



Saturday, June 24, 2023

n. 18

JOURNAL OF THE CHAPTER

The Kingdom of God is at hand.

Living and proclaiming the hope of the Gospel.

34TH GENERAL CHAPTER OF THE ASSUMPTIONISTS - JUNE 01-25, 2023

On the evening of Friday June 23, here is an update on the various texts submitted to the capitulants for a vote:

Voted texts

1. Community governance and organization
2. Youth and vocations
3. Economic affairs
4. Abuse prevention
5. Communication and Digital Continent
6. Education
7. Missionary character of the Congregation
8. Mobilizing works
9. Mission d'Orient
10. Lay-religious alliance
11. Justice, peace and the integrity of creation (7.3)

Texts to be voted on

1. Accompanying God's people
2. Formation

Text to be refined

1. Charisma
2. Orientation text
3. By-laws
4. Message

Next and final issue: Tuesday,
June 27, 2023

Ciao!

Last days of Chapter

The capitulants have entered the final days of this General Chapter.

Above all, the work consists of completing the drafting of the texts that will guide the Congregation for the next six years... and more, as Pope Francis has pointed out.



Yesterday morning, the assembly reviewed the following texts:

- Accompanying the People of God
- Mission d'Orient
- Lay-Religious Alliance
- Formation
- Charism
- Justice and Peace

At the end of the morning, Father Nicolas Potteau presented a first draft of an orientation text: «Vivre la fraternité du Royaume comme chemin de sainteté».

Intended to touch hearts and minds, the text outlines the main lines of orientation, and «tells the story» of the Chapter.

In the early afternoon, the capitulants discussed and enriched the content of the orientation text presented in the morning.

Then it was time for approval of texts.

The Coordination Commission

At Work

The Coordination Commission is an essential tool of the Chapter.

It comprises the Superior General, President of the Chapter, the Promoter (who directs the work of this Commission) and the Moderators.

For the duration of the Chapter, the Promoter sets the agenda and indicates the topics to be discussed, in agreement with the Chapter President. He chairs the Coordination Committee. Every evening, and often during the day, the Coordination Commission meets to review the day's activities and plan the work ahead.

At the start of the Chapter, the capitulants elected the members of this Commission. It reflects the new face of the Congregation.

Promoter: Father Jean-Paul Sagadou, Burkinabè living in Abidjan (Ivory Coast)

Moderator 1: Father Ngoa Ya Tshihemba, Congolese (DRC), living in Manila (Philippines), who was elected Superior General.

Moderator 2: Father Chi Ai Nguyen, Vietnamese, living in Worcester (USA)

Moderator 3: Father Jean-Paul Musangania Kombi, Congolese (DRC), living in Kinshasa.

Until the election of the new Superior General, the former Superior General, Father Benoît Grière, chaired this Commission.

For the first time, a facilitator from outside the Congregation attended the General Chapter and took part in the Coordination Commission. Father Alberto Toutin Cataldo, Superior General of the Congregation of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary (Picpus). (His role is described in Chapter Diary no. 1).

Being a member of the Coordination Commission is a unique experience, both human and spiritual. Here's how they experienced it.

«For me, this is a synodality of listening. Very often, we listen to the same discourse, but we don't understand the same thing because we don't know the context. The fact that the members of the coordination are diverse has helped us to listen to the opinions expressed in different ways and to identify a common voice.»
Father Chi Ai Nguyen

«For me, the Coordination Commission has been a virtuous circle of consultation, planning and daily review of the Chapter's activities. This teamwork made it possible to manage the debates and sustain the attention of the capitulants during the assizes.» Father Jean-Paul Musangania.

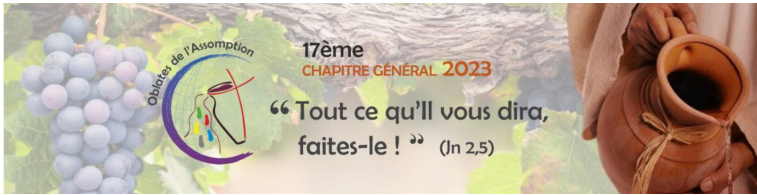
«I started as a moderator and I'm finishing as Superior General. Yes, the Spirit blows as it wills and where it wills. My conviction is that the Assumption is God's work. He will take care of his work.» Father Ngoa Ya Tshihemba

«African wisdom teaches that «If you want to go fast, walk alone, but if you want to go far, walk together». For 25 days, the Chapter Coordination team worked in mutual support. The presence of Alberto, who accompanied the 34th General Chapter, was essential. As Promoter, I thank all the other members of the coordination team for this ubuntu adventure lived in the service of the Congregation.» - Father Jean-Paul Sagadou.

«For me, the Coordinating Commission has been a space for the Chapter to resonate and for us to listen to each other. In doing so, we tried to dispose the Chapter to locate and welcome the passage of the Spirit.» - Father Alberto Toutin Cataldo (SSCC Picpus)



Opening Of The Oblates' General Chapter



This Saturday, June 24, 2023, sees the official opening of the 17th General Chapter of the Oblate Sisters of the Assumption, in Bacau, Romania. It will close on July 19.

Message from the Superior General to Sister Felicia Ghiorghies, Superior General of the Oblates

«Dear Felicia,
As you already know, we are nearing the end of our General Chapter.
We are in the process of reflecting on the major orientations that will mobilize us over the next 6 years around the theme: «The Kingdom of God is at hand» - Living and proclaiming the hope of the Gospel.
As you begin your General Chapter, I would like to take

this opportunity to express my support and prayers. I assure you of my humble prayers and those of my Assumptionist brothers. Let us continue to be attentive to the movements of the Spirit who blows where he wills. It is this same Spirit who will lead us towards true fraternity, and who will then be the leaven of Hope for the whole world. My greetings go out to all our sisters who will be with you.
Fraternalmente,
Ngoa Ya Tshihemba Baudouin, aa Superior of the Augustinians of the Assumption

Message From The Bishops Of RD Congo



A MESSAGE TO READ
FOR CREDIBLE ELECTIONS CONGOLESE PEOPLE, WAKE UP
FROM YOUR SLEEP! (cf. Rom 13:11)

Message from the 60th Plenary Assembly of the Conférence Episcopale Nationale du Congo (CENCO), June 22, 2023

1. Having suffered too much and been the victim of so many wars imposed on them, the Congolese people want peace, justice and to work for the progress of their country.
2. We are convinced that the stability of our country and the well-being of its people depend

in particular on free, inclusive, transparent and peaceful elections.
- No to opportunists who change sides in search of personal interests!
- No to those who take family members as substitutes!
- No to those who apply at all levels!
- No to tribalists and nepotisers!
- No to the buying of consciences!

LETTERS

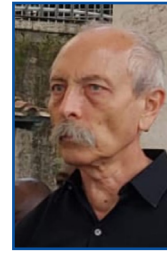
“With great attention I read the daily letters sent. Thanks to the editorial team for the quality of the photos and summaries. I thought of you in particular yesterday regarding the Mission d'Orient, which was on the agenda for the day. Is it a sign that on that same day you were with Pope Francis? I was very sensitive to the words he expressed and his encouragement for the Oriental Mission, for which he underlined “the situation of Christians threatened in the Near East”.

Edith Richard, lay Assumptionist, Lille (France)



“May Almighty God bless you and all the other participants in the General Chapter. The only thing I regret is that we haven't managed to secure the beatification of the Venerable Father Emmanuel d'Alzon. Let's concentrate on our prayers, the hour has struck. Let's stand together. - Emile Mahamba Kahindo, lay Assumptionist, Butembo (DR Congo).

Those Who Made This Journal Day By Day



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Program

SATURDAY, JUNE 24TH

Morning

- Charisma
- Statutes
- Orientation text
- Message
- Vote on texts
- Words to members of the former Curia

Afternoon

- Chapter evaluation

SUNDAY JUNE 25TH

9am = Lauds

10am = Closing ceremony (in the Chapter Hall)

- Word from the Promoter
- Closing speech by the Superior General + Thanks

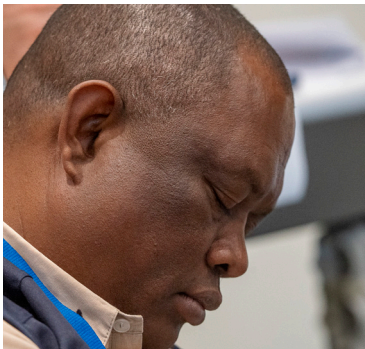
11:30 am = Closing mass

12:30 pm = Aperitif

1pm = Meal (end of Chapter)

First departures

Appreciation of the Chapter



This is my second participation in the General Chapter and I'm discovering that this 34th Chapter shows the internationality and interculturality of the participants, so I invite all the members of our Congregation to know that this reality demands openness and availability.

RAKOTOARILALA Louis Martin

TO FOLLOW THE WORK OF THE GENERAL CHAPTER

- Congregation website www.assumptio.org updated by Father Marcelo Marciel: <marcelomarciel1@gmail.com>
- Facebook pages: Assumption General Chapter
- Youtube: Augustiniani ab Assumptione

- Take part in the «Readers' Mail» in this «Chapter Diary» by asking questions, reacting to the work of the capitulants (bernardholzeraa@gmail.com) or on Facebook.



«Journal of the Chapter»

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