



# Guanella NEWS

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## Father General's report: a quick rundown of 2020

1). In this 2020 we have lived a time of trial and at the same time as a time of grace, as Fr. Guanella said: "extraordinary sufferings, extraordinary graces..." (pag.1)

## Practical Conclusions: Major Superiors And Delegates Meeting

First day. The topic was: Report of the Superior General and interventions of the Provincials and Delegates on problematic and hopeful aspects of 2020 in the Congregation.... (pag.8)

## Closeness And Fraternal Solidarity

"... Such closeness is a precious balm that provides support and consolation to the sick in their suffering. As Christians, we experience that closeness as a sign of the love... (pag.13)

## News di Congregazione

Il giorno 19 dicembre 2020, nella Chiesa del Buon Pastore in Via Aurelia Antica ... (pag.14)



## ‘ Father General's report: a quick rundown of 2020’

1). In this 2020 we have lived a time of trial and at the same time as a time of grace, as Fr. Guanella said: "extraordinary sufferings, extraordinary graces". We faced fear, suffering, death with a formidable solidarity and fraternity between us. We have also grown in communion among ourselves due to shining and even heroic examples of life given, but we cannot deny that, however, "being close to such great suffering is a reality that hurts and the danger of exorcising evil without facing it really exists! Emotional rubbles (anger, fears, role crisis, sense of failure, disorientation, crisis of faith and fear...) can also weigh in the heart of those who have made a choice to follow Christ and we must have the courage to admit it "(USG, 2020).

Being superiors in times of pandemic means trying to interrupt the needs of many religious who have been or are still marked, affected, wounded by the experience of the disease both as patients and as operators/health workers, and still, as in our case, as responsible persons of works who had to witness helplessly the destruction made by the Covid among our beneficiaries.

2). Time of pandemic, **time of awakening digital and online communication**. It was an unthinkable success, out of the pandemic we might not have thought about it so quickly, that is, having maintained contacts of information, dialogue, formation, study and confrontations on a digital level. We have all used these means not to feel absent or indifferent. It is an area to undoubtedly be strengthened even if it is always preferable, when it's possible, the presence, that is to look one another in the face, to dialogue face to face.

Time of the pandemic: **apparently time to stop** over. The canonical visits of the Father General and of Father Provincials have been suspended. The moments of assembly, formation of the sectors, of areas, of visits of the councilors link to the geographical realities entrusted to them, in some countries even deserved holidays and rest, have been suspended too. Difficulty of traveling, of being physically present at beautiful moments, significant for our Congregation.

**However, time of greater reflection, prayer**, study and assimilation of contents, of familiarity in the communities. We had more time at our availability, even though we lacked the necessary serenity. We found ourselves as brothers around the Eucharist exposed for adoration, also for the recitation of the Rosary, extending the boundaries to the whole world, listening attentively to the news that came from our communities every day about the virus and its rages.

**Time of true solidarity**, felt, desired, put into act with all means possible so that no one would remain behind and be forgotten. How much good materials we have collected throughout the world! coming from the collections made of foodstuffs in all our communities and around the world and to the economic aid offered to us by ASCI and other organizations. Without us, church, congregation, with only the help of the civil authorities, how many other people would have ended up on the street and in their homes. Congratulations confreres! God will reward you always! Superiors to you the task of conveying everyone our gratitude.

### 3). Relationship between the General Council and the Provincial and Delegation Councils. I

would like to say thank you to everyone. Personally, I am happy with the communications, dialogue, video conferences that have been made between us. May be there is not full sharing and agreement on everything that happens or that we have to face, but I see that we are walking well, with interest in unity of direction and the choices to be made. *"It is a great temptation to point out personal or government defects and imperfections, since it is impossible to eliminate them from people and governments. Reciprocal compassion in this aspect and a humble contest of charity and patience on the arguments always should insinuate and recommend always the fraternal charity"* (Fr. Luigi Guanella).



Can we do more? Certainly, and we will do it! It will be necessary to seek together attentive to what the Church and the World provoke us to do as CL. *"Something radical in the history of humanity has changed and we do not yet know what the impact of the pandemic will be on*

*Religious Life and where it will take us! As men and women religious we are called to live, in the concreteness of situations, this is challenge that history imposes on us, with a prophetic gaze and a spirit of faith” (Fr Sosa, Sup. General of the Jesuits and President of the Major Superiors Union).*

Forceful is also the indication of the Holy Father on the theme of synodality to the point of organizing the next Synod of Bishops on this topic. We also continue to grow in this regard by helping each other, correcting each other as it seems to us that these good principles are obstructed or little applied in practice.

At this point, my best wishes for the preparation of the Provincial Chapters, the Delegation Assemblies and next January 2022 of our General Consultation. These are important moments to prepare, to live, to then reorganize the life of a Province or Delegation. In this regard, I recall the official Communication of the Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life in which the celebration of General and Provincial Chapters online is prohibited, but only in presence. In the USG’(Superiors General Union) meeting on last November we were also told that the prohibition should also be extended to general and provincial councils made online. It’s necessary to ask for the correspondent indult to the Sacred Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life. I’ll do it this year!

**4). Third Sector organization** topic, that worries and challenges the two Italian Provinces to make important choices that will determine the future of our Institute in Italy. The two provinces are also working with their own commissions to prepare for their provincial chapters which will have this aspect as their main argument. The General Council has established a national commission that brings together the members of the provincials and analyzes the theme of the third sector in view of a unity of direction.



Linked to this topic, there is the even wider and more necessary one, which is projected on our Provinces: the revision of the position and composition of our religious communities with regard to the mission of a House. It should worry us and provoke us to reflect that in some communities, especially those with elderly confreres or numerically larger communities, one, two confreres involved in the mission and the others seem to be set apart. Is it okay? It is often said: in a community now one works in the mission of the House, the others do not know what to do or are no longer involved in the mission. We often encounter nowadays more than in the past confreres who prefer to stay in the communities where they lived the last years of their activity and do not like to go to the RSA (aged homes) or to communities that could help them more in their physical issues and we are not at all prepared to offer them an adequate hospitality to make them feel useless to the mission of the House. A question: Can we reestablish communities equipped to accommodate elderly or sick confreres? But how to involve them in the mission in these particular

situations? Or what to set up in place as a mission or activity compatible with them? The Founder writes: *"It will be an exquisite deed of charity and a precious means of fraternal harmony to maintain correspondence with **isolated and distant confreres**, to provide them with an edified domestic news and comfort them in their work"* (Letter of 11 December 1914 (XXVII) p. 1419-1423 Opera Omnia).

**5). The unification of the two Italian Provinces** and possibly of the European Delegation into a single Province. Still a delicate issue that needs dialogue, discussion, discernment and awareness of the importance of taking this step. We have set aside two years to raise the awareness of the confreres and to take the necessary steps according to a schedule intended by the General Council. Let's see what can be done and how to do it! Also, in the light of the choices to be made on the Third Sector it would seem important to address them with an orientation towards unification and not the distinction of the Provinces. The Pope in the encyclical *Brothers and Sisters All (Fratelli Tutti)* in n. 11 alerts us *"...Our own days, however, seem to be showing signs of a certain regression. Ancient conflicts thought long buried are breaking out anew, while instances of a myopic, extremist, resentful and aggressive nationalism are on the rise. In some countries, a concept of popular and national unity influenced by various ideologies is creating new forms of selfishness and a loss of the social sense under the guise of defending national interests... It is not possible to be satisfied with what has been achieved in the past and stop and be pleased ..."* "We too can run the risk of experiencing narrow minded feelings as the world, society is experiencing them , according to the description of the Encyclical?

I invite the confreres of the two Italian Provinces to place this theme in community dialogue; to exchange ideas and positions inherent to unification, without prejudices or rigid or preconceived positions, but in the logic of thinking and seeing the best for the Italian reality in this time and with the prospects that open up and force us to make choices both on a social level, political than religious.

I must congratulate the Council of the Province of Guadalupe and the two new Delegations. You have really worked hard and well in this first year in the field of animation, of keeping in touch with the communities, in the periodic video conferences that have allowed us to walk despite the

pause imposed by the pandemic. Certainly, there was no lack of difficulties, but we felt you were optimistic and animated with hope. The fruits have also been seen.

**6).** We are living in the time of the encyclical *"We are all brothers"*. Pope Francis has given us a new encyclical entitled *Brothers and Sisters All (Fratelli Tutti)* ", published on 4 October

and signed in Assisi on 3 October. It is not a treatise on fraternal love, but on the presentation of the universal dimension of love, which do not exclude anyone. Pope Francis bitterly acknowledges that some dreams have been shattered, those of a united Europe and those of the integration of Latin American countries. In this context, the words democracy, freedom, justice, unity are being emptied of meaning and manipulated.



We are in a fragmented world unable to act together, realities and limits that the covid-19 pandemic has made even more evident. Reality, however, does not extinguish hope and the Encyclical is a strong cry to build and live universal brotherhood together. We are asked to have an open heart to build an open world, in which there are no "others" or "they", but there is "we". Pope Francis offers us the dream of a world without walls, without borders, without exclusions, without strangers; it is possible to dream of a world of brothers. A world that should be dear to us Guanellians, "The whole world is your homeland" said Fr. Guanella, where every man is a person respected, loved and promoted in his dignity. What contribution we owe and do we want to give to the church and to our societies where we live on this issue, in this specific area? The analysis that the Pope makes of our society in the light of the figure of the Good Samaritan is particularly significant for us Guanellians. How many aspects presented by the Pope coincide with our pedagogy and charism.

On 8 December, the Pope gave us another apostolic letter dedicated to St. Joseph "Patris Corde" (with a father's heart) and dedicated a whole year to him in memory of the 150th anniversary of the patronage of St. Joseph on the universal church. Can't we take more into consideration in this year the Pious Unions of



the Transit of St. Joseph established in the Provinces and where there are not present to promote them? I spoke with Fr. Bruno Capparoni for the purpose of greater coordination of the provincial headquarters of the Pious Union with the central one in Rome and also for a possible meeting of the various coordinators.

**7).** We witnessed the richness of **Guanellian spiritual animation** through digital: Masses and parish formative meetings in streaming, month with Fr. Guanella (Sacred Heart Province), Rosary in preparation for the Feast of Providence (Guadalupe Province), Rosary for the souls of the deceased (Romania), interview with the postulator general on TV 2000, articles on our charitable works for the poorest (Nazareth Community); online Guanellian continuing formation; video greetings from the Superior General and the Council for the New Year.

A richness of opportunities that are good for the soul, lead it towards God.

**8).** We offered to all the confreres the Guidelines on the topic of abuse on minors or vulnerable people that we had thought together last year in our meeting in January; the third notebook with the theme of the Mission (published in Advent). The Acts of the XXGC are finally ready, while the next Charitas is in working progress at the printing press. On the other hand, we have done nothing on the subject of the Directors figures in our houses, perhaps also due to the different framing that the various realities of our Congregation are following in compliance with local laws.

I would like to say a word for the Guidelines on the subject of abuses. Make it an object of knowledge to all the confreres, perhaps in formative meetings with local Superiors or directors of activities. We do not want to create psychosis on the subject, but it is important that everyone knows and adheres to the rules contained therein.

**9).** In this particular year the following organisms were born: the Province of Our Lady of Guadalupe (February 2, 2020); the European Delegation of St. Louis Guanella (June 19); the Stella Maris Delegation (25 July). We have widened the boundaries of the tent of our pastoral charity in Spain with Finisterre (1 November); in India with Warangal; in Italy soon with the Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Grosseto.

The new Postulator of the Causes of our Saints has been appointed. Significant moment of convergence between the two Guanellian Congregations. The desire to collect all the necessary material to be able to evaluate the possibility of opening the cause for the beatification of Brother Giovanni Vaccari is a positive desire. Another saint in our family! It seems to me that hope, trust in divine Providence have triumphed over fear and death.

At the end of 2020, the responsibilities within the **Pious Union of the Transit of Rome** were reorganized. Fr. Carrera asked to be lightened of his responsibilities and we therefore divided the responsibilities between Fr. Capparoni and Fr. Carrera. Fr. Bruno, Director General of the Pious Union, Fr. Mario in charge of the Servire and Santa Crociata magazines.

**10).** Some small initiatives have taken place in the field of Vocation Ministry in the Provinces, even though not completely! Too little still, dear confreres, too little! It is a theme that I would like to relaunch also in this context. It is about our future, as Guanellians, the development and progress of our charism and Institute. We have received a gift to bear fruit and not die! We are doing it well in conducting activities, but perhaps still little in the involvement of others in the gift of a charism of charity received. The guanellian charism is not exclusive to us Servants of Charity, it is widespread by its nature because it is a gift of the Spirit for the church and for the world. The Vocation Ministry is a way, certainly not the only one, to spread this gift.

The Founder reminds us: "The Servants of Charity must strive, in all the ways that prudence and fervor suggest, to attract new ministers and laborers in the Lord's vineyard" (Fr. Luigi Guanella).

**11).** Despite the sad proceedings of the Nova Domus, **Providence** has not abandoned us. We were able to face it, with sacrifices of course, but we have also overcome this other year 2020 with the little drizzle (pioggerellina) that the Good Lord did not make us miss. New inheritances, legacy, benefactors, return of the property of Cidade dos Meninos (Brazil)... Let us be satisfied, without pointing the finger each time and complaining that the situation is wrong, is not the best, because, perhaps, speaking in guanellian terms it is distrust in his Divine Providence! We have what we need to live what more do we want? An exhortation to have more trust in Providence. The Founder writes: "... in the economic constrain it is necessary on the one hand to limit oneself in spending and observe a strict economy, which is then a dutiful practice of poverty; however, we must not deny ourselves what is necessary, for it would be wrong to providence to doubt that the necessary is left to us by it; and always trust in the Lord, trust supported by our prayer and fervor.

We must also take care of all honest human measures and we are therefore very diligent and eager to form and keep our benefactors, as well as with our good example, with the appropriate means of gifts, visits, greetings, invitations, a means that is also a sincere manifestation of our gratitude towards them (Letter of 11 December 1914 (XXVII) pages 1419-1423 Opera Omnia).

**12).** I do not appoint the **Guanellian laity** topic because we will have the opportunity to talk about it tomorrow. We are assisting to the quench of our Cooperators in various places.

Where is the GLM and what does it do? A series of video appointments are underway to clarify what future this Movement has ahead of it and possibly how to relaunch it on a world or provincial level.

In the Provinces and in the Houses look after well, the leading figures of the Centers, but all the other workers, employees at any level. What do they remember or know about our PEG? Do they share our spirit and our pedagogy?

**13).** 2021 an extraordinary new year. In this 2021 we celebrate the 10th anniversary of the canonization of the Founder; the 30th anniversary of the beatification of Sister Chiara Bosatta; 50 years after the death of Brother Giovanni Vaccari. Thank God for these priceless gifts. How to celebrate it? Undoubtedly, for the Founder, the month of next October will be marked by celebratory moments of commemoration in all the realities of the Congregation. I leave the various organizations to you Provincials and Delegates to organize different events. We hypothesize a gift to give to the Founder? Let's assume a gift to be given to the founder? A new opening in every Province and Delegation. It is an evident sign of hope, of the desire to relaunch the charism received, a sign that concretely says that the presence of the Guanellian Family is still necessary in the church and in the world today! Several are already in work site or in progress: let's put them all under the protection of the Founder and the miracle will be performed!



We can also relaunch the animation of *Guanellian places*, the path "On His Footsteps". In the past, an animation project was thought of together with the Sisters and Cooperators of the places and environments linked to the Founder, but then everything was not undertaken. Let us resume it together with the DSMP and the Cooperators and bring it to fulfillment!

Certainly, there will be also other themes that we have lived in this year that has just ended or that are to be put in progress in this new year and you can highlight them in your interventions for a more complete and complete and incisive reading. Thanks for your contribution until now!

I end by quoting the Founder again:

"The Institute of the Servants of Charity is almost that portico that surrounds the waters of the Bethesda pool, full of all kinds of sick: Superiors of the Institute must be almost the Angel who moves those waters, because the sick immersing into may they acquire good health "(Fr. Luigi Guanella).

So I wish all of you a great job!

Rome, 11 January 2021

Father Umberto.

\* Report presented by the the Father General during the Provincial Superiors and Delegate's Meeting 2021

## ‘Practical Conclusions: Major Superiors And Delegates Meeting’

A). First day. The topic was:

**Report of the Superior General and interventions of the Provincials and Delegates on problematic and hopeful aspects of 2020 in the Congregation.**

✦ From the participation of the Superiors Various exhortations came out:

### ***spiritual life***

- ☑ Prayer must never be lacking, soul of the apostolate, both on a personal and community level.
- ☑ Resume to develop the personal plan of life.
- ☑ The presence of the spiritual father is recommended as personal help and accompaniment.

### ***fraternal life***

- ☑ The confreres and communities should be accompanied by sustaining hope especially where it is extinguished due to covid or other difficult situations.
- ☑ The confreres should be exhorted to come out of only virtual contacts and to prefer direct relationships whenever possible.
- ☑ Communities should be urged to be faithful to the community appointments as per Rule: practices of piety, community gatherings, participation in the planning of the House and the evaluation of the mission, as occasions for witnessing faith and fraternity.
- ☑ The ability to age and accept the changes and certain inevitable transformations of the features of the houses should be encouraged in the ongoing formation programs.
- ☑ Efforts should be made for a community life capable of living moments of relaxation, joy, feast, family atmosphere. Human relations between the confreres should be more taken care.

### ***the local superior***

- ☑ Relevance should be given to the figure of the local superior of a community.
- ☑ The formation of the superiors in the service of responsibility should be encouraged, accompanied, by giving them trust, favoring them with concrete examples of how to animate a religious community as well as an activity.
- ☑ It is recommended to involve all the confreres, according to their possibilities, in the mission of the house.

### ***new management models***

- ☑ New diversified management models are studied for communities and activities.
- ☑ To prevent burnout and the stress of confreres engaged in the mission, updating, study, formation must be encouraged and excessive use of social media has to be avoided.
- ☑ Each community, as well in the Centers, in compliance with the Norms, lives the pastoral task within its activity: by approaching, listening and encouraging, giving moral and spiritual support not only the guests and their families, but also the staff, the workers.



- ☑ The value of interculturality in our communities should be kept in mind: respect, welcoming and the ability to adapt reciprocally each other for those who welcome and for those who are welcomed.
- ☑ Involving all the confreres in the activity, especially the elderly so that they are able to perform a service, even a simple one, among the guests must be taken into consideration in the Plan of the activities of the House.
- ☑ Efforts should be made in each House so that there will be a clear distinction between the environment dedicated to the activity and the one intended for the life of all the members of the religious community.

#### ***central government***

- ☑ Greater animation is expected from the General Curia in the field of Ongoing Formation.
- ☑ In addition to the Formation 'Notebook' of the year, PF on social media, by language, the translations of texts on charismatic identity could be provided.

#### ***A at every level***

- ☑ The experience of using online platforms and web communications has been fruitful and positive during this period: continue on this path, further enhancing the means of mass communication.

**B).** Second day. The topic was:

#### **New configuration of our religious communities in social, professional and charismatic sustainability.**

✦ From the participation of the Superiors arose the need to verify in each activity:

- ☑ If we are truly welcoming the poorest; those who have no one and who have no social security, at least leaving a place for the poorest as the Founder wanted.
- ☑ if we are giving bread and Lord in an equitable manner in our Houses or if we are concerned only with bread; if we are evangelizing with our charismatic experience or if we are only attentive to have internal and external appreciation of the House;
- ☑ if we are putting into practice our pedagogical principles: PEG, With faith, love and competence; and if we are doing a quality service in our activities, especially of prophetic and evangelizing witness.

✦ Also emerged the need of:

- ☑ the concept of 'Samaritan parish' whose characteristics have been described by the General Chapters;
- ☑ the idea of greater passion and maximum availability in pastoral service starting from the charism received to be given; in this regard, stimulating both a theological re-reading of the charism carried out together by Guanellian religious and lay people, and the possibility of extending involvement in the activities also to the laity;

- ☑ the importance of remaining open to charismatic prophecy, sensitive to the current needs present in the Church and in the society: to maintain, that is, the traditional activities, possibly transform them into more agile structures where possible, but also to promote simple services, where it is mainly required a presence of animation, without economic-administrative management.

C). Third day. The topic was:

### **How to revive our Guanellian laity.**

- ✦ It emerged as participation of the Superiors:

#### **1) GUANELLIAN YOUTH**

##### ***The present situation***

- ☑ A sporadic presence in the Congregation. The fruits are seen where there are figures of capable, creative and willing formators, thus.
- ☑ The raw material is missing in some of our realities: the young people. Especially in those realities it is necessary to work in a more synergy between Provinces and Delegations.
- ☑ Where the young people are present, they must be involved in guiding groups of children, in catechesis, in pastoral care, in the animation of free time, in feasts ...
- ☑ Where the Guanellian Youth Movement (GYM) is well organized, regular training, aggregative moments, volunteer experiences and work camps are guaranteed and annual meetings, spiritual exercises and a week of spirituality are planned.

##### ***what is proposed***

- ☑ In view of the World Gathering of Guanellian Youth (2022), it is suggested to experience assembly moments at the level of the Province or of the Nation in this present year.
- ☑ Implement youth ministry, which is originally vocational, to help young people discern God's plan for their life.

#### **2) GUANELLIAN COOPERATORS**

##### ***what is running on***

- ☑ A reality present in every Province and Delegation. More or less numerous and active groups. Well organized in some countries a little less in others.
- ☑ Elected the World Council in November 2019. The Guidelines for a Program' to be implemented by the Assembly of Cooperators, but the different language of the members, different mentalities and cultures make their task even more difficult.
- ☑ It is a well-planned Association, with its own renewed Statute, with formative proposals for the moment at a national level, but it will lead to international and worldwide proposals.
- ☑ The annual promise is a moment felt, prepared and lived with participation and enthusiasm on the part of all.
- ☑ The Guanellian Cooperators/ASCI have shown great solidarity with the SdC and the DSMP, especially in this time of pandemic, in making themselves available to help the poor.

- ☑ There is a lack of a true capacity to be the motivating force behind the journey and lay commitment in our houses inside and out, in the Church and in society.
- ☑ On the subject of aging, in some groups, there is no serious concern about invigorating of the members of the Association.

***what still can be done***

- ☑ A greater synergy is desirable with the SdC and the DSMP in proposing the lay and religious vocation.
- ☑ On our part, there is a solicitation to give greater autonomy to the Association and to help them pursue ecclesial recognition as an autonomous Association, detached from the two religious Congregations. Although now the Association asks the religious to be accompanied and supported.
- ☑ Where required and possible, efforts are made for the civil recognition of the Association.

### **3) GUANELLIAN LAY MOVEMENT**

***the situation today***

- ☑ It is a Movement born on 2001, but which has taken root only in some nations of the Congregation. Its physiognomy is still little known: a great reality that embraces all the different situations of lay people who collaborates and share the spiritual and guanellian mission.
- ☑ The GLM was born differentiating itself from the cooperators to favor all those lay people who are sensitive to the theme of the promotion of the human person, they are attentive and collaborate in our houses on behalf of our beneficiaries, even though they are not Catholics, or not in full communion with the Church.
- ☑ The Movement has a reference document (not Statute), "Making Charity the heart of the world", published on 2009, which describes its identity, participation and mission without creating bonds, or requiring membership cards or religious promises.
- ☑ In some geographical realities it is the springboard, the nursery to become part of the Guanellian Cooperators Association, in others it is a reality entirely in its own right, in some others it is considered an unnecessary superstructure, especially if it's conceived as a board of directors constituted on purpose.

***proposals for the future***

- ☑ It should be a "large container" or a common house, where it can converge the Guanellian laity that participates in our life in different ways and with different purposes: Cooperators, workers, volunteers, Past Pupils, relatives, youth, Guanellian families ...
- ☑ It is worrying that there are many committed lay people who circulate around our Institute, are available for collaboration in the mission, but do not intend to become part of either the GLM or the Guanellian Cooperators. We study how to involve them, without imposing nothing at all.
- ☑ At the moment, the GLM needs greater awareness among the confreres and the laity themselves; make known its Constitution Document: "Making Charity the heart of the world";

appoints a contact person in each Province who keeps the idea of the Movement alive and motivated; eventually compose a hand book (vademecum) of news to facilitate knowledge.

- It could suggest at the level of each Province and no longer with a world organization of animation, responding locally to the expectations of the Movement.
- The GLM could also undertake the commitment to become the motivating force of Guanellian pedagogy and Guanellian scientific research, as well as like a motivating force of a culture linked to the values of our charismatic heritage.
- Take into account the proposal of specific charismatic formative itineraries, on the type of the school of the charism, which can be addressed to everyone, and not only to the leading groups, to avoid the sporadic nature that sometimes characterize our formative moments with the laity.

**D).** Fourth day. The topics were:

**The study of the economic sustainability of our activities and the presentation of the draft budget estimates of the General Curia for 2021.**

- ✦ Linked to the General Treasurer's report came out

**Regarding the study of the economic sustainability**

- With regard to the first issue, the practical indication that emerges from the report is to take into consideration that the Provinces / Delegations plan, for their own deeds and activities of competence, to carry out a serious economic study on each of them, in order to verify the real economic situation, the critical issues, the risks and the viability of any interventions that become decisive, both in view of an effective improvement in the situation or, on the contrary, in view to an eventual transformation or closure of the activity.
- At the same time, a study must also be made of all the aspects that can detect the significance and "social" influence that the deed or Activity has concretely in its environmental context and in the context of social and welfare policies implemented on site. This study, too, must be envisioned in view of any decisions concerning the continuity, transformation or closure of a specific activity.
- Finally, there remains the study and evaluation of charismatic sustainability, for which the indication is to entrust to some confreres, who, specifically, will have the opportunity to study and deepen the charism, to see if it is possible to identify essential criteria that allow us to evaluate a specific Activity according to the charismatic significance that it expresses in its social environment and in the Local Church.

**Budget for the Curia Generalizia for 2021**

- The practical indication to re-study and redefine ways and times concerning the contributions of the Provinces to the General Curia, after having ascertained that the provisions of the Chapter Motion, in this regard, are difficult to implement. This will also be useful in view of presenting alternative proposals to the Consultation 2022 or the next General Chapter 2024.



### ‘Novelty in the Spirit and Opening of New Processes’

“... We are faced with a new call from the Holy Spirit. In light of the doctrine on the Church-communion, just as St. John Paul II urged consecrated persons to "be true experts of communion and to practice the spirituality of communion" (Vita consecrata, n. 46), Pope Francis, drawing inspiration from St. Francis,

founder and inspirer of so many institutes of consecrated life, broadens the perspective and invites us to be architects of universal brotherhood, custodians of the common home: of the earth and of every creature (cf. Encyclical *Laudato si'*). Brothers and sisters towards all, regardless of faith, culture and traditions, because the future is not "monochrome" (FT n. 100) and the world is like a polyhedron that lets its beauty shine through its different facets. It is a question, then, of creating ways of accompanying, transforming and creating; of developing projects to promote a culture of encounter and dialogue between different peoples and generations; of starting with one's own vocational community and then reaching to every corner of the earth and every creature, because, never as during this pandemic, have we experienced how everything is linked, everything is related, everything is connected (cf. Encyclical *Laudato si'*)...”

*(Fonte: Lettera a tutti i consacrati e le consacrate, Prot. n. Sp.R. 2559/21)*

### ‘ CLOSENESS AND FRATERNAL SOLIDARITY ’

#### “World Day of the Sick”

“... Such closeness is a precious balm that provides support and consolation to the sick in their suffering. As Christians, we experience that closeness as a sign of the love of Jesus Christ, the Good Samaritan, who draws near with compassion to every man and woman wounded by sin. United to Christ by the working of the Holy Spirit, we are called to be merciful like the Father and to love in particular our frail, infirm and suffering brothers and sisters (cf. Jn 13:34-35). We experience this closeness not only as individuals but also as a community. Indeed, fraternal love in Christ generates a community of healing, a community that leaves no one behind, a community that is inclusive and welcoming, especially to those most in need.

Here I wish to mention the importance of fraternal solidarity, which is expressed concretely in service and can take a variety of forms, all directed at supporting our neighbours. “Serving means caring ... for the vulnerable of our families, our society, our people” (Homily in Havana, 20 September 2015). In this outreach, all are “called to set aside their own wishes and desires, their pursuit of power, before the concrete gaze of those who are most vulnerable... Service always looks to their faces, touches their flesh, senses their closeness and even, in some cases, ‘suffers’ that closeness and tries to help them. Service is never ideological, for we do not serve ideas, we serve people” (ibid.)”



## News di Congregazione



### Notizie e Avvenimenti di Consacrazione

✓ Il giorno 19 dicembre 2020, nella Chiesa del Buon Pastore in Via Aurelia Antica (Roma), due chierici del secondo anno Teologia del Seminario Mons. A. Bacciarini, hanno ricevuto il **Ministero del Lettorato** dal Superiore generale, don Umberto Brugnoni: DA SILVA Adriel Wilson e DURU UCHECHUKWU Bartholomew. Quattro chierici del primo anno di Teologia invece hanno fatto la **Dichiarazione d'intenti**: SAVARIMUTHU Melvinraj, LOURDHU SAMY Arockia William, LOKANGE ILUMBE Cedrick, BRAI OKHUMAGBE Anthony.

✓ Il 19 Dicembre 2020 **Baya Joseph Vangu** (congolese), **Likita Philemon** (nigeriano) e **Patrick Valentine Chigozie** (nigeriano) sono stati ordinati diaconi ad Ibadan dal Vescovo di Abeokuta, Mons. Peter Odoteyinbo. Hanno concelebrato il Superiore della Vice Provincia Africana, don Kelechi Maduforo ed il Rettore del Seminario, don Vitus Unegbu, una trentina di sacerdoti guanelliani, di altre Congregazioni e dell'Arcidiocesi di Ibadan. Alla solenne cerimonia hanno partecipato i cooperatori, i parrocchiani, i parenti, i giovani guanelliani e gli amici del Seminario.

✓ Il 19 Dicembre 2020 ha celebrato il 50° di sacerdozio di **Pe. Ivo Catani**. Alla presenza di Dom Hélio Adelar Rubert, Arcivescovo di Santa Maria-RS e di P. Ciro Attanasio, Provinciale della Provincia Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe dei SdC di alcuni fedeli e di altri religiosi si è celebrata l'Eucaristia in rendimento di grazie per il 50° di sacerdozio del nostro confratello Pe. Ivo Catani.

✓ Il giorno 20 Dicembre **Don Vincenzo Simion** ha celebrato il 50° di sacerdozio nella Parrocchia Santo Stefano d'Ungheria a Padova.

✓ Ad Asunción, in Paraguay il 25 gennaio scorso, hanno emesso **la prima professione religiosa** i novizi Domingo Sávio da Silva Soares e Jonathan Meza. Lo stesso giorno sono entrati in Noviziato: Francisco Javier Morales de Lázaro (Messico), Jean Wester Lenescart (Haiti) e Carlos Daniel Vargas Verdún (Paraguay).

✓ Il 26 gennaio 2021 la parrocchia 'St. John Britto' di **Krishnaperri** ha celebrato il 'golden jubilee' con la presenza dell'Arcivescovo di Madurai, Mons. Anthony Pappusamy, il quale dopo l'alzabandiera ha benedetto il campanile, la grotta e l'arco. (English: the celebration of golden jubilee of our parish on 26th of January 2021 by Archbishop of Madurai and blessing of flagpole, bell tower, grotto and arch).

✓ Sono entrati in **Postulato** gli aspiranti Fábio de Almeida (Brasile), Dyego Sales Bacellar (Brasile) e Gaspar Daniel Morales Chamorro (Paraguay).

✓ **Fr. Rocco Saluzzi** il giorno 2 Febbraio celebrerà il 10° Anniversario di Professione Religiosa.

✓ L'11 febbraio i chierici Harry Roa Indonilla e John the Baptist Nguyen Luong Hoang riceveranno il Ministero del **Lettorato a Manila** dal Vescovo Mons. Roberto da Novaliches.

✓ **Hno. Ademir Inácio Marin** festeggerà il suo **50° anniversario** di Prima Professione il 21 febbraio 2021.



## Nella Casa del Padre

### ❖ Famiglia guanelliana e parenti defunti dei Confratelli

✓ Il 21 Dicembre 2020 a Buenos Aires è deceduta la sig.ra **Carmen Blanchoud**, soerella del nostro Confratello P. Carlos Blanchoud.

✓ Il 23 dicembre 2020, a Villanova di Bernareggio (Italia), all'età di 92 anni, è deceduta **Arduina Immacolata Crippa ved. Riva**, mamma dei nostri Confratelli don Cesare e don Felice Riva.

✓ A Roma, il 31 dicembre 2020 è morto il Guanelliano Cooperatore, **Memmo Cagiola**. Il 3 gennaio avrebbe compiuto 92 anni.

✓ Il signor **Mathiyas**, padre del chierico John Peter, tirocinante nella comunità di Yesuvanam Sivagangai è morto il 12 gennaio 2021 a Velanthangal (India). Aveva 50 anni.

✓ Il 15 gennaio a Fino del Monte, Bergamo, (Italia), all'età di 81 anni, è morto il Sig. **Giacomo Oprandi**, fratello del don Remigio Oprandi.

✓ Il Sig. **Carmel**, di 69 anni, zio paterno del nostro confratello don Jeyaseelan, promotore vocazionale e Referente per la Pastorale Giovanile della Divine Providence Province, è deceduto per problemi di salute grave, 18 gennaio a Melmidalam, Tamil Nadu (India).



## Altre News di Congregazione



### Dal Consiglio Generale

✓ **Don Bruno Capparoni** è stato nominato Direttore della Pia Unione del Transito di San Giuseppe in Roma, a partire dal 1° gennaio 2021.

✓ **Don Mario Carrera** è stato riconfermato Direttore delle Riviste 'Servire' e 'La Santa Crociata'.

✓ **Incontro online** del Consiglio generale con i Superiori maggiori di Province e Delegazioni si è tenuto sulla piattaforma zoom i giorni 11-13.15 gennaio 2021.



### Dalle Province

✓ **Provincia Romana San Giuseppe**. Il 19 dicembre, a Torre Canne, in Puglia, è stato inaugurato il nuovo Centro Socio-Educativo Diurno "Insieme si può". Il Centro accoglierà ogni giorno una ventina di ragazzi per un sostegno scolastico ed altre attività educative e formative.

Il 1° dicembre 2020 si è aperto il reparto Covid della Casa San Giuseppe di Via Aurelia Antica (Roma), il primo reparto Covid della regione Lazio per pazienti con grave disabilità intellettiva.

✓ **Provincia Nuestra Senora de Guadalupe.** Il 13 dicembre la comunità parrocchiale di “Nossa Senhora Auxiliadora” de Canarana ha inaugurato la Chiesa Madre (Igreja Matriz) rinnovata. La ristrutturazione era iniziata nel 2014 ed è stata completata quest'anno, con l'aiuto delle donazioni dell'intera comunità. Alla riapertura ha partecipato il nostro confratello don Alcides José Vergutz, vicario della diocesi di Barra do Garças, che ha benedetto il nuovo tempio e ha presieduto la Santa Messa insieme a don Adenir José Fumagalli, parroco e a don Odair Danieli, vicario parrocchiale.

✓ **Divine Providence Province.** Al “Don Guanella Major Seminary” di Chennai (India), nei giorni 20, 21, 22, 23 gennaio 2021 si è tenuto un folto programma di Formazione Permanente per confratelli professi perpetui entro 5 anni e gli aggiornamenti sull'emendamento FCRA per superiori ed economi.

✓ **Delegazione Stella Maris** (Filippine, Vietnam e Isole Salomone). Incontro online di Formazione Permanente per un momento di reciproco incoraggiamento e arricchimento a Manila l'8 e il 9 gennaio 2021. Il giorno 8 è stato dedicato ai professi perpetui ed è stata una bella occasione per raccogliere e condividere i momenti di felicità e anche di difficoltà. Il giorno successivo (9 gennaio) è stato dedicato a tutti i professi temporanei. C'erano dieci fratelli professi temporanei da Manila e gli altri si sono uniti da Saigon, Pangasinan e Legaspi. Don Luigi ha condiviso gli input del Superiore Generale che hanno guidato la nostra riflessione e condivisione: Coraggio e speranza di essere buoni Samaritani per gli altri (“Lettera pubblicata su Guanella News, dicembre 2020”), la “Lettera” di don Umberto nel compleanno del nostro Fondatore, e il libretto di FP “La missione guanelliana”.

✓ Il 5 Gennaio 2020, nel **1° anniversario della morte di Madre Serena Ciserani**, il Superiore generale, don Umberto ha celebrato una santa Messa nella cappella della Casa San Pancrazio e trasmessa sui social (YouTube e Facebook).



## Date dei prossimi Consigli Generali

- \* 16-17 febbraio 2021
- \* 16-17 marzo 2021
- \* 13-14 aprile 2021
- \* 4-5 maggio 2021
- \* 8-9 giugno 2021