

# ECHOES

  

## of the GENERAL COUNCIL

Number 80

October 2013

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*The General Council held their ordinary session from 16 to 28 September 2013 at Casa Generalizia, Rome.*

This issue of the Echoes brings to the knowledge of the entire Congregation the following information and decisions:

### 1. Animation of the Congregation

During the months of July and August, several events have marked the life of the Congregation. Many of them have benefited from the presence of a Brother of the General Council:

- The holding of Chapters for the Province of Tanzania-Kenya, the Province of Spain, the Vice-province of West Africa.
- The first professions : 3 Haitian Brothers, 1 Indonesian Brother, 5 Congolese Brothers, and 1 Senegalese Brother.
- The entries to the Novitiate : 2 Filipino Novices at Yokohama (Japan), 2 Indonesian Novices at Yogyakarta (Indonesia), 7 Novices at Dapaong (Togo) 1 Benin novice, 2 Congolese novices, 1 Ivoirian novice and 3 Togolese novices.
- The annual retreats and Provincial assemblies sometimes combining Brothers and the Laity.

Many of these events have been recounted on the website of the Congregation ([www.lamennais.org](http://www.lamennais.org)) or in the review *La Mennais Magazine*

#### 1.1 The sessions of formation in 2014

Two sessions of formation are planned for 2014 :

**The session in preparation for perpetual profession:** The session will take place exclusively at Castel Gandolfo from mid-July to mid-August 2014. A new team made up of Brother Jean-Paul PEUZE as responsible, and Brothers Enceau LAGUERRE and Vincent SSEKATE, will animate the session. About fifteen young Brothers should attend.

**The session for the Brothers of 35 to 55 years :** The session will take place in Ploërmel from mid-July to mid-August 2014. It will begin with a pilgrimage to Lourdes for the Mennaisian family. The formation team will consist of Brother Yvon DENIAUD, responsible, and of Brothers Hervé ASSE, Peter KAZEKULYA and Josu OLABARRIETA.

## **1.2 The formation of Formators**

A session for Formators will be held in Kisubi (Uganda) from 2 to 7 December 2013. It will enable the various parties responsible for initial formation, especially Novitiates and Scholasticates, to share their experiences about the accompanying of the young and start thinking of drafting the Ratio Studiorum

## **1.3 The process of change to District**

Following the publication of the Rule of Life (provisional edition), the General Council considered the way forward for a change in the status of Vice-Province to the District. A process is being developed and will be implemented in the coming months in liaison with all the relevant Major Superiors and their Councils.

## **1.4 Economic questions and Solidarity**

Brother Treasurer General presented the work of the Council of financial experts who met on 16 and 17 June. Several recommendations were made to the General Administration and the Provinces both in terms of budget and economic and financial forecasting or management of solidarity.

A meeting of the Treasurers of Provinces and Vice-Provinces will be held from 4 to 6 March 2014 in Rome. The Council of experts will also be present on this occasion. This meeting will review all proposals and agree on the important issues of the financial policy of the Congregation for the coming years. It will also provide an opportunity for the new Treasurer General to get acquainted with all Provincial and vice-provincial treasurers.

## **1.5 Information**

Mr. Michel Tanguy, the Director of Information, presented to the Council proposals concerning the review Lamennais Magazine for the coming months. The special issue in December 2013 will bear on the theme of the year "Being Brother, good news." Based on the testimonies of the youth, this issue is especially for young people. Provinces and Vice-Provinces will be able to order additional copies.

Mr. Michel Tanguy emphasized the dynamism of several Provincial sites and informed the members that the Province of St. Michael the Archangel has now launched its website: [www.ktbrothers.org](http://www.ktbrothers.org).

A meeting of directors of information from several religious Congregations present in Rome will be held next February. The theme of the meeting will focus on the presence of Congregations in social networks (Facebook, Twitter, etc.).

## **1.6 The Logo for the Congregation and the Mennaisian Family :**

After a long process, the General Council adopted the choice of a logo for the Congregation and Mennaisian family. This logo, requested by the General Chapter will be presented to all during the great Mennaisian week in November.

## 2. Decisions of Brother Superior General and his Council

### 2.1 Admissions to perpetual profession:

Brother Superior General, with the consent of his Council, has admitted to perpetual vows

- For the Province of Saint Teresa of the Child Jesus (Uganda) :  
Brother **AHIMBISIBWE Chrysostom**, Brother **BYARUHANGA Julius**,  
Brother **BYARUGABA Crescent**, Brother **TIRWOMWE Deziderio**,  
Brother **TWINOMUGISHA Herman**.
- For the Vice-province Central Africa :  
Brother **MUGISA Eric**, Brother **RWANDAMURIYE Emmanuel**

### 2.2 Approbation of Provincial and Vice-provincial Chapters:

During this session the Council considered and approved (Rule of Life, C. 117) the texts of the Chapters of the Province of Our Lady del Pilar (Spain, Bolivia and Chile), the Province of St. Michael the Archangel (Tanzania-Kenya) and of the Vice-province of West Africa. The orientations and decisions taken are henceforth binding for the Provinces and Vice-province concerned.

In the coming months, the Vice-Province of Japan-Philippines, the Vice-Province of Central Africa and the Province of Canada will hold their Chapters.

### 2.3 Organisation of the Solidarity

At the meeting of Major Superiors in Rome in March 2013, the question of the organization of solidarity, especially seeking funds for projects and works in disadvantaged areas, was raised. In line with the suggestions made on this occasion, the Superior General with the consent of his Council, and in conjunction with the NGO Terre Sans Frontières, has appointed:

Jean-François DUBOIS, part-time, for three years, serving the the Missionary Secretariat of the Congregation.

Brother Joseph KANAABI Zziwa of the Province of Uganda, will also participate in this mission.

## 3. Casa Generalizia

On Saturday, September 21, the community of Casa welcomed with joy Brother **Alberto Ramos** of the Province of Our Lady of the Pilar. Brother Alberto who is studying the Italian language now, will assist in various departments of the Generalate and the General Administration.

On Sunday, September 22, the General Council and the Community of the Generalate officially and fraternally thanked Brothers **Delfin López** and **Louis BALANANT** for their long years of presence in Rome in the service of the whole Congregation and the Mennaisian Family. The Superior General expressed the gratitude of the entire Congregation for the work done; and the Brothers Assistants presented to Brothers Delfin and Louis souvenirs showing the recognition of all the Brothers.

## Calendar of the members of the General Council

### **Brother Yannick HOUSSAY**

16 October to 11 November 2013	Manilla and Indonesia
11 to 20 November 2013	Rome
20 to 30 November 2103	West Africa (perpetual profession at Dapaong)
1 <sup>st</sup> to 17 December 2013	Senegal
17 December to 13 January 2014	Kisubi, RDC and Rwanda (Chapter and professions)
13 January 2014	Rome

### **Brother Gildas PRIGENT**

18 to 23 October 2013	Haïti (150th anniversary)
2 <sup>nd</sup> to 20 November 2013	Abidjan
25 November to 10 December 2014	Nairobi and Kisubi (session of Formators)
20 December to 12 February 2014	Japan, Philippines, Indonesia
15 February 2014	Rome

### **Brother Gerard BYARUHANGA**

October – November 2013	Canada and U.S.A.
End of November and December	Uganda (retreat, professions)
Mid-January 2014–mid-February 2014	Tanzania-Kenya
15 February 2014	Rome

### **Brother Guillermo DÁVILA**

2 to 15 October	South America
15 to 25 October	Haïti
November	Rome
January 2014	South America (Provincial Chapter of the Immaculate Conception) and Mexico
15 February 2014	Rome

**The next session of the General Council will be held in Rome from 17 to 28 February 2014**