



General Council

Number 116 – June - July 2025



The Institute's General Government held its 4th ordinary session from 16 June to 4 July 2025 in Indonesia. From 15 June to 30 June, it was hosted by the Community of Yogyakarta. Brother Gildas Prigent, Assistant Brother and Visitor of the District of St François-Xavier, did his utmost to ensure that the stay was pleasant, fraternal and fruitful. All the Brothers of the General Council are grateful for the warm welcome they received from the Community, the Scholastics and the 1st year Postulants.

From 1 to 4 July, the General Government met in Larantuka, on the island of Flores, where the mission to Indonesia began 25 years ago. It continued its work there. On 5 July, a Mass of Thanksgiving was held to mark 25 years of our presence in this country. On this occasion, Brother Adrianus Andi pronounced his perpetual vows. It was an important and key moment for Saint François Xavier District.

On his return to Rome on 8 July, the Secretary General put the finishing touches to Echoes, which brought to the attention of the entire Congregation the following information and decisions:

1. Animation of the Congregation

1.1 Echoes from the visits to the Provinces and Districts

Brother Hervé Zamor, Superior General, was in **Canada** from 19 to 25 March 2025. He took part in the fraternal farewell celebration at the Motherhouse of La Prairie, a very rich moment that

brought together some sixty Brothers and Daughters of Providence; lay associates of our two Congregations as well as other Mennaisians and friends who took part in this important passage for the Province. He also visited the Brothers of the Laval Infirmary.

He then visited the **D.R.Congo** from 30 March to 25 April 2025. The Superior General is the Major Superior who directly oversees the District of Saint Joseph in Congo. He met each Brother individually and, where possible, spoke with pupils and teachers. At the end of the visit to each community, he gathered the Brothers together for a time of sharing and listening to each other. This was also an opportunity to review the decisions of the District Assembly held in December 2024.

Finally, the Brother Superior General ended his canonical visit to the District of Saint Paul with a visit to **Senegal**. He stayed there from 30 April to 14 May 2025. On this occasion, he received the perpetual vows of Brother Alexandre DIOP, which took place at the Church of Farar in the region of Diourbel on 4 May 2025.

As part of his mission to accompany the houses of formation, **Brother Jean-Paul Peuzé** visited the **Novitiate of Dapaong** from 25 April to 1 May 2025. The novitiate has 7 novices this year. The international dimension is well marked: two from Rwanda, one from Haiti, three from the DRC and one from Togo. In fact, there is **only one French-speaking novitiate** this year. The visit was punctuated by personal meetings and meetings with the formation team.

Brother Jean-Paul then travelled to **Ivory Coast to visit the two communities of the Abidjan Scholasticate**. For the year 2024-2025, two 2nd year scholastics from the **Brothers of Saint Gabriel**, accompanied by a formator, are housed at the Jean de la Mennais community, in accordance with an agreement signed between our two Congregations. There are currently 18 scholastics: 10 in the 1st year, 2 in the 2nd year and 6 in the 3rd year, plus the 2 scholastics from Brothers of St Gabriel, and altogether, 5 Brothers who are formators or students.

Brother Miguel Aristondo made the canonical visit to the **Divina Providencia District** from 8 March to 22 April 2025. He visited the communities, met the Brothers and the heads of the establishments. Two key moments marked his stay: The first was the perpetual vows of **Brother Walter Muñoz**, which took place on 15 March in Luján de Cuyo. Then followed the **District Chapter**, which took place from 9 to 13 April at Biale Massé in two sessions. The first three days was the **Assembly**, and brought together around sixty people from the 4 countries and lasted 3 days. Then, as from 11 to 13 April, there was the District Chapter, which brought together all the 18 Brothers who had been able to make the trip to the venue. A good fraternal atmosphere, mutual listening and spirit of discernment contributed greatly to the success of this Chapter.

Brother Miguel then travelled to **Canada** for the **Provincial Chapter**, held from 16 to 18 May 2025. 20 Brothers took part. It was a meeting for reflection and sharing, the main aim of which was to provide the Provincial and his Council with elements that could guide the decisions to be taken in the near future. After the Chapter, Brother Miguel visited several communities and attended the funeral of the Dean of the Congregation, Brother Roger LeBlanc, who died at the age of 106.

Brother Vincent Ssekate visited the **Province of Tanzania-Kenya**, of which he was still Provincial until 7 June 2025. The purpose of his visit to Tanzania was to hand over the duties of Provincial, and to put in place the new administrative team of the Province. Brother Vincent's presence also coincided with the election of the new Provincial Council. The Congregation's website carried the news about this event. This new beginning was solemnly and symbolically celebrated on the day of Pentecost, when Brother Vincent presented the new Provincial with his letter of mission from the Superior General. All nine communities were represented at this celebration.

During the months of April and May, **Brother Gildas Prigent** visited his District. In **Japan**, the community has been reinforced by the arrival of two Canadian Brothers, who were previously in the Philippines. However, with the Brothers advancing in age and without Japanese vocations, it will be difficult to extend our presence in the country for long. The stage of selling our properties is now complete; we still need to move forward with the financial matters.

In the **Philippines**, the only community in San José now hosts the District's novitiate. Seven new novices (six Indonesians and one Filipino) entered the novitiate on June 6. In July, they will be joined by five second-year postulants from Yogyakarta. It is a great joy to see these young people

embarking on the path to becoming Brothers. All the Brothers know, however, that vocation ministry remains a major challenge for the District.

In **Indonesia**, the community of Yogyakarta, a formation community (scholasticate and 1st year postulancy) had only 2 permanent Brothers this year. The General Council witnessed the good fraternal atmosphere and greatly appreciated the animation of the prayer life.

The other two communities, Larantuka and Kupang, are communities of 4 or 3 Brothers. All are fully involved in the works - the Jean de la Mennais Primary School, the Pusat (Vocational School) and the Aspirancy at Larantuka - or as Brothers for studies at Kupang.

The whole District celebrated the 25th anniversary of the mission, on 5th July 2025 with great fervour: it was certainly a look back at the past, but above all an act of trust in Providence for the future of this mission, which is growing slowly but surely. It was moving to see all the different members of the local Church - the Bishop included - as well as the many friends and relatives of the Brothers, welcoming the General Government and thanking the Congregation for this small Mennaisian presence that only seeks to grow. On this occasion, the perpetual vows of Brother Adrianus Andi were also an important moment of thanksgiving and witness.

1.2 Economic Directory and Stable Patrimony

The 2024 General Chapter entrusted the drafting of the Institute's **Economic Directory** to the General Government. During this session, the General Council devoted time to arriving at a version that will be presented at the next meeting of Major Superiors next September in Rome.

The 2024 General Chapter had also entrusted to Brother Treasurer General the mission of "proceeding to a general identification of **the properties of the Institute** destined to guarantee its subsistence and to facilitate the realisation of its institutional ends" The General Council would like to thank all the Provinces and Districts that have sent a first list of properties -goods- that could be assigned to the stable patrimony of the Congregation. All this will again be on the agenda for the next meeting of the Major Superiors.

1.3 Meeting of the Major Superiors in Rome

A meeting of Major Superiors is planned to be held at the Casa Generalizia from 21 to 27 September 2025. As usual, such a meeting is first and foremost a time of ongoing formation, focused this time on the new Rule of Life. It is also a time for important exchanges on a number of subjects, such as the Economic Directory and the Stable Patrimony. It is also a moment of reflection - one year after the General Chapter - for the Commissions made up of Major Superiors that were set up in June 2024. This meeting will be the first for 4 new Provincials, Visitors or Delegates.

Finally, as part of the Jubilee, the General Government and the Major Superiors will make a pilgrimage to St Peter's Basilica.

1.4 Jubilee of Consecrated Life

The World Jubilee of Consecrated Life will be held in Rome from **8 to 12 October 2025**, with the participation of all consecrated persons belonging to the different expressions of the consecrated life present in the world. All are invited.

The first two days, 8 and 9 October 2025, will be organised by the Dicastery for Evangelisation in collaboration with the Dicastery for Consecrated Life. The days from 10 to 12 October will be

organised by the Dicastery of the Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life. (DICLSAL).

The communities of Rome and the General Government will participate in these days. Each Brother and Community is invited and encouraged to find information, and take part in the initiatives being organised at the diocesan or national levels in each country.

2. Decisions of Brother Superior General and his Council

2.1 Appointments

The Superior General, with the consent of his Council, appoint:

- **Brother Wilfrid Fara**, Director of the Scholasticate of Abidjan (Ivory Coast) for a new mandate of three (3) years.
- **Brother Daniel Lefrère**, Director of the Scholasticate of Yogyakarta (Indonesia) for a mandate of one (1) year.
- **Brother Zenobius Meo Pasu**, Director of the Postulate - 1st Year Postulants - at Yogyakarta (Indonesia) for a mandate of one (1) year.
- **Brother Franco Graziosi**, General Archivist of the Congregation for a new mandate of three (3) years.

2.2 Admission to perpetual profession

The Superior General, with the consent of his Council, admit to perpetual profession:

- Brothers **Erns DENIZE** and **Jean Roberson MATHIEU**, of the Province of St. Aloysius Gonzaga, Haiti.

2.3 Other decisions

- The Brother Superior General, with the consent of his Council, approved the Provincial and the District **texts of the Chapters of the Province of Jean de la Mennais and that of the District of Divina Providencia**.
- The Brother Superior General, with the consent of his Council, approved **the Accounts of the Provinces and Districts for the year 2024**, presented by Brother Treasurer General and the accounting firm, FIC Expertise, which oversees the Congregation's accounts.

3. Communication

Click Infos - No. 11 reached you at the end of June. From now on, the General Council will be responsible for producing each Click Infos during its ordinary sessions. It will therefore be published 3 times a year. It will be sent to your e-mail addresses as usual. Please contact the General Secretariat if you have any new e-mail addresses.

The next Click Infos will focus on the celebrations marking the 25th anniversary of the mission to Indonesia.

4. The General Council in Indonesia

After 15 days of Council in Yogyakarta, punctuated by 2 days of must-see visits to Indonesia's cultural heritage: the **Kraton of Yogyakarta** (the Sultan's palace) and the **Candi Borobudur Buddhist Temple** (dating from the 8th-9th centuries, reputed to be the largest Buddhist temple in the world); on 30 June the Brothers of the General Government flew to **Larantuka**.



It' is obvious that we were awaited! What a welcome from the Brothers, the young aspirants, the children and the teachers at the

school! A typically Indonesian welcome. During the days leading up to the feast on Saturday 5 July, the community expanded the space of its tent to welcome the confreres from the Philippines and East Timor, (unfortunately Brothers Eric and Philippe were unable to join us... problem of the visa!), as well as some members of the family of Brother Andi, the Brother who was to take the perpetual vows.



In the first days, we explored or rediscovered the town of **Larantuka**, which stretches 12 km along the coast: we visited the cathedral and made a pilgrimage to the origins of Christianity in Larantuka...



On Thursday 3 July, the General Council was invited to visit **the PRR Sisters (Daughters of the Queen of the Holy Rosary)**, who have a strong presence in Indonesia and have forged close links with the Brothers since the beginning of the mission.



An important gesture of remembrance: to gather around **the tomb of Brother Nico** (Nicolás Mediavilla), one of the 4 founders of the mission here in 2000, who



died following a bad Malaria attack in 2002. In a short space of time, he was able to project the image of a joyful Brother, dedicated to his mission, a Brother of young people, for young people.

Everyone was looking forward to 5 July: the celebration of the 25th anniversary of the mission in Indonesia, the perpetual vows of Brother Adrianus Andi, and the 40th anniversary of religious life of Brother Stéphane Le Pape, missionary from the District to East Timor.

Bishop Fransiskus Kopong Kung of Larantuka presided over the Eucharistic celebration. His words were powerful for everyone, for Brother Andi, Brother Stéphane and all the Brothers present. He recalled how important the presence of the Brothers of La Mennais was in his diocese. He hoped that the seed planted 25 years ago, which has begun to bear fruit, would continue to grow and multiply. Education, he continued, is a top priority for his diocese.

The celebration was full of colour, song, emotion, joy and shared smiles. Here, we feel that the word 'Bruder' (Brother) is important. It would take hundreds of photos to tell the whole story. See: www.lamennais.org



The celebrants with Brother Andi, newly perpetually professed, Brother Hervé Zamor, SG and Brother Stéphane le Pape celebrating 40 years of religious life.



Bishop Fransiskus of Larantuka and Brother Hervé Zamor sound the final gong of the 25th anniversary year of the mission in Indonesia. We now look forward to the 50th anniversary !

5. Calendar of the members of the General Council

Brother Hervé ZAMOR :

9 July – 2 August 2025 :	Rome
3 – 10 August 2025 :	Retreat (Online) with Brother of Haiti
11 – 26 August 2025 :	Rome
27 August – 3 September 2025 :	France
7 – 13 September 2025 :	Retreat of the General Council
21 – 27 September 2025 :	General Conference at Generalate, Rome.
15 September – 10 October 2025 :	General Council

Brother Jean-Paul PEUZE :

8 – 24 July :	Rome
25 July – 22 August :	Uganda
23 August – 5 September :	France
7 – 13 September 2025 :	Retreat of the General Council
21 – 27 September 2025 :	General Conference at Generalate, Rome.
15 September – 10 October 2025 :	General Council

Brother Vincent SSEKATE :

9 July – 27 July :	Rome
24 July – 25 August 2025:	St. Paul District: Retreat, Chapter, visit to Togo, Bénin.
26 August – 3 September :	France
7 – 13 September 2025 :	Retreat of the General Council
21 – 27 September 2025 :	General Conference at Generalate, Rome.
15 September – 10 October 2025 :	General Council

Brother Miguel ARISTONDO :

8 July	Spain
End of August	France
3 September	Rome
7 – 13 September 2025 :	Retreat of the General Council
21 – 27 September 2025 :	General Conference at Generalate, Rome.
15 September – 10 October 2025 :	General Council

Frère Gildas PRIGENT :

8 – 15 July :	Retreat of the Brothers in Indonesia
17 July – 17 August :	Yogyakarta
18 – 23 August :	Paris
23 August – 8 September :	Tahiti / Marquisas
8 – 13 September :	Paris
21 – 27 September 2025 :	General Conference at Generalate, Rome.
15 September – 10 October 2025 :	General Council

The next session of the General Council will take place in Rome, from 15 September to 10 October 2025.