



SHARING LIFE AND THE JOURNEY WITH YOUNG PEOPLE

“We dream of a Congregation, audacious and itinerant that, sent by the Spirit of the Lord (cf. Lk 4:18; Acts 8:28.39), goes forth towards the peripheries, approaches youth, walks with them and encourages them to respond to the God of call” - Querida Congregación, 63.

The fourth part of the dream of the XXVI General Chapter challenges us with the audacity and itinerancy with which the Spirit encourages the Congregation to go out to the peripheries and to encounter young people. In continuity with the XXV General Chapter, the scenarios proposed to us are the settings in which we verify our commitment to pastoral conversion and missionary outreach already proposed to us in the Chapter exhortation *Missionari Sumus*, 67-68 (2015).

Luke's passages illustrate what we understand by audacity, itinerancy, and protagonism of the Spirit in mission. On the one hand, the Gospel passage refers to our fundamental congregational Christology (CC 3). It is a text that Fr. Claret understands in a “very particular way” and that he applies both to himself and all his “companions” (cf. Aut. 118; 687). On the other hand, the text of the Acts of the Apostles

places us in a peripheral environment: the desert road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza. Philip's attention to the motions of the Spirit translates into obedience and departure: he stands up and sets out diligently where the Lord indicates to him, and there he shares the journey of an Ethiopian official to whom he announces Jesus Christ in an attitude of listening and prophetic dialogue.

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The dream of the Congregation draws us to peripheral contexts and proposes mission as an encounter, dialogue, and a shared journey. Therefore, in keeping with the commitments made by the XXVI General Chapter, the General Government proposes, among other minor issues, the following with regard to the youth and vocation ministry (YVM) of the Congregation:

1) To give continuity to the processes of YVM organized in Claretian Family (CF). That is:

- (a) To share the criteria and lines of action of Claretian YVM agreed upon in the course for leaders of YVM.
- (b) To strengthen the worldwide network of Claret Way youth at its different levels.
- (c) To strengthen the continental teams of YVM in the CF.
- (d) To give entity to the proposal "a fire that enkindles the heart" with vocational keys for the Claretian youth ministry.
- (e) Encourage participation in the World Youth Days, WYD Claret Way.
- (f) To propose missionary volunteer programs for young people on different continents.
- (g) Continue sharing Claretian YVM experiences.

2) To elaborate a systematic communication plan, formation, and accompaniment for the CMFF leaders of the Major Organisms (cf. QC 82, 85).

3) Promote May 31 as Claretian Vocation Day with various activities and initiatives in the local communities (cf. QC 83, 85).

4) Strengthen the bond of cooperation and commitment between the YVM and the SOMI team.

5) Offer subsidies and criteria for accompaniment and Claretian vocational discernment, as well as for teamwork.

6) Rethink and rework the Claretian Vocation Directory (2000).

7) Promote prayer for vocations to the Congregation.

8) Continue to encourage in CF the reflection of educators on the formation of values, the transmission of the Gospel, and the attention to the most vulnerable.

Bro. Carlos Verga CMF

General Prefect of Youth Ministry and Vocations

POPE FRANCIS APPRECIATES OUR SYNODAL JOURNEY

Vatican City. On 26 November, during the papal audience of the Union of Superior Generals (USG) in the context of its 98th General Assembly, Pope Francis chose to have an open conversation with them instead of reading the prepared text.

Speaking of the synodal journey that Consecrated Life is making, the Pope gave as an example our last General Chapter, mentioning the participation in it of Sr. Jolanda Kafka, RMI, Superior General of the Claretian Missionary Sisters, and commented on how congregations can mutually enrich each other in the synodal journey. The pontiff pointed out how feminine wisdom complements and enriches the Church, which is essentially Marian: spouse and mother. At the conclusion of the conversation, he again mentioned our General Chapter and the synodal way in which it was conducted.



THE GENERAL SUPERIORS SPEAK ABOUT JPIC AND SOUTH SUDAN



Rome, Italy. During the USG General Assembly, the General Superiors listened to the coordinators of Justice, Peace, and Integrity of Creation (JPIC) from various institutions. Among them was Fr. Vincent Anesthasiar, CMF, JPIC Secretary of our Congregation. Fr. Vincent spoke about the presence of the themes of Solidarity and Mission in our formation processes.

Another important part of the meeting was dedicated to the project 'Solidarity with South Sudan', to which the Congregation has been linked since its beginnings (2008). About twenty religious (including Fr. John Christy, CMF, of St. Joseph Vaz Delegation)

are currently promoting the project on the ground. In addition to the fourteen congregations that support the initiative by providing their own missionaries, there are 245 others that offer their financial collaboration. Like other Claretians before, Fr. Vincent is today, part of the Project's Board of Directors.

GOVERNMENT

A CONGREGATION GOING FORTH: ENCOUNTER WITH MAJOR SUPERIORS AND SECRETARIES

Rome, Italy. Following the proceedings of the Encounter in Kenya, a brief but essential encounter of the members of the General Government, Major Superiors, and Secretaries of Major Organisms took place online on November 11.

Fr. Mathew Vattamattam, CMF, pointed out the need to follow the steps established in the General Chapter and which the Major Organisms have imbibed, as seen in their different Chapter and Assembly documents. He then reiterated



the need for everyone to work together and presented some activities for this sexennium, projects, commissions, and their missions on behalf of the Congregation.

Some commissions include – Discerning Leadership, Constitution Renewal, Protection of Minors, Claretian Sanctuaries, Spiritual Congress, Institutes of Consecrated Life, and others. He encouraged all to be positive in carrying out these works for the church's good and the salvation of all.

SPIRITUALITY

FORGE PARTICIPANTS' PILGRIMAGE TO ROME



Rome, Italy. Forge 06/22 participants had a memorable pilgrimage to Rome, walking the footsteps of Saints Peter and Paul, of the early Christian community and their martyrs, and of Father Claret, who spent considerable time in Rome. The group stayed in the Eternal City from November 12-19 as the core experience of the second phase of the Forge Encounter – Caritas Christi. The participants, through this experience, lived the second process of transformation in the *Querida Congregación* key: "Rooted in Christ as a community of brothers in faith, witnesses, and messengers of the Gospel."

This is the first time the Forge group has undertaken a pilgrimage to Rome as part of their experience. In previous years, the groups visited the Holy Land to walk in the land where Jesus Christ walked. However, the logistical difficulties exacerbated by the post-pandemic new normal necessitated a change.



The group visited key holy places like the four major basilicas and catacombs in Rome, the places where Claret set foot when he was in Rome, and Assisi. One of the high points of the visit was the participation in the general audience by Pope Francis and listening to his reflection on "discernment," a theme very central to the Chapter Exhortation, *Querida Congregación*.

MISSION PROCURE

PROCLADE FOUNDATION AND THE PROCURE CONTINUE TO WORK



Rome, Italy. At the end of October, following its practice of meeting twice a year, the Mission Procure General Council, gave the green light to 53 of the 89 projects referred to it, approved the 2023 program of the Prisma formation project, and urged an increase in the number of Claretians trained in project management and evaluation.

A few days later, the Board of Directors of *Proclade Internazionale Onlus* reviewed the nearly 140 projects in which the Foundation collaborated in the first ten months of 2022 and made some forecasts for 2023. With the donations received, Proclade supported nearly 40 projects, was able to finalize more than 20 and provided advisory or intermediary services to nearly 90.

The Procure and Proclade Foundation work throughout the year and are in weekly contact with numerous interlocutors in various parts of our Congregation and with several agencies and donors from various continents.

ACLA

MAIDEN ACLA BIBLE CONGRESS



Abuja, Nigeria. As Listeners and Servants of the Word in Africa as well as evangelizing with the intelligent use of the various means of communication, ACLA organized its Bible Assembly under the guidance of the General Prefect of Bible Ministry and Communication, Fr. Henry Omonisaye, CMF, on November 6-12, 2022, at the Institute of Consecrated Life in Africa (INCLA), Bwari, Abuja with thirty-two participants including RMI and Lay Claretians. The conference aimed to coordinate the pastoral activities of the Prefectures of Bible Ministry and Communication in ACLA and to design the concrete pastoral



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biblical plan for ACLA with the key of the biblical animation of all pastoral ministries.

Aside from Fr. Henry, the Congress also invited other speakers who dealt with biblical hermeneutics, bible formation for laity and catechists, the relationship of the publication ministry of the Congregation with the bible ministry, looking at Claret as a Cybermissionary with the aim of evangelizing the whole world. The Assembly ended with the formation of the continental Bible and Communication Team.

AN ASSEMBLY OF DISCOVERY



Karen, Kenya. Forty-nine members of St. Charles Lwanga Independent Delegation gathered from November 22 to 23 in Karen, Nairobi to celebrate its General Assembly animated by Fr. Henry Omonisaye, CMF, Vicar General and Prefect of Biblical Ministry and Communication. They were joined by Fr. Christi John, CMF, of St. Joseph Vaz Delegation, currently working in South Sudan, who was there to attend the annual retreat preached by Fr. Henry. A student of the Delegation was invited to join.

The Assembly provided a conducive moment for interaction among the Claretian missionaries working in different missions in the Delegation. It was also a moment to share their growth process as delegation members. They identified the seeds, weeds, and challenges of their missionary living in the Delegation. The Assembly concluded with the first profession and the priestly ordination silver jubilee of some of their members.

ASCLA WEST

EXTRAORDINARY ASSEMBLY OF ST. JOSEPH VAZ



Colombo, Sri Lanka. The Extraordinary Assembly of St. Joseph Vaz Independent Delegation took place on November 15-16 in Sri Lanka with Fr. Manuel Tamargo, CMF, General Econome as presider. The Assembly focused on developing a Self-Sustainability Delegation Plan in its fourth year as a Major Organism. It also dedicated time to dealing with economic management and the economic realities of the Delegation.

ST. CLARET SEMINARY OF UMSNING SILVER JUBILEE AND THE NEW MISSION IN IMPHAL



Umsning, India. St. Claret Seminary in Umsning opened on November 19 the beginning of the series of celebrations that will continue for several months, as it celebrates its 25th anniversary as a formation house. Present were the Archbishop of Shillong, Msgr. Victor Lyngdoh, some members of the Independent Delegation of Northeast India, and priests and religious friends of the community. During the day, a new grotto with the statue of Father Claret were blessed.

On the other hand, the Delegation also recently opened a new mission in the Archdiocese of Imphal, Manipur. A celebration brought together the Archbishop of Imphal, Msgr. Dominic Lumon, many parishioners, Fr. Pius Thuruthiyil CMF, Major Superior of the Delegation, and some Claretians at the Lungthulien Mission on November 16. The mission is located in a very remote area and aims at evangelization and special attention to education.



ECLA

CAMPUS MINISTRY, A DARING PERIPHERY



Spain-Portugal. Although, as in other areas of the world, it is not easy to live the faith in the university, the Claretians of Spain and Portugal continue trying to accompany the Christian growth of the young people studying at the universities. Four Claretian communities live with them in Madrid (Santiago), Pamplona (Sanctus Paulus) and Lisbon (Fatima).

In November, Spanish public television twice looked at the experience of faith accompaniment that the Province of Santiago animates in the Alcalá and Jaime del Amo Claret Schools in



MICLA

BIBLICAL ANIMATORS MEETING



Madrid, where eight missionaries live with three hundred and twenty young people, accompanying their quests, difficulties, and progress. The pastoral coordination of both centers, entrusted to a young layman, discerns with missionaries and students how to articulate the life of faith in both schools, very much shared with other young people in a structure known as 'shared ministry'. The schools join together to share activities, offer reference groups, and spaces for dialogue and reflection on 'faith and life' and areas of commitment, volunteering, solidarity, and commitment to justice.

The pastoral teams, in which the commitment of the young people themselves is ever greater, participate in Claretian encounters and the life of the Local Churches. The proclamation and the proposal of faith occupy a central place in the projects of the high schools, in whose management teams there is a notable presence of lay people.

Chaclacayo, Peru. The biblical animators of the parishes, schools, communities and mission centers of the Province of Peru-Bolivia gathered at the Father Claret Retreat House in Chaclacayo from November 14 to 20 to take a break from the missionary days and share how their ministry is developing.

The meeting was animated by several people. Fr. Victor Alejandro Matute, CMF, presented the experience of Claret as a spiritual itinerary using the imagery of the forge. Elizabeth Gareca used 1Pt. 2:4 to speak about the co-responsibility in the fraternity of all the baptized; and Jaime Michea presented the biblical journey of America, the process of transformation and discovery from the biblical apostolate, the biblical movements, the pastoral ministry and the biblical animation of all pastoral ministry. Michea also presented the guidelines for the Biblical Animation of Pastoral Ministry for Latin America and the Caribbean based on the experience of the pilgrims to Emmaus (Lk 24: 13-35) and the recognition of the presence of God in the places of encounter indicated in the story: "The road", "The Scriptures", "The house" and "The community".

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Beginning January 2023, as agreed at the meeting of the Major Superiors and the General Government in Nairobi, NUNC will no longer be printed and the Communication Department of the General Government in Rome will only send digital copies in PDF format to the Secretaries of the Major Organisms.

Therefore, it is now the responsibility of the Major Organisms to distribute them to their communities and members and to print a copy for the Provincial/ Delegation Archives.

CLARETIAN FAMILY



MEETING OF THE CLARETIAN FAMILY TEAM

Vic, Spain. As agreed in 2021, the Claretian Family Team (CFT) met in Vic from November 11-13, with the attendance of Br. Carlos Verga, CMF, General Consultor. Sr. María Gracia García Baquero, MIC, Superior General of the Missionary Sisters of the Claretian Institution and president *pro tempore* of the Team, animated the dialogue on the agreements of the X Family Encounter, held eleven months earlier in Rome.

The conclusions were divided into four topics: 1) communication in the family dimension; 2) the presentation of the Claretian Family and the charismatic traits common to all the branches; 3) a common proposal for online formation with an annual meeting for the next three years; and 4) the elaboration of statutes that will allow the Holy See to recognize the Claretian Family as a charismatic family in the Church.

Fr. Sebin Mundackal, CMF, from the Spirituality Center of Vic (CESC), animated a formative moment on key facts and historical characters in the journey of the Family.

The members of the Team enjoyed visiting the Claretian museums of Vic, Reus and Sallent, and meeting with various communities of the Family in the area: RMI of Sarrià and Reus; MIC of Vic, and Claretians of Vic and Sallent.



CALLED TO THE HOUSE OF THE FATHER

NOVEMBER 2022

03 BR. JOAQUIN CANTILLO VALENZUELA

at 98 in Bogota, Colombia
Colombia Oriental-Ecuador Province

17 FR. JOSÉ FÉLIX NUÑEZ CARRANZA

at 84 in Bayamón, Puerto Rico
Antillas Delegation

19 FR. RAMÓN RUIZ FERNÁNDEZ

at 88 in Puertollano, Spain
Santiago Province

23 FR. ESTEBAN DE JESÚS HENAO ZULUAGA

at 87 in La Estrella, Colombia
Colombia-Venezuela Province

26 FR. REMIGIO RAMÓN CHMELAR VACA

at 76 in Chascomús, Argentina
San José del Sur Province

28 BR. GASPAR CAPELLÁN CAÑAS

at 92 in Zaragoza, España
Santiago Province