



Guanella NEWS

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It's time to move on!'***

'It's September, let's go! It's time to move on!'

These words are the beginning of a poem written by the Italian poet D'Annunzio, a poem that students in Italy were used to memorize at school. It was also an explicit invitation from our teachers to start the new school year with enthusiasm (without shedding tears on vacation days just ended!) Here in Italy the new school year starts in September and ends in June.

While this month marks the beginning of a new social and school year among the confreres in Italy, United States and Africa, the same cannot be said for Latin America and Asia where our confreres are in the full swing of activity. Because of such calendar differences, it is not always easy for the General Council to synchronize its service of animation with the variety of countries where the Congregation carries out her ministry.

We mean to underline here the great variety of experiences and mission works of a Congregation like ours that embraces now the whole world. From this worldwide perspective, I would like to offer some thoughts on our mission within our globalized world. Today we dispose of a variety of social media that makes us more easily citizens of the whole world. At the same time, we could be tempted to use such technological means to create around us a closed circle of private friendships that make us unable to open ourselves to a true and universal communion.

From the very beginning of our formation, we have learned the value of fraternal communion as an essential element of our religious life. It is a communion founded on Jesus Christ and his Church. We experience our belonging to the Congregation wi-

thin its diversities as part of a lively and united organism. Each one of us is part of the history of love that makes us one in developing the charism received from the Lord.

We are all aware that we are different and limited. However, it is precisely through these different gifts that the riches of the evangelization of different persons and peoples is accomplished. It is from this belief that the availability to serve the Congregation in different parts of the world spills out and flows. We don't need to be perfect to announce the Kingdom of God. No one is worthy enough or prepared enough to do it, because everything is grace.

The Lord simply asks us to tell the story of how He was able to enter into our life and to stir up into our hearts the passion to serve Him among the poor, whatsoever their social status and nationality may be. We should give thanks to those confreres who, in the past but also in our present time, have made themselves available to leave their homeland to serve the poor in other countries and cultures.

The vow of obedience, for sure, was the main reason to take that step. But obedience to the Superiors is not enough to sustain the generosity requested by the mission.



***'A New Guanellian Mission
in the Solomon Island'***



From the General Council



It is necessary the grace and the firm belief that we are answering God's Word, a Word that gives us the certainty of doing the divine will and not ours. To-

day, the Lord speaks to us especially through the Holy Father and his appeals to mercy, to concrete spiritual and corporal works of mercy, to get out of our cocoons, to give a more personal atten-

tion to the poor; to offer hospitality to refugees... It's up to us to show more creativity in interpreting today history from our charism's perspective. Besides our personal commitment and availability, it would be good to check how the projects of the Congregation and the Provinces aim at developing missionary mentality and openness, that is the capability of reaching out to poverties that are far from us or to the poor who are less protected. Even our Chapters remind us repeatedly to open in our Houses and Guanellian parishes less bureaucratic spaces of charity where we can more directly express our personal involvement with the poor. The many refugees constantly arriving in Italy – for instance – have become the occasion to start new charitable activities in some of our Houses. This example should be imitated and supported by everyone! This issue applies also to the whole Congregation because we have the responsibility to balance our mission involvement between the long-time-established Houses and other charitable centers that are more peripheral and in deeper need of support. We have to invest our best resources where the needs are more evident. Every Province faces this variety of structures and needs. That is good because the Houses better organized can help those in a more precarious situation. The Founder was urging such cooperation. At times, we hear confreres lamenting the fact that we dedicate perhaps too many resources to a class of poor who are already protected by the State or by the private charity, making us running the risk of becoming bureaucrats, leaving therefore behind the most forgotten and abandoned poor to whom our charismatic mission primarily sends us. We should be able to make this discernment - as the number 72 of our Constitutions reminds us – so that we can keep alive and diversified the answers of the Congregation to the new poverties. Allow me to make some concrete appeals to rekindle enthusiasm and openness toward our universal mission, even at a personal level.



1. All of us should strengthen our personal apostolic spirituality, because all of us are missionaries and evangelizers by deed, prayer and sacrifice. We should give our personal support to the confreres who feel called to live more directly with the poor in some experimental and even risky activity. The intercultural dimension of our congregation should be strengthened through our commitment to build fraternity inside our inter-provincial religious communities.

2. The young confreres should freely offer their availability to be missionaries -even outside his own country - with generosity and personal involvement. There are many confreres who have moved out of their nations to help and strengthen different Communities of our Provinces. I take the opportunity here to thank them on behalf of the poor to whom they were sent, and on behalf of the Congregation herself, because she has the possibility to expand her works of charity through new presences or by offering support to some community in difficulty. Even today, the Founder would say, "We cannot stop..."

3. It is also necessary a serious discernment by the Provincial Councils to strengthen in a privileged way the charitable presences that are more peripheral within their Province, both regarding geography and their situation of poverty. It is certainly not a loss to the Province to invest its best resources in such missions!

4. Still valid are the guidelines given by the last General Consultation regarding the proper welcoming in the local community of the confreres coming from another Province. We have to help them in their process of enculturation and active insertion in the community. The document, "Missionary spirit and establishing inter-cultural Communities", can be found in the web-site among the documents of the General Council.

In this time of particular blessings from the Lord for new Guanellian vocations, I invite every one of you to give thanks to the Holy Spirit and to collaborate with Him so that generous answers to help the spreading of our mission of charity will be never lacking.

My fraternal best wishes to you.

Don Alfonso Crippa



‘A NEW GUANELLIAN MISSION IN THE SOLOMON ISLANDS’

In the jubilee year of Mercy, Divine Providence opens up a new door to our service of charity in the fifth continent, the Oceania.

August 13 2016. Another significant day in the history of our family of disciples\missionaries of the gospel. In simplicity, without making much noise, silently like the canoes of the fishermen sliding quietly on the ocean, two guanellians land in the mission parish of St. Eusebius in Noro; they are Fr. Mathias Lourdusamy from India accompanied by Fr. Luigi De Giambattista, general councilor from Rome.

They reach the shores of the Western Region of the Solomon's, an archipelagos of about a thousand islands of which only a portion is populated by indigenous communities of more or less six hundred thousand people, of mixed cultures: Melanesians, Polynesians, Micronesians.

It is among them, and more precisely among the small flock of the Gizo Diocese, that our missionaries have very recently landed, answering a pleading appeal coming from a zealous shepherd, the Salesian missionary bishop Luciano Capelli, a long-time friend of the guanellians also because he himself was born in the valleys of our Founder. In the



impossibility of personally accompanying our pioneers, as he had wished to do, the good bishop had chosen to preside the 'mission sending rite' that officially marks the beginning of our new adventure in Oceania, toward the edges of the world and the peripheries of the Church. That took place in the morning of August 5, in Fraciscio, the birthplace of don Guanella, in the very room \chapel of our Saint. At the end of a simple and touching Eucharistic celebration, bishop Capelli blessed and entrusted to our general superior Fr. Alfonso Crippa the missionary crucifix to be brought to the Solomon's.

From the Alpine mountains among which the flower of the guanellian charism sprouted...to the boundless horizons of the Pacific Ocean in the southern hemisphere...! It could appear a crazy illusion, a sort of running after impossible dreams, an attempt to aim at unrealistic challenges. Instead, it is simply a response to a call from a 'Church of the periphery' that begs for a listening attention, an appeal for companionship in her pilgrimage and commitment of evangelization and human promotion. A small Church community, made of a few thousand people, poor of means and even poorer of shepherds and good samaritans, of men who would not just pass by and move forward... but who would stop and take time to care for those who, being islands' dwellers feel too often also the pain of being isolated, forgotten, and even abused by people who not only denude their gorgeous forests but hurt more deeply by ignoring and attacking human dignity.

We are in the Solomon islands aiming at accompanying the journey of that local Church by sharing, as the bishop has consistently requested from us, the specific gift of our guanellian vocation and mission, made available to all but in a special way to the most fragile, vulnerable and wounded brethren. Our Missionaries are certainly not wasting time. Since the very onset of our presence in those islands, they have gone out searching for those whom don Guanella used to call our treasure and God's favorites on. They have already become their special friends.

Divine Providence has associated to our mission, in this initial stage, a priest from the Diocese of Ooty, Tamil Nadu, a longtime friend and close collaborator of our communities in South India.



Fr Antonysamy, or for short Fr.Tony, has landed in Noro ahead of our confreres; he is there to share with youthful enthusiasm and competence our adventure, serving as 'parish priest' of St Eusebius and fully involved in our pastoral and charitable ministry. The mission parish of St Eusebius reaches out to many small Christian communities spread out in various villages and islands, most of them reachable only by boat. Roads are few there. The main highway is the open ocean!

Besides serving the communities surrounding the main parochial church, we reach out to people gathering in other chapels and mission posts. The field of work is wide and open to receive the seed of

the Gospel of Love, planted little by little, person to person, day by day. It is indeed a matter of giving and receiving the blessings that the Heavenly Father in his mercy and providence keeps pouring on his children. It is a call to breathe in with the poor and the little ones the fragrance of the Gospel that, if welcome, can change life and fill with gladness our life and communities, even when we struggle with our daily fatigue and challenges.

You go out of the Solomon's cherishing the harmony of the indigenous songs and dances that beautify every local liturgical and cultural celebration. You leave their place holding in your eyes and heart the picture of many smiling faces of children, true richness and signs of hope of the Archipelagos. You carry within you a deep sense of gratitude for having experienced in the farthest peripheries of our world the loving presence of the God of Life who leaves everywhere his traces and makes his fatherly appeal knock at our hearts. It is up to us to pay attention to such calls and to open wide our hearth and hands, with trust, courage, generosity.

P. Luigi De Giambattista

Appuntamenti e viaggi del Consiglio Generale

- **P. Ciro.: Visita in Romania (14-19 settembre)**
- **P. Luigi: Visita in Germania (15-21 settembre)**
- **Raduno di Consiglio: 17-18 ottobre**
- **Don Gustavo: Stati Uniti dal 19 al 25 ottobre.**
- **Don Alfonso e Don Ciro: Provincia Guadalupe e Provincia Santa Cruz 27 ottobre e rientra il 25 novembre.**



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FROM THE GENERAL COUNCIL

Even for the General Council, the month of September is the month of back to work and planning. With a day of recollection, we began our 56th Council Meeting on Monday, September 5, until Thursday, September 6.

We have remembered the last confreres who passed away recently, Bro. Arilson Bordignon and Fr. Giuseppe Giannini.

We gave the authorization for Incardination to a Diocese to two confreres (P. Hugo Julian, P. Sergio Cejas) who for some years are exercising their priestly ministry and preparing themselves to be incardinated in a Diocese.

Before dealing with issues concerning our Provinces, we took into consideration the different organisms which are depending from the General House:

- The Pious Union of St. Joseph and the confreres who work there, Fr. Mario Carrera and Fr. Gabriele Cantaluppi. They know they have received from the Founder a great charismatic gift: the commitment to appreciate and spread the spirituality of St. Joseph through the prayer for the suffering and dying.

- Theological Seminary in Rome. In order to offer a more Guanellian spiritual accompaniment, we have decided to give our seminarians Fr. Gabriele Cantaluppi as an adjunct spiritual director.

- Centro Studi Guanelliani and General Postulator. We appreciate the rich program they presented, in particular the preparation of the last volume of the Opera Omnia and the publication of the Correspondence of Fr. Guanella completed with the last 350 letters recently found. We appreciated also the organization of the School for those who are in charge of the different 'Centri di Studio Guanelliani' in the world. This school should give its fruits by the constant efforts of the confreres in charge of studying, enculturating, and taking roots of the charism in the cultures and countries where the Congregation is.

- New web-site. Every confreres received the News Letter informing them on this new technological instrument with the request of spreading it and to collaborate to it.

We are happy to inform you of the availability of confreres willing to leave back their native country and go to other places as missionaries, especially to help communities who are in need.

Three confreres from India, Fr. Amalor, Fr. Leo Joseph, and Fr. Franklin, will finally leave India (after a long delay caused by the U.S. bureaucracy) for Chelsea, USA. Another confrere from India, Fr. Kalai will be with Fr. Bakthis in Romania where, in collaboration with our Sisters, a new activity for a small group of adolescents was open at Iesi, Romania. Two more confreres from India, Fr. Baskar L. and Fr. Paul Raj, are sent to the Roman Province as pastoral collaborators, while Fr. Maria Paul is destined to the Sacred Heart Province.

We should particularly remember in our prayer our confrere Fr. Matthias and the Indian diocesan priest Fr. Tony who are already at the Solomon Islands. But we should also add to them the confrere Fr. Arockiaraj who is ready to join them very soon and with him, we remember also Fr. Giancarlo and Fr. Maximus who are ready for their new mission in Tanzania.

Hopefully, other confreres may express their availability to join either new missions or to consolidate those in need! Take courage!

In regard of other Provinces, we inform that Fr. Edenilso is substituting the deceased Bro. Arilson as fourth councilor of the Brazilian Province.

Members of the General Council:

Fr. Ciro will be visiting Romania (September 14-19)

Fr. Luigi will visit Germany (September 15-21)

Fr. Gustavo will be in the United States of America from October 19 to 25.

Best wishes to all.

News di Congregazione

Anniversari di professione religiosa e sacerdozio

- ✓ Il 22.06 **Don Marco Riva** ha celebrato il 25° anniversario di ordinazione sacerdotale.
- ✓ Il 20.07, **P. Alberto Alipio Vera M.** ha celebrato il 25° anniversario di ordinazione sacerdotale.
- ✓ Il 10.08, **P. César A. Leiva**, ha celebrato il 25° anniversario di ordinazione sacerdotale.
- ✓ Il 12.08. **P. Egwuatu Gilbert Edigbo**, ha celebrato il 10 ° anniversario di ordinazione sacerdotale.
- ✓ Il 20.08 celebrano il 10° anniversario di professione religiosa: **Anamelechi Don Amafule Jude, Azbuike Don Anthony Nnamdi, Egbujor Don Chidiebere Basil, Kawanda Mboma Don Gabriel, Ngobua Don Isaac Tarkar, Nnani Don Ikenna Emmanuel, Nwagboso Don Ifeanyichukwu Isaac.**
- ✓ Il 07.09, **P. Juan Manuel Arija García**, ha celebrato il 25° anniversario di sacerdozio.
- ✓ L'08.09, **Don Tommaso Gigliola, Don Calogero Proietto e Don Johnson Xavierraj** hanno celebrato il 25° anniversario di professione religiosa.
- ✓ Il 24.09, **Don Donato Lioi, Don Francesco Bernardin, Don Albino Bernasconi, Don Giovanni Ceriotti e Don Silvio Sperotto** celebreranno il 50° anniversario di professione religiosa.

Eventi di Consacrazione

- ✓ Il 03.06 a Legaspi, nelle Filippine, hanno emesso la prima professione religiosa: **Hoang, John Baptist e Christian Magdaon.**
- ✓ Il 18 giugno, a Jos in Nigeria è stato ordinato sacerdote il Diacono **Paul Rude Ibrahim.**
- ✓ Il 26.06 nella nostra Parrocchia de La Piedad, in Asunción, Paraguay, ha emesso la professione religiosa in perpetuo **Fr. Teodolino Cañete Espínola.**
- ✓ Il 03.07 sono stati ordinati sacerdoti a Kinshasa, nella Rd del Congo, i diaconi **Bukete Van'ser Adelin Amedee e Kawanda Mboma Gabriel.**
- ✓ Il 30.07 sono stati ordinati sacerdoti a Makurdi, in Nigeria, i diaconi: **Simon Peter Zaan Dzungwe e Isaac Tarkar Ngobua.**
- ✓ Il 06.08 sono stati ordinati sacerdoti a Owerri, in Nigeria i diaconi: **Chiemeka Anthony Nwachukwu, Innocent Akamnonu, Kingsley Anyadiegwu, e Lawrence Chinoye Obilor.**
- ✓ Il 13.08 nella Parrocchia di San Pedro Alcantara in Bogotá, Colombia, hanno emesso la professione in perpetuo i confratelli **Ch. Eli Marcel De Abreu e Rudinei Orlandi**, ambedue appartenenti alla Provincia Santa Cruz.
- ✓ Il 14.08 nella Parrocchia di Nuestra Señora de Las Lajas, in Bogotá, sono stati ordinati Diaconi, Rudinei Orlandi ed Eli Marcel de Abreu, per l'imposizione delle mani di Mons. Luis Manuel Alí.



Nella Casa del Padre Confratelli

- ✓ Il 29 giugno, a São Paulo in Brasile, è tornato alla Casa del Padre, **Don Angelo Moroni**, all'età di 91 anni, 70 di professione religiosa e 61 di permanenza in Brasile.
- ✓ Il 06 luglio, ad Alessandria, a quasi 31 anni, il Chierico **Emeribe Chikwado Achillus**, primo confratello africano è tornato alla Casa del Padre.
- ✓ Il 27 luglio, a Porto Alegre, in Brasile, dopo un'intensa giornata di lavoro, colpito da un grande malanno, è tornato alla Casa del Padre, a soli 45 anni **Fratel Arilson Bordignon**.
- ✓ Il 9 settembre, a Como in Casa Madre, all'età di 83 anni, dopo una lunga malattia si è spento **Don Giuseppe Giannini**.



Familiari dei Confratelli

- ✓ Il 26 maggio a Thanukku, in India, è deceduto improvvisamente il Sig. **Mr. David Raj**, papà del nostro confratello **Fr. Sunil Francis**.
- ✓ Il 16 giugno a Mirabello di Cantù, all'età di 79 anni è deceduto il Sig. **Guido Poletto**, fratello del nostro confratello **Don Silvano Poletto**.
- ✓ Il 18 giugno, all'età di 84 è morto il Sig. **Giuseppe Maniero**, fratello del nostro confratello **Don Pietro Maniero**.
- ✓ Il 31 luglio a Netlakurchi, in India è morto il Sig. **Irudaya Samy**, papà del nostro confratello **Fr. George Vinsula**.
- ✓ Il 13 agosto, ad Alberobello, a 100 anni è deceduto il Sig. **Francesco Panaro**, papà del nostro confratello **Don Giacomo Panaro**.