



# Guanella NEWS

**Speciale Pasqua 2019**

Notiziario della Casa Generalizia dei Servi della Carità - Anno XX - Direzione e Redazione: Centro di Comunicazione

## The Passover

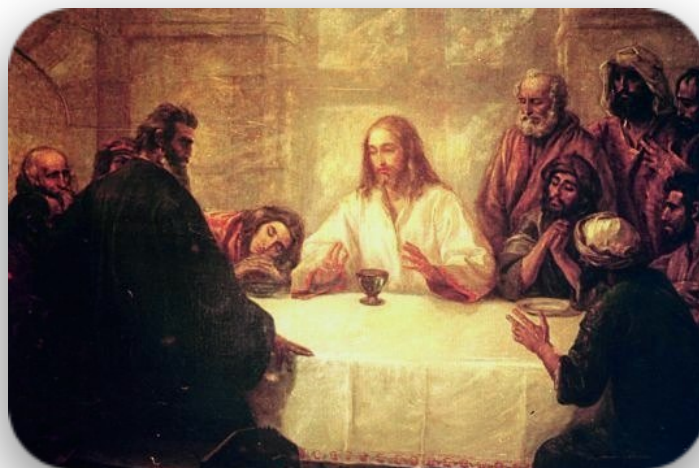
The Passover, called Pesach (pasa', in Aramaic), celebrates the liberation of the Jews from Egypt thanks to Moses and brings together two rites: the immolation of the lamb and the unleavened bread.... (pag.1)

## News from the General Council

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## Happy Easter of the Superior general

Dear confreres  
A short reflection as a congratulations and a perspective to live concretely the Easter of the Lord in ourselves and in our community relations... (pag.5)



## ‘The Passover’

On the first day of the Festival of Unleavened Bread, the disciples came to Jesus and asked, “Where do you want us to make preparations for you to eat the Passover?”

He replied, “Go into the city to a certain man and tell him, ‘The Teacher says: My appointed time is near. I am going to celebrate the Passover with my disciples at your house.’” So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them and prepared the Passover (Matthew 26:17-20).

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The Passover, called Pesach (pasa', in Aramaic), celebrates the liberation of the Jews from Egypt thanks to Moses and brings together two rites: the immolation of the lamb and the unleavened bread.

The Hebrew word pesach means "pass over", "omit", and derives from the story of the tenth plague, in which the Lord saw the blood of the lamb on the doors of the houses of Israel and "passed on", affecting only the firstborn males of the Egyptians, including the son of the pharaoh (Exodus,

12.21-34). The Pesach therefore indicates the liberation of Israel from slavery under the Egyptians and the beginning of a new freedom with God towards the promised land.

Jews living within the borders of Israel celebrate Easter in seven days. During the feast an Orthodox Jew must refrain from consuming leavened bread and replace it with unleavened bread, like the one which the Jewish people consumed during their flight from Egypt; for this reason, the Passover is also called 'unleavened feast'.

With Christianity Easter has acquired a new meaning, indicating the passage from death to life for Jesus Christ and the transition to new life for Christians, freed from sin with sacrifice on the cross and called to rise again with Jesus. The Christian Easter is then the interpretative key of the new covenant, concentrating in itself the meaning of the messianic mystery of Jesus and connecting it to the Pesach of the Exodus.

Therefore, the Christian Easter is called Easter of resurrection, while the Jewish one is Easter of liberation from the slavery of Egypt. This last meaning is obtained by reading one of the most important Jewish thinkers: Philo of Alexandria writes that Easter is the remembrance and thanksgiving to God for the passage of the Red Sea, but that it also has the allegorical meaning of purification of the soul.

Paul in the first letter to the Corinthians writes: «Take away the old leaven, to be new dough, because you are unleavened. And in fact, Christ, our Easter, was immolated! Let us therefore celebrate the feast not with old leaven, but with unleavened bread of truth and truth "(Cor. 5: 7-8).

Fr. Umberto (Superior General)

## News from the General Council



**The second meeting of the Major Superiors of Latin America** (Provincials e Vicars), with Fr Gustavo De Bonis, took place at Tapiales, in Argentina, from March 16 to 18. Two religious belonging to the Fatebenefratelli's congregation helped in this meeting, in view of the unification to the three Latin-American provinces. The outcome of the meeting was excellent. There is much more clarity and sharing after these meetings. Now every provincial will have to transmit to the communities the material produced in this meeting. A bulletin was also created for the confreres of the three provinces called: Juntos Mejor. (It's better together)

Finally, we were able to finish the preparation for the **publication of the text of the Regulations**. As decided in the committee, the part of the new Regulations, already approved by the XX CG and the one not presented in the XX CG, was distinguished, a part that the General Council also presents to the Congregation ad experimentum for these next years up to the XXI CG. For the Constitutions it was preferred to leave the original text with the Addendum. A new text will be printed only after the approval of all the Regulations in the XXI CG.

**The first Assembly of the provincial treasurers of the Congregation** was held in Rome from 25 February to 1 March. An interesting week in which took place all the provincial treasurers. Topics addressed:

a) Presentation, analysis and discussion on the economic and administrative issues proposed by the CIVCSVA Document "Economy at the service of the Charism and Mission" and by the Motions / Proposals of the 20th General Chapter, in the spirit of the Moz. 46 of the XXth Cap. General. We will focus mainly on chapter IV "Operating guidelines". On the basis of the preceding point, and bearing in mind the final document of the XXth General Chapter (from motion 32 to motion 46), to identify main points on which to set up an economic and administrative project that serves as the basis for an economic program of the Provinces.

b) Rethinking and revision of the administrative economic manual, for a more incisive presence and use of the manual in our Communities and Works (see n ° 62 of the CIVCSVA Document " Economy at the service...")

c) Prepare common basic paths for formation to the life and economic reality of the confreres, at different levels, Communities, Provinces and General Curia, to be specified and implemented, then, in the respective realities (see n ° 18, 19 and 97 of the Document "Service Economy ..." of the CIVCSVA)

- d) Various topics of common interest and organization to be treated in particular:
- I). Organization of consultations / conventions / assemblies for confreres and lay people involved in the economy and administration (see motion 43 of the XXth Cap. General). How to do? A general or area consultation?
  - II). Determination of contributions to the Generalate on the basis of annual budgets and interpretation for the correct application of motion 40 of the XXth General Chapter, concerning contributions at a fixed rate.
  - III). Organization for the assignment of the stable patrimony in the Congregation (see Mot. 44 of the XXth General Chapter)
- e) Conclusion of the week's proceedings and preparation of the final document with indications and decisions to be submitted to the respective Councils for approval.

**A committee was created to prepare a course of Spiritual Exercises for the Guanellian family (EQUES)** to be offered to all the Provinces in the coming years. It is a mixed commission: confreres, sisters and lay cooperators. The first meeting was positive. Provincials who intend to take advantage of this commission for the preaching of a course of these spiritual exercises in their own Province agree directly with Fr Gustavo De Bonis.

You will have received the **first formative notebook** that the General Council has sent you during this time of Lent. We intend to offer two notebooks per year on Guanellian themes: one in Advent and one in Lent. Our themes developed with simplicity and attention. The intent is to offer a benchmark to all the confreres on fundamental issues that concern us, almost a common language on our family values. I temi fondamentali che ci riguardano, quasi un linguaggio comune sui nostri valori di famiglia.

**The initiative of videoconferences has started.** This year we chose to start with the seminars of the Congregation. The theme was that of the charism. Next year we will also extend to the confreres who intend to listen and participate in these telematic training meetings.

**The second issue of Charitas is in progress.** The times for translations are very long and have led to enormous delays on the intended path. Confreres patience is needed!

**The Acts of the XX CG are also in progress.** We hope to offer them to you as soon as possible.

## *Happy Easter of the Superior general*

Dear confreres

A short reflection as a congratulations and a perspective to live concretely the Easter of the Lord in ourselves and in our community relations. This thought cannot be considered if not in the charity that is the essential heart of our charism and spirituality.

Charity is first of all "election", that is, love that calls and chooses a people in view of a project (Eph 1,4). We see as in this theological scheme the two aspects contained in the concept of agape: on the one hand, the divine initiative and on the other, the vocational response entrusted to human freedom. If you want...

The dynamic of charity is not a legal duty, but essentially personifies Christ. In Ro 5,8 it is stated that: "the proof that God loves us is that Christ died for us while we were still sinners".

The event of salvation is a reality from which nothing can separate us (cf. Ro 8,31-39): charity is placed in the connection between Christology and soteriology, to the extent that Paul defines agape as "the fruit of Spirit "and as the subject of ecclesial relations ( 2Cor 5, 14) to which every believer must aspire as" the most perfect gift "(1 Cor 12, 31).

The charity revealed in the paschal mystery and accepted in the faith is transformed into spiritual dynamics in the hearts of the believers and "sums up" all the precepts of the law: "The precept: You will not commit adultery, you will not kill, you will not steal, you will not want and any other commandment is summarized in these words: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. Love does no harm to the neighbor; the full fulfillment of the law is love (Rom 13: 9-10). The apostle Paul recommends "reciprocal and fraternal love" (1Co 9,20s; 10,24; 13,5; Gal 6,2; Ro 12,10; 1Ts 3,3,12) remember that only through charity live the service (Gal 5, 6.13) and grow in the true richness of God (Phil 1, 9). Charity is the heart of the Church and of our mission.

Happy Easter, confreres with the commitment to live charity as well as possible!  
Congratulations to all!



*Abate Umberto Bugnion*