

"Brothers, called to become conformed to the image of the Son"

ECHOES of the General Council



Number 120 – August – September 2026

The General Government of the Institute held its 8th ordinary session from 31st August to 3rd September at Nabinoonya (Uganda); and from 14th to 30th September 2026 at the Casa Generalizia in Rome. Between these two periods, two key events marked the life of the whole Institute and was enriched the discussions of the Major Superiors present: the General Conference from 4th to 11th September 2026 in Nabinoonya and the celebrations marking the centenary of the Brothers' presence in Uganda on 5th September.

Furthermore, this time spent in Uganda was punctuated by several visits – to Kitovu, Kasasa, Munyonyo, Kabojja, Kisubi St Mary's – and various meetings with Brothers: the novices and scholastics, the postulants from Kisubi, and a great many Brothers from the Province during the Centenary celebrations and the final festive evening organised at Nabinoonya.

The General Government extends its warmest thanks to the Province of St Teresa of the Child Jesus for the warm welcome received and for organising all these meetings.

On their return to Rome, the Brothers of the General Government resumed their work. These echoes carry the following information and the decisions taken, to the attention of the whole Congregation:

1. Animation of the Congregation

1.1 Echoes from the visits to the Provinces and Districts

Brother Hervé Zamor, Superior General, spent the period from **5th July to 13th August 2026 in Haiti**. He began by spending three weeks with his family, taking some time out to rest with his mother. The rest of his stay was spent visiting the Brothers in the metropolitan area and the South-East. He also took part in part of the Brothers' annual retreat, a special opportunity to share the joys and challenges facing our Institute.

On the afternoon of 11th August 2026, Brother Superior General animated a formation session for community superiors, to which all Brothers of perpetual vows were invited. The theme handled carried the title: *"The Superior, a Brother among his Brothers: leadership through service, accompaniment and conflict management"*.

The Province welcomes and receives with joy and gratitude the arrival of Brother Gaston Koumboum, originally from Togo, for a missionary placement in Haiti.

Closed in 2025 due to the prevailing insecurity in Port-au-Prince, the Postulate in Pétion-Ville reopened its doors on 15th September and is now hosting several postulants, including one in his second year.

Then Brother Superior General, accompanied by Brother Hervé Asse, Secretary General, spent a week in **Rwanda from 21st to 28th August 2026**. This visit had two objectives: to receive the **Perpetual vows of three Brothers from the District** and to **preside over the District Assembly**, preparations for

which had begun in February 2026. Five major themes were on the agenda: perseverance in religious life; the District's self-financing; the local Mennaisian Family; the evangelising mission of the educational institutions; and the future of the NGO - *Vision Jeunesse Nouvelle*.

Courageous decisions were taken. Their effective implementation should help the District to move forward with faith and confidence in the future.

Brother Jean-Paul Peuzé, prior to the meetings of the General Council and the General Conference, spent three weeks mainly visiting the formation houses of the Province of St Teresa of the Child Jesus. He also visited a number of schools and communities. At **Kabojja**, he visited the new secondary school, which already has a significant number of students – between 300 and 400 – and a community residence that is almost complete. Later, he travelled to the south: to **Kitovu** and to **Kyotera (La Mennais Secondary School)**, where he was able to see the progress being made on the future community residence. Finally, travelled to the north of the country where he visited **Comboni College** in Lira, which has recently been taken over by the Congregation, with a new community, having been officially opened in 2026.

As part of his role in accompanying the houses of formation, Brother Jean-Paul first visited the **Postulate at Kisubi**. The number of postulants is quite high this year, with a balanced distribution (11 in the first year and 10 in the second year). There is a notable presence of South Sudanese (2 in the first year and 5 in the second year). He then spent four days at the **Novitiate at Kasasa**, which has ten novices of five different nationalities (three from South Sudan, three from Kenya, two from Uganda, one from Tanzania and one from Rwanda). They form a rich and close-knit group, animated by a fine fraternal spirit.

The final stage of his visit to the houses of formation took him to the **scholasticate at Kisubi**, where he met the 29 scholastics and their formators. The overall impression gained from these personal meetings is positive. On the whole, the young scholastic Brothers say they are satisfied with their course of study and formation, as well as with the good relationship they have with their formators.

Brother Miguel Aristondo travelled to **Malloco, in Chile, from 18th to 20th July** to take part in an Assembly of the Brothers of the Divina Providencia District. Also attending this meeting were Brother Mario Houle, Provincial of Canada-USA, as well as Brother Mario Couture from Huatusco (Mexico) and Brother Gaétan Arseneault (Canada), who had been a missionary in Mexico for several years.

The aim of this Assembly was to gather, following discussions and discernment, the views of the Brothers of the District on the incorporation of the Huatusco mission into the Divina Providencia District. Brother Miguel welcomed the warm, fraternal atmosphere of the meeting, which had been prepared in advance by the Visitor's guidance in the communities on this subject. All expressed their support for the project, while acknowledging several challenges ahead, yet remaining confident in Divine Providence.

The Brothers of the Divina Providencia District are delighted by the presence of a young Mexican scholastic Brother in El Alto, Brother Angel de Gabriel, and of a Bolivian postulant, now on an apostolic placement in Maldonado (Uruguay), who is on track for possible entry into the Novitiate next year in February. Furthermore, the arrival of a young Ugandan Brother, Brother Aloysious Ssekajigo, in the District is also welcome news.

In early July, Brother Vincent Ssekate travelled to Moshi in Tanzania to preside over the Chapter of the Province of St Michael the Archangel. It was a significant moment for the Province, the direct outcome of which was the presentation of a document entitled ***“Renewed in Faith and strengthened in Hope”***, setting out seven themes for the Province's work and activities: renewing our spiritual life, sharing the good wine of our fraternal life, the service of educating with a compassionate heart as servants of hope, vocations ministry and initial and ongoing formation, the Mennaisian family mode, Provincial financial independence and the theme that handled a variety of priority concerns in the Province.

Brothers Vincent Ssekate, Gildas Prigent, Rony Pierre and Hervé ASSE, then, gathered in Ploërmel to lead and support the preparatory **session for Perpetual Vows, which ran from 12th July to 12th August. Twenty-three (23) young Brothers took part.**

1.2 Theme of the Year

All communities which begin their new year in September have received, through their Major Superior, the first booklet on the theme for the year: ***“Brothers, called to become conformed to the image of the Son”***.

The other booklets are in preparation. These should help each Brother to explore the new Rule of Life in greater depth, so that it may become the text of reference for his consecrated life as a religious educator.

1.3 International Commission of the Mennaisian Family

The International Commission of the Mennaisian Family will meet from **1st to 3rd March 2027** at the Mother House in Ploërmel, to prepare for the third International Assembly of the Mennaisian Family, is scheduled to take place from **21st to 24th August 2028 at the Mother House in Ploërmel**.

1.4 Tutti Fratelli Session

The Tutti Fratelli organisation is organising a new international session aimed at ***“Promoting a culture of vocation”***, with a particular focus on that of the ***“Religious Brother ”***. It is taking place in **Rome from 26th September to 24th October 2026**. A Brother of the Congregation is taking part in the session: Brother Walter Muñoz from the Divina Providencia District.

1.5 General Conference in Uganda

The General Conference took place in Uganda from 4th to 11th September 2026. The Congregation’s website reported on this event. It enabled all the Major Superiors present to take part in the **celebrations marking the centenary of the Brothers’ arrival in the country**.

Following this meeting, a letter from the Brother Superior General was sent to the communities through the Major Superiors. It may be read in community, followed by a community sharing.

1.6 Session of the Treasurers of Provinces and Districts

As previously announced, a formation session for the **Brothers Treasurer of the Provinces and Districts** is scheduled to take place at the Mother House in Ploërmel from **5th to 9th March 2027**. It will begin on the morning of 5 March and end on the afternoon of 9 March. This will be an opportunity to explore the Institute’s ***Economic Directory*** in greater depth and to share insights into the different economic realities within the Congregation.

2 Decisions of the Superior General and his Council

2.1 Nominations

The Brother Superior General, with the consent of his Council, appoints:

- in the services of formation:

- **Brother Paul MUAKA**, Director of the Postulate of Moshi (Tanzania) for a mandate of 3 years.
- **Brother Delefino MUHINDO**, Master of Novices at the Novitiate of Kasasa for a new mandate of 3 years.

- **Brother Benito ZAMPEDRI**, Master of Novices at the Novitiate of El Alto, for a new mandate of 3 years.
- in the General Administration services (from June 2027)
- **Brother Denis KATUSIIME**, for a service involving translation, research and formation on Mennesian spirituality. He has also been appointed the Postulator General.

2.2 Admissions to perpetual vows

The Brother Superior General, with the consent of his Council, admits the following Brothers to perpetual profession:

- Brothers **Alexander MUHWEZI**, **Emmanuel KOMAKECH**, **Justino ANDABATI**, **Mathias SENFUKA**, **Nalice MUBANGIZI** and **Vincent TUMUTEGERIZE**, Ugandans, of the Province of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus.

2.3 Other decisions

* Mission of Huatusco:

The Brother Superior General, with the consent of his Council, has decided to transfer the *mission in Huatusco (Mexico) to the Divina Providencia District*.

* Opening of a new community:

The Brother Superior General, with the consent of his Council, has given his approval for the opening of a new *community at Kabojja* (Uganda): the *Brother Stefano Bwanika Community*, named after one of the first five Ugandan Brothers.

* Accounts of the Congregation:

The Brother Superior General, with the consent of his Council, has approved the accounts of the Provinces and Districts for the year 2025, and also approved the provisional budget of the General Administration for the year 2027.

2.4 Generalate House

The first authorisation for the sale of the Casa was received from the Diocese of Rome (Vicariate) on 11th September. The sale documents were immediately forwarded to the Dicastery for Consecrated Life to obtain the indult, which is mandatory when selling religious property where the sale price exceeds the threshold set by the Dicastery.

Given the timeframes involved, it is no longer feasible to leave Rome before the end of the year. It will instead be in early 2027, or even after the General Council in February 2027.

Calendar of the members of the General Council

Brother Hervé ZAMOR:

1 October – 10 November 2026:	Rome
10 November – 30 November 2026:	Haiti
7 – 14 December 2026:	Timor East
15 – 31 December 2026:	Rome
7 January – 4 February 2027:	Spain
15 – 26 February 2027:	General Council – Rome
1 – 3 March 2027:	ICMF Meeting – Ploërmel
5 – 9 March 2027:	Session of Brothers Treasurer of Provinces -Districts – Ploërmel

Brother Jean-Paul PEUZÉ:

01 October – 11 November:	Rome
12 – 30 November:	Ivory Coast – Scolasticate of Abidjan
1 – 14 December:	Ploërmel, France
15 December – 15 January:	Rome
15 – 24 January:	Rwanda formation
25 January – 14 February:	Rome
15 – 26 February 2027:	General Council – Rome
1 – 3 March 2027:	ICMF Meeting – Ploërmel
5 – 9 March 2027:	Session of Brothers Treasurer of Provinces -Districts – Ploërmel

Brother Vincent SSEKATE:

5 – 16 October:	Session Tutti Fratelli – service of translation
16 October – 20 November:	Rome
20 November – 25 January 2027:	Uganda and Tanzania – Kenya
15 – 26 February 2027:	General Council – Rome
1 – 3 March 2027:	ICMF Meeting – Ploërmel
5 – 9 March 2027:	Session of Brothers Treasurer of Provinces -Districts – Ploërmel

Brother Miguel ARISTONDO:

14 October – 17 December:	Spain
17 December – 7 January:	Rome
7 January – 10 February:	Spain
15 – 26 February 2027:	General Council – Rome
1 – 3 March 2027:	ICMF Meeting – Ploërmel
5 – 9 March 2027:	Session of Brothers Treasurer of Provinces -Districts – Ploërmel

Brother Gildas PRIGENT:

12 – 26 October 2026:	Indonesia
26 October – 1er November 2026:	Japan
2 – 12 November 2026:	Philippines
12 – 7 December 2026:	Indonesia
7 – 14 December 2026:	Timor East
15 December – 15 January 2027:	Indonesia
15 January – 13 February 2027:	Rwanda and Democratic Rep. Congo
15 – 26 February 2027:	General Council – Rome
1 – 9 March 2027:	ICMF Meeting - Brothers Treasurer session –Ploërmel

Next General Council in, 15 – 26 February 2027