

ECHOES

Of the GENERAL COUNCIL

N° 53

September-October 2005

During the September-October session, the General Council devoted most of its time to the preparation of the coming Chapter 2006, in particular in polishing and editing the documents which will be presented to the Chapter assembly: Rule of Life, Chapter Records and the Ratio. The Council also dealt with a few questions regarding the ordinary life of the Congregation. The text that follows will inform you, in a condensed way, of the works and decisions of this last ordinary session of the actual General Administration.

1. Chapter 2006: Preparation

Acting as «Preparation Committee» of Chapter 2006, the General Council had a dual task for this September-October session:

- To determine the context of the second step of the preparation that the whole Congregation is invited to make for the Chapter (2nd booklet).
- To finalize the various documents and texts to be presented to the Chapter assembly.

1.1 – Second Step in our preparation to the Chapter

All the Provinces and Vice-provinces have already sent to Rome the synthesis of the first step of preparation as outlined in the first booklet. "*To be reborn in hope*". First of all, from these syntheses, the Council has drawn out major themes, remarks and reflections. Then from this new global synthesis, the Council has elaborated orientations for the second step of our preparation "*on the way to the Chapter*". This preparation is done in the same spirit as the one of the disciples on the way to Emmaus, then turning back and returning to Jerusalem to be reunited to the community, after having recognized the Living One at the breaking of the Bread.

The Provinces and Vice-provinces will soon receive the second booklet, which guides the itinerary of the second step of preparation. This booklet will be distributed to the communities. It has some specific indications about how it is to be used, but its adaptation to local circumstances is left to the initiative of the local Major Superiors.

The synthesis of the work done in communities and provinces should reach the secretariat in Rome **no later than February 1, 2006.**

1.2 – Finalizing the documents to be presented to the Chapter Assembly

Three documents concerning the Congregation will be submitted to the coming Chapter, for study and then for approval.

- **The Rule of Life** which has to be updated, as requested to the Superior General and his Council at the end of Chapter 2000. "*The General Chapter 2000 requests that the Superior General*

and his Council do what is necessary to update the Constitutions, the Directory and the Chapter Records, in accord with the modifications approved by the Chapters of 1988, 1994 and 2000.”

- **The Chapter Records** have also been modified slightly in order to make the work of the chapter assembly more flexible and efficacious, while maintaining the liberty of speech and seriousness in the debates.
- **The « Ratio »**, the elaboration of which the whole Congregation has been asked to participate in has also been written in conformity with the clear demand of Chapter 2000, as well as to the repeated desire of the Church. In the September-October 2005 session, the General Council has reviewed the whole document in view of presenting it the Chapter Assembly.

By the end of year 2005, the Chapter Delegates will receive these three documents for personal study before the Chapter itself. As much as possible, they must solicit the advice of the brothers and the communities on these three documents.

2. Decisions of the Superior General and of his Council

2.1 – Nominations

Brother Superior General has appointed, with the consent of his Council:

1. Br. Benito ZAMPEDRI, Assistant-Provincial of the Province of Argentina – Uruguay, for a mandate of 3 years.
2. Br. John Fisher NJOGERERE, Director of the Scholasticate of Uganda (Kisubi) for a mandate of 3 years.
3. Br. Rafael PÉREZ, Director of the Scholasticate of Spain, for a mandate of 2 years.

2.2 -- Admission to perpetual vows

Were admitted to perpetual vows:

1. Br. Kristantus KAHUKA (Tanzania-Kenya -- KT)
2. Br. Nataly KARUNDI (KT)
3. Br. Anthony KITHINGI (KT)
4. Br. Firmin MKENDA (KT)
5. Br. Essau MLENGULE (KT)
6. Br. Wilson MUTETHIA (KT)
7. Br. Bernard MWENDA (KT)
8. Br. Glorian AHIMBISIBWE (Uganda – U)
9. Br. Simon Peter BAMUGAYA (U)
10. Br. Wilbroad BEYENDEZA (U)
11. Br. Martin MANYANGWA (U)
12. Br. Robert MUKASA (U)
13. Br. Eusebius NGABIRANO (U)
14. Br. Anselm NSEMEREIRWE (U)
15. Br. Barnabas TUMUHEISE (U)
16. Br. Siliaco TURYATEMBA (U).

<p>The session of the Council preceding the Chapter will be held in Rome, from February 13, 2006</p>
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