ancient observance of the Rule of St. Francis. Others soon joined Matteo and the original group, called at first the Friars Minor of the Eremetical Life.

In this way, we are invited each year to celebrate on this day the birth of the Capuchin Family. This year the date fell during the meeting of new provincial ministers and custodes in Frascati, where they participate in a series of presentations related to their office.

Various representatives of different institutes affiliated to the Capuchin Order were present: the Capuchin Sisters of the Sacred Heart, the Capuchin Sisters of Mother Rubatto, the Capuchin Tertiaries of the Holy Family, the Franciscan Missionary Sisters of Christ, the Capuchin Tertiaries of Our Lady of Sorrows, and the Capuchin Sisters of the Mother of the Good Shepherd. The Franciscan Missionary Sisters of the Incarnate

Capuchin Family Day 2017



Word were also present by means of a message, as were many monasteries of Capuchin Poor Clares, who promised to be joined to the event in prayer.

In the morning, after the introductions, the Vice General Secretary of Formation, Br. Jaime Rey, gave a conference on the theme: The unity of Franciscans and the Capuchin reform: remembering the bull *Itē vos* on the way towards celebrating the V centenary of the Capuchin reform. Beginning with the concept of unity as a 'polyhedron' (cf. Pope Francis, *Evangelii gaudium* 236), Br. Jaime explained how the search for communion within diversity and respect for the particularity of each reality becomes a motivation for our being a spiritual family. Beneath this idea there is a Christian and Franciscan anthropology that was highlighted by various points.

With the new ministers who were meeting in Frascati, the General Minister presided at the Mass to thank the Lord for the gift of our

wonderful Capuchin family. The gospel for the feast of St. Thomas gave a fine tone to the reflection and a link to the strong contemplative and apostolic dimensions of the Capuchin reform.

A festive lunch was a lovely occasion of fraternal encounter and sharing. In the afternoon the meeting continued with talks on two important Franciscan events of this past year: the 'generalissimo' Chapter of the Umbrian Franciscans and the Congreso de la Escuela Superior de Estudios Franciscanos in Madrid.

Each congregation noted their own identity and work through a sharing animated by the General Secretariat of Formation, in which our unity as brothers and sisters of one family was also evident.

Br. Leonardo Ariel González

[Read more on the website](#)

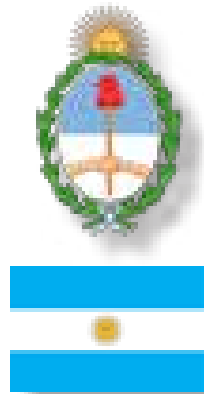
[Video - see the material from the meeting](#)

[Photos - see photo gallery](#)



Capuchin Bishops Tell Their Story

Andrés Stanovnik - A Bishop in Argentina



We are presenting a brief profile of Most Rev. Andrés Stanovnik, OFM Cap., appointed Bishop of Reconquista in 2001 and since 2007 Archbishop of Corrientes, Argentina. In the following presentation, Bishop Stanovnik recalls the stages of his life within the Capuchin Order

and then, as Bishop, in service to the Universal Church. The Archdiocese of Corrientes, of which he is shepherd, has an area of 26,000 km² and a population of more than a million, of which nine hundred thousand are Catholics. There are fifty parishes and



sixty-two diocesan and eighteen religious priests.

Bishop Stanovnik was born in Buenos Aires in 1949 and was ordained priest in 1978. He served as General Definitor of the Order from 1994 to 2001.

[Watch the video](#)

David Tencer - A Bishop on the Icy Island



Most Rev. David Tencer, OFM Cap., is a young Capuchin bishop, originally from Slovakia, where he was born in 1963 and ordained priest in 1986. Just two years ago, in 2015, he was appointed Bishop of Reykjavík, the sole diocese of Iceland.

Given the singular geographic position of the island, Bishop Tencer's diocese is also very particular. In fact, within an area of 103,000 km² lives a population of 332,000 of which just thirteen thousand are Catholics, the majority from other



countries. There are six parishes and nine diocesan and six religious priests.

Bishop Tencer tells us more about his ministry in the following presentation.

[Watch the video](#)



The 'Roman VI' Inter-Franciscan Commission

The 'Roman VI' Inter-Franciscan Commission met this past June 26 at the General Curia of the Capuchins in Rome.

A little history

The Commission was instituted by the ministers general of the Conventuals, Capuchins, OFM, and TOR on April 26, 1982 with the name Inter-Franciscan Commission for Justice and Peace and a friar from each of these parts of the Franciscan family was appointed a member. On February 28, 1986, the Council of the International Franciscan Conference (CIF-TOR) added its General Secretary to the Commission and on January 22, 1991 the International Presidency of the Sec-

ular Franciscan Order appointed its own member to be part of the Commission.

The Commission develops

As the years passed, the structure and the purpose of the Commission developed further, as the documents it produced show. Since 2009 the Commission called informally 'the six Romans' (Roman VI) became the Inter-Franciscan Commission for Justice, Peace, and the Integrity of Creation.

The nickname Roman VI comes from the fact that the members of the Commission are the directors of the central JPIC offices of the different orders who work and live in Rome in the different

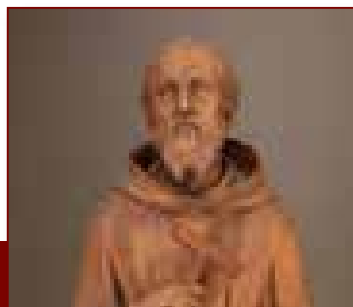
generalates. The name is a loose fitting term because the members from the OFS and TOR do not live in Rome.

At the beginning the meetings of the Commission were limited to a few times a year, as the commitment to JPIC grew within the Franciscan Family along with new challenges in the world, the work of the Commission also grew more concrete and demanding, beginning especially with the Rio +20 Summit in 2002.

[Read more on the website](#)

[Video - watch the video](#)

[Photos - see photo gallery](#)





Jurists of the Order 2017 Meeting

Rome. The Ius Group – Jurists of the Order had their second annual meeting at the General Curia of the Capuchin Friars Minor from July 10 to 14, 2017.

The Group was established by the General Minister and his Council on March 20, 2015, based on the suggestion made by the General Procurator. The idea is a technical law group, made up of canon and civil lawyers, to assist the General Minister and his Council in extricating themselves from the inevitable lacunae, imprecisions, and interpretive difficulties in our proper law (Constitutions and Ordinances of the General Chapters) and of the law in general. Therefore this is not something ‘academic’ but a



practical assistance in the difficulties that emerge daily in the work of the central administration and in relation

to the circumscriptions. After all, it was at Rome, in a more classical age, that *juris prudentia*, the science of the law, was born precisely for the resolution of concrete cases.

The group brings together voices from various continents: the Presiding Delegate of the General Council, Br. Victorius Dwiardy (PR Pontianak, Indonesia), the General Procurator, Br. Antonio Belpiede



(PR Foggia, Italy), the Vice General Procurator, Br. Albert D’Souza (PR Maharashtra, India), Br. John Celichowski (PR Calvary, USA), Br. José Ángel Torres (CU Puerto Rico, USA), and Br. Jean Miguina (CG Chad – Central African Republic).

During the year the Group remains in contact by means of the internet and shares juridical questions according to what is indicated by the

General Minister. There is a lively exchange of a technical-juridical nature, as well as reflection in common, over email. Once a year the Group meets at the General Curia to discuss the topics that have come up and to provide the General Minister with the fruit of this digestum. In the end, this a reflection that includes all the juridical points that the Constitutions and the OGC leave open, in order that these may be presented at the next General Chapter for resolution (letter of the General Minister to establish the Group).

It’s good to recall that the *casus belli* that inspired the idea for the Group was the General Minister’s request for clarification on the general custodies. In the 2016 meeting the Group gave itself to drawing up a model Statutes for a General Custody (Const. 136, 1) and to study, in the case of a provincial custody—by which general custodies are defined by analogy

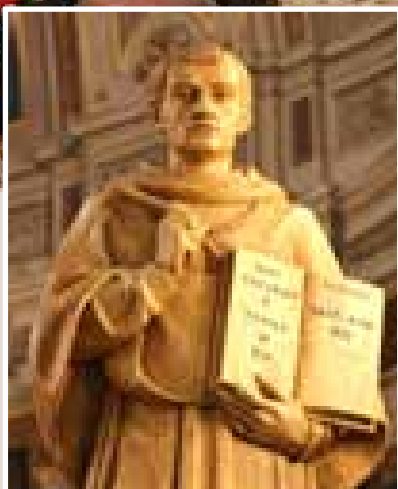


(*ibid.*)—the ‘division of labor’ between the *custos* and provincial minister. This happens in two ways: by the written delegation of faculties given to the *custos* by the provincial minister (Const. 136, 6) and by statute (Const. 138, 8). In the recent New Ministers’ Meeting in Frascati it emerged that many of these means foreseen by the Constitutions are often ignored...an ignorance that generally increases the difficulties of administration. Our work continues...

Br. Antonio Belpiede, OFM Cap., General Procurator

[Video - watch the video](#)

[Photos - see photo gallery](#)



Bagnoregio. Every celebration of a centenary offers us a chance to draw nearer to the saint we are commemorating. This year we have the eighth centenary of the birth of St. Bonaventure of Bagnoregio. On the vigil of the feast, July 14, Barbara Faes's book, *Bonaventura da Bagnoregio*, was presented in the municipal auditorium of the city of Bagnoregio. After the presentation the liturgical feast of the saint began with the Bishop of Viterbo, Lino Fumagalli, presiding at solemn vespers in the co-cathedral, followed by the traditional procession of St. Bonaventure's relics through the streets of the city. Then, on July 15, the solemn stational Mass was celebrated. Representatives from all branches of the Franciscan

Order were present for all the events.

St. Bonaventure of Bagnoregio (1217-1274). Franciscan, bishop, cardinal, philosopher and theologian, called the Seraphic Doctor. He taught at the University of Paris and was a friend of St. Thomas Aquinas. Canonized by Pope Sixtus IV in 1482, St. Bonaventure was then proclaimed Doctor of the Church by Pope Sixtus V in 1588. He wrote what was meant to be an official biography of St. Francis – the *Legenda maior* – which served as inspiration for the Master of the St. Francis Cycle in the production of the frescoes in the Upper Basilica in Assisi. St. Bonaventure was general minister of the Franciscan Order for eighteen years, for which he is sometimes called a 'sec-

ond founder.' Under his guidance the Order promulgated the Constitutions of Narbonne, on which all further constitutions of the Order of Friars Minor have been based.

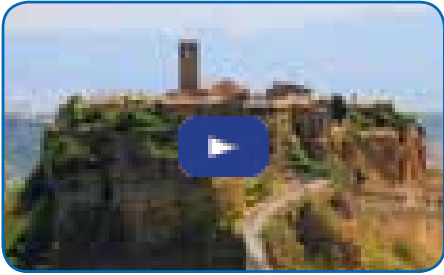
The General Ministers of the Franciscan Family have written a letter for the occasion of the centenary, recalling the saint, his theological thought, and his important role in the history of the Franciscan Order.



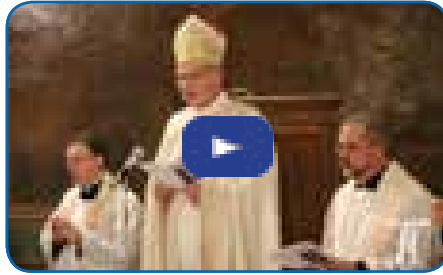
Eighth Centenary of the Birth of **St. Bonaventure** of Bagnoregio

Photos from Bagnoregio 2017

Civita di Bagnoregio



O July 14 - solemn vespers



O Presentation of the book



O July 15 - solemn stational Mass

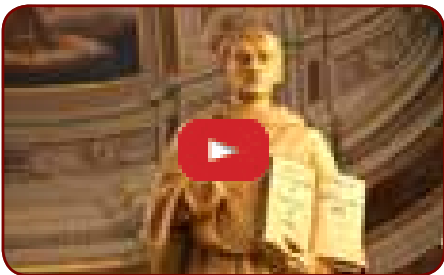


Bagnoregio



Video from Bagnoregio 2017

Eighth Centenary of the Birth



Civita di Bagnoregio



Bagnoregio



The Europe Project in Lourdes



Lourdes. A gathering of the Order of Friars Minor Capuchin for the fraternities of the ‘Europe Project’ was held from July 21 to 25, 2017 in the shadow of the Massabielle grotto in Lourdes, France. The Project looks to re-implant the Order in the countries of central and northern Europe.

It was a meeting in which fraternal experiences of the Project were shared. Now ongoing for some years, which is being promoted with enthusiasm thanks to the vision of the General Minister of the Order, Br. Mauro Jöhri, and the faithful, industrious, and charismatic accompaniment of the General Councilor – Delegate for the Project and President of the ad hoc Commission, Br. Pio Murat.

During this fraternal encounter, the Commission met with friars to encourage an exchange of experiences with the various representatives of

the fraternities that are part of the Project and already established in Europe, namely Clermont-Ferrand and Lourdes (France), Kilkenny (Ireland), Antwerp (Belgium), and Spello (Italy). In an atmosphere of sharing lived experiences, marked by frankness and gospel simplicity, the Commission brought into relief how these fraternities make up a true ‘network of the charism’ within the Order, not in order to be something different, but toward the end of giving new life-blood to the charism that the Spirit has entrusted to us.

During the meeting, on the morning of Monday, July 24, the Bishop of Tarbes et Lourdes, Most Rev. Nicolas Brouwet, in the celebration of Holy Mass in the Basilica of Our Lady of the Rosary, officially welcomed the new Europe Project Fraternity that has been set up for some months now at Lourdes. In his homily, the Bishop em-

phasized gospel brotherhood lived in poverty and minority as the proprium of the life and apostolate of the Capuchins, and asked the friars to bring this particular characteristic of ours to the service of welcoming pilgrims to the Lourdes Shrine.

At the end of the Mass the Bishop blessed the three brothers who began this new foundation with a special blessing, as a sign of happy welcome. Such blessing comes together with the singular circumstance of being present also with the witness of holiness of two friars, both associated with Lourdes, whose causes for beatification are proceeding: Venerable Giacomo of Balduino (1900-1948), who died at Lourdes and is buried there, and Servant of God Marie Antoine de Lavour (1855-1907), who was the great apostle and organizer of the procession aux flambeaux at the Lourdes Shrine.



Photos Europe Project, Lourdes, France 22 - 25 VII 2017

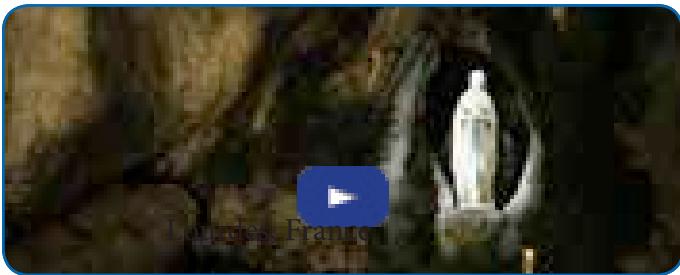
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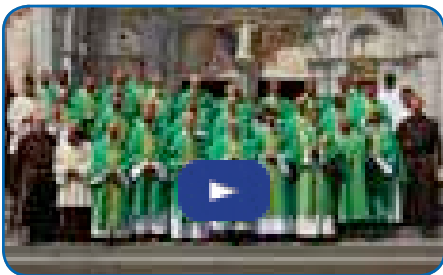
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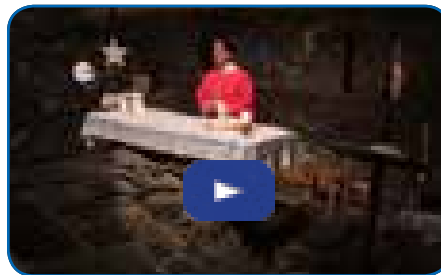
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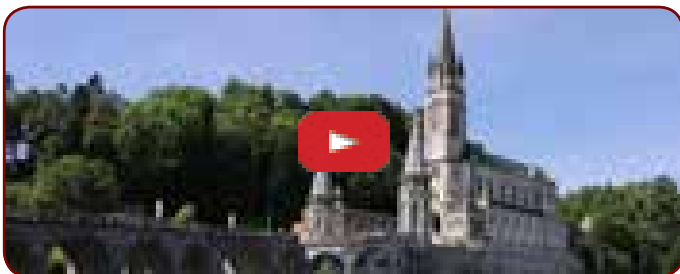


Lourdes, France



Video Europe Project, Lourdes, France 22 - 25 VII 2017

Presentation in Italian



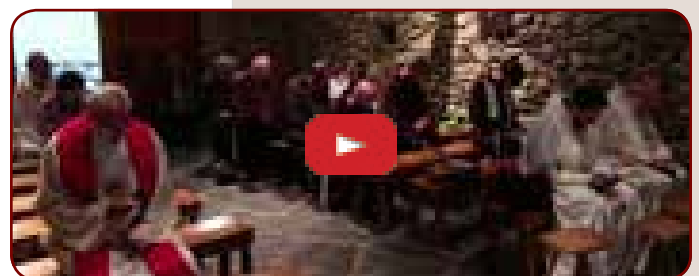
Lourdes, France 2017



Europe Project - n. 1



Europe Project - n. 2



The Pardon of Assisi 2017



This year's anniversary was particularly solemn; given it was the closure of the 800th Anniversary of the Pardon of Assisi. This jubilee was inaugurated on August 2, 2016, by Gualtiero Cardinal BASSETTI and was enhanced by Pope Francis' private pilgrimage to the Porziuncola two days later, on August 4, 2016. The solemn closing celebration for the Jubilee of Pardon took place at 11:00 a.m. on August 2, 2017, and was presided over by His Eminence Pietro Cardinal PAROLIN, His Holiness' Secretary of State.

Another peculiarity of this year, highlighting the bonds between the Franciscan Family, was a feast created by the ingenious intuition of our common founder, Francis of Assisi. This was the Triduum of Preparation (July 29-31) which was preached by the Ministers General of the three Franciscan Orders. (The Friars Mi-

nor Capuchin were represented by their Vicar General.) This shared event was placed in perfect continuity along the path that had been undertaken up to that point. The path culminated with the "Generalissimo" Chapter that the Franciscan families celebrated together. The program scheduled for August 1 was intensive:

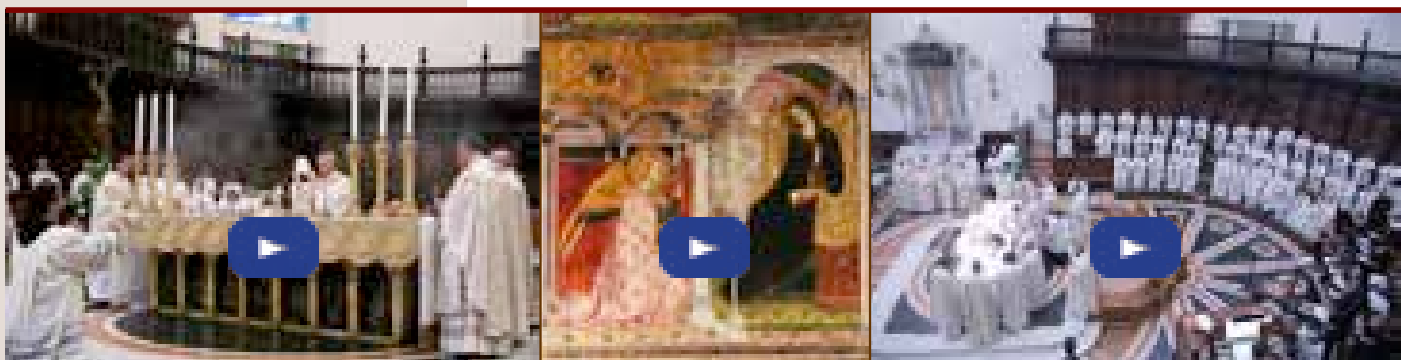
- At 11:00 a.m. there was Mass presided over by Friar Michael A. Pery, the Minister General of the Friars Minor. It was followed by the Procession of the "Opening of Forgiveness" (so-called because from that moment, i.e. from noon on August 1 until midnight on August 2, the Plenary Indulgence which is granted to the Porziuncola every day, was extended to all the parish churches around the world, and to all Franciscan churches;
- In the afternoon, at the end of the pilgrimage of the Diocese of Assisi,

there was Evening Prayer I, presided over by the Most Reverend Domenico SORRENTINO, Archbishop of Assisi-Nocera Umbra-Gualdo Tadino, in Italy.

- Incense was offered by the mayor of Assisi, Stefania PROIETTI;
- There was an evening prayer vigil with a candlelight procession led by the Most Reverend José Rodríguez CARBALLO, OFM, Secretary of the Congregation of Institutes of Consecrated Life.

August 2 once again saw the arrival of thousands of young people from the 37th Franciscan March "One Step Beyond". They met at the Porziuncola to rejoice in the Father's Mercy. Finally, the Vatican Gendarmerie Band performed a concert in the evening followed by a fireworks show in the piazza of the Porziuncola.

From the Communication Offices of the OFM, OFM Conv., and OFM Cap.



Video The Pardon of Assisi 2017

1[^] fr. Marco Tasca OFMConv



Pardon of Assisi

2[^] fr. Štefan Kožuh OFMCap

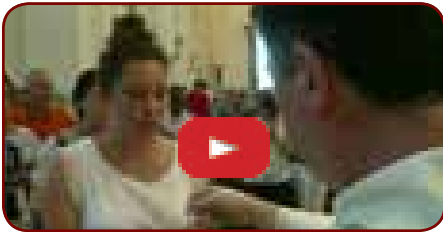


Beginning of the Pardon

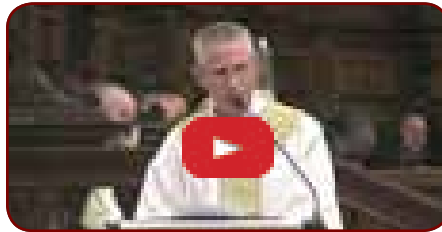
3[^] fr. Michael Perry OFM



Evening Prayer



Vigil



Cardinal Parolin



Evening Prayer II

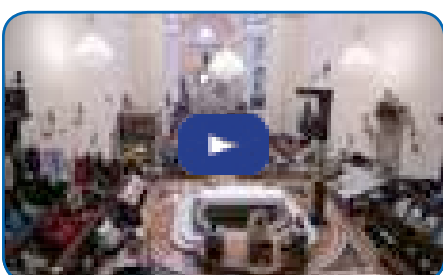


Texts in Italian Download the material

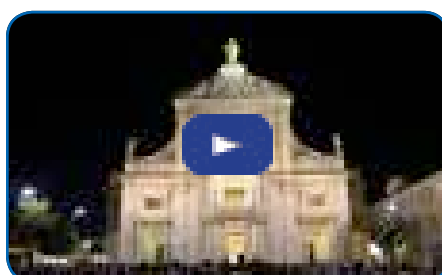
- [Testimoni del sovrabbondante amore di Dio, 1[^] Meditazione: p. Marco Tasca OFMConv](#)
- [Dacci uno sguardo di misericordia, 2[^] Meditazione: p. Štefan Kožuh OFMCap](#)
- [Misericordia atteggiamento universale, 3[^] meditazione del triduo: p. Michael Perry OFM](#)
- [Apertura della festa del Perdono, Omelia del Ministro generale, p. Michael Perry OFM](#)
- [L'indulgenza: una festa della misericordia, Dono per la guarigione dell'anima](#)
- [Infinita misericordia in una "Piccola Porzione", Omelia del Card. Parolin alla Porziuncola](#)
- [Parolin e bassetti: il perdono di Assisi, dono per i poveri, Chiusura del Giubileo della Porziuncola](#)

Photos The Pardon of Assisi 2017

2017.08.01. Porziuncola



2017.08.01. Processione auf flambeaux



2017.08.02. Porziuncola



Elections and appointments



General Councilor del Mozambico – elections

- CU: fr. Salvador Franco Mavida
1C: fr. Domenico Mirizzi
2C: fr. Eusébio Pedro
3C: fr. Ernesto Jaime Nassuruma
4C: fr. Adissone Macatange Hospital

Date: 13.07.2017

Place: Quelimane, Mozambico

President: fr. Sergio M. Dal Moro, General Councilor



Provincia di Catalogna – elections

- MP: fr. Eduard Rey i Puiggròs
VP: fr. Lluís Àngel Arrom i Albéniz
2C: fr. Jesús Romero i Lagatto
3C: fr. Enric Castells i Mas
4C: fr. Josep Manuel Vallejo i Fidalgo

Date: 13.07.2017

Place: “Casal La Salle” en Sant Martí de Sesgueioles, Barcelona, Spagna

President: fr. Hugo M. Mejía Morales, General Councilor



Provincia del Canada Orientale - elections

- MP: fr. Louis Cinq-Mars (confermato)
VP: fr. Pierre Viau
2C: fr. Sylvain Richer
3C: fr. Antony Louiz Arukullaseri
4C: fr. Jean-Guy Lanthier

Date: 20.07.2017

Place: Santuaire de Saint Antoine, Lac Bouchette, QC, Canada

President: fr. Mauro Jöhri, General Minister



Provincia del Madagascar - elections

- MP: fr. Adonis Egide Tsiarify Lalao Soa
VP: fr. Fidèle Rakotoariveloharintsoa
2C: fr. Prosper Holaza Maventy
3C: fr. Adèle Francky
4C: fr. Germain Wenceslas Rabenarison

Date: 02.08.2017

Place: Antananarivo, Madagascar

President: fr. Norbert Auberlin Solondrazana, General Councilor



Provincia di Brasile Centrale - elections

- MP: fr. Clézio Menezes do Santos
VP: fr. Moacir Casagrande
2°C: fr. Sebastião José da Silva
3°C: fr. Messias Chaves Braga
4°C: fr. Alexandre Agostini

Date: 24-08-2017

Place: Casa São Leopoldo Mandic de Hidrolândia, Goiás, Brasil

President: fr. Sergio M. Dal Moro, General Councilor

CCMSI - Capuchin Conference of Major Superiors in India - elections

President: fr. Remish Ekka (PR St. Fidelis, Nord India)
Vice President: fr. John Baptist Palliparambil (PR St. Francis, Kerala)
Segretario: fr. Waldheim Rodrigues (PR Goa)

Date: 23.08.2017

Place: Ernakulam, Kerala, India



Appointment of Vicar Apostolic of Puerto Aguarico, Ecuador

Pope Francis has accepted the resignation of Most Rev. Jesús Esteban Sádaba Pérez OFM Cap. from the pastoral governance of the Apostolic Vicariate of Puerto Aguarico, Ecuador.

As successor, the Pope has appointed Rev. José Adalberto Jiménez Mendoza OFM Cap., currently Custos of the Custody of Ecuador. He has been assigned the titular see of Ubaba.

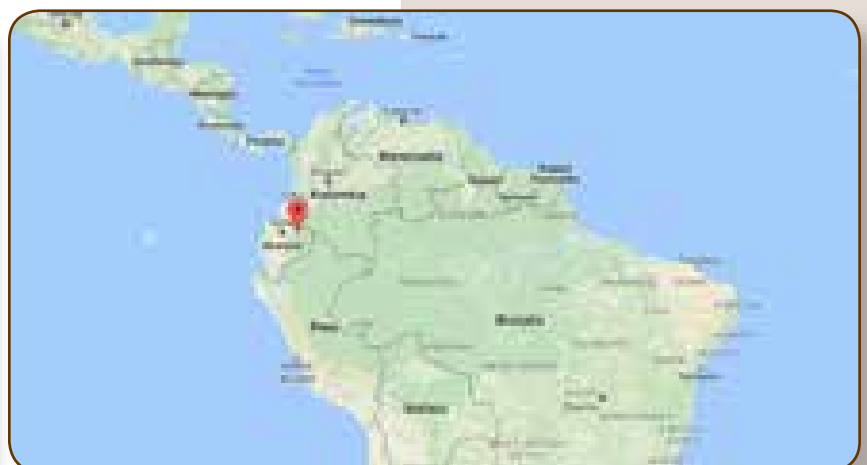
Br. José Adalberto Jiménez Mendoza OFM Cap. was born June 23, 1969 in San Plácido, Ecuador, in the Diocese of Portoviejo. He studied philosophy and

theology at Cuenca (1990-1996), earning the licentiate in theology at the University of Azuay. He then studied psychology at the Universidad Técnica Particular de Loja, and specialized in systematic psychology in Madrid (2012-2014). He also holds a master's degree in family and couples therapy and another in humanistic therapy, both from Madrid.

Br. Adalberto professed temporary vows on August 15, 1990 and perpetual vows on August 14, 1996 at Guayaquil.

He was ordained priest at the Cathedral of Portoviejo on May 16, 1997.

Following ordination, Br. Adalberto held the following assignments: Assistant Director of Post-Novitiate and Parochial Vicar (Cuenca, 1997-2000); Guardian, Postulant Director, Coordinator of the San Francisco school, Director of the Nuestros Hijos Foundation (Ibarra, 2000-2003); Novice Master (Portoviejo, 2003-2005); Vice Provincial Minister of Ecuador (2005-2011); President of the CCA (Conferencia Capuchina Andina) (2008-2011); Custos of Ecuador (2014-2017). Since 2016, he has been Vice President of the Ecuadoran Conference of Religious (CER).



GUATEMALA

Ratio Formationis Ordinis

The first continental meeting for the Ratio formationis Ordinis, for America and Australia, was held from July 10 to 14 in Guatemala City. Forty-two Capuchin friars participated from all the circumscriptions of the continents and the four Conferences: CON-CAM, CCA, CCB, and NAPCC. The meeting was organized by the General Secretariat of Formation of the Order and by the members of the International Formation Council for the respective Conferences: Br. Evandro da Sousa, Br. Juan Pablo Lobos, Br. Prospero Arciniegas, and Br. Robert Williams.

On the first day, guided by Br. Charles Alphonse and Br. Jaime Rey, the current progress of the Ratio was presented. The objective of the continental meeting was to 'build together,' beginning from certain essential elements, name-

ly affectivity, inter-culturality, and the Ratio studiorum.

On the second day, Br. Charles Alphonse took the role of facilitator on the theme of affectivity. Beginning from a conscientious and positive perspective, Br. Mark Schenk, General Councilor, offered a point of view that was both positive and challenging.

The third day was on theme of inter-culturality, with Br. Mauro Jöhri, General Minister of the Order, as facilitator. The richness of a culture consists in being able to give of oneself and to recognize one's own identity while at the same time being open to enrichment from other cultures.

In this sense our Order has an 'enriching challenge': to find paths to incarnate and enculturate the charism of our Order while avoiding the importation of cultural

blocks where a culture is already flourishing. When it comes to the 'evangelization' of culture and of cultures, a healthy discernment is necessary. Br. Mariosvaldo Florentino presented on this very topic.

The fourth day was given to studying the question of the Ratio studiorum. The reflection, led by Br. Jaime Rey, took up the challenges in intellectual formation, not only as a deposit of technical knowledge, but as a resource that is able to shake up one's life.

Friday was dedicated to fraternal togetherness and an opportunity, in part, to get to know the culture and spirit of the Guatemalan people. At the end there was an evaluation of the meeting, which will be useful for the coming meetings in Europe, Asia, and Africa. Let us give thanks to God for our vocation!

[Read more on the website](#)

