



32nd General Chapter

“ FRATERNAL LIVING AND THE COMMUNITARIAN DIMENSION
OF THE MONTFORTIAN MISSION ”

« VIE FRATERNELLE ET DIMENSION COMMUNAUTAIRE
DE LA MISSION MONTFORTAIN »

8th April - 28th April, 2018.



GABRIELITE NEWS BULLETIN - 191

(Special Coverage of the 32nd General Chapter - Week 3)



**Congratulations to the newly elected Central Administration for the mandate 2018 - 2024
from left to right : Bro. James T. K (Assistant General), Bro. Dionigi Traffarello (Vicar General)
Bro. John Kallarackal (Superior General - Re-elect),
Bro. Jean-Paul Mbengue (Assistant General - Re-elect) Bro. Pratap Reddy (Assistant General)**



NEW CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION

Congratulation!



Congratulation!

BRO. JOHN KALLARACKAL
SUPERIOR GENERAL



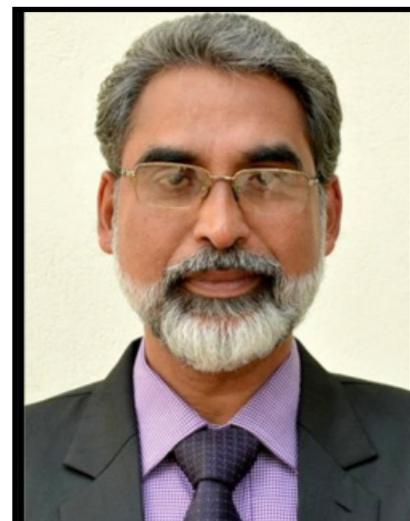
BRO. DIONIGI TAFFARELLO
VICAR GENERAL



BRO. JEAN-PAUL MBENGUE
ASSISTANT GENERAL



BRO. PRATAP REDDY
ASSISTANT GENERAL



BRO. JAMES T. K
ASSISTANT GENERAL

Love with your heart and hands





**REV. BRO. JOHN KALLARACKAL'S, SUPERIOR GENERAL (RE-ELECT)
ADDRESS TO THE HOLY FATHER, POPE FRANCIS ON 27.04.2018**

Most Holy Father,

It is my joy to greet your Holiness, in the name of the whole Montfortian Family in general, and in the name of all the delegates of the 32nd General Chapter of the Montfort Brothers of St. Gabriel, in particular. Present among us today are the Montfort Missionaries and the Daughters of Wisdom, of our Montfortian Family, and the Sisters of St. Joseph of Kottayam, who have been our collaborators in mission for the past 35 years. By a happy coincidence, the Sisters of St. Joseph celebrate also the 90th anniversary of their Foundation, this year. Therefore, we are all immensely grateful to your Holiness for the rare privilege of today's Private Audience, which is truly a grace for our Congregations. In the first place we congratulate your Holiness on the successful completion of 5 years of valuable and inspiring service to the Universal Church, as the successor of St. Peter, and offer your Holiness our filial affection and continued prayerful support.

50 delegates, coming from 14 countries, have been gathered in our General House in Rome for our 32nd General Chapter from 8th April, reflecting on the theme "Fraternal Living and the Communitarian Dimension of the Montfortian Mission". We are presently 1126 Professed Brothers and 113 Novices in the Congregation, present in 32 countries of the 5 continents, participating in the Church's common mission of Evangelization, Witnessing and Human Promotion, through the varied ministries of academic education, technical education, specialized education for the blind, the deaf and the mute, and

numerous other projects in pastoral animation, and human empowerment programs. In fulfilling our mission as consecrated persons, we draw our spirit and inspiration from our Founder St. Louis Marie de Montfort and from our Rule of Life and Constitutions: "Your active share in the Evangelizing mission of the Church, as a Brother of Saint Gabriel, lies in the privileged field of education, particularly that of the school-going youth (RL 63). The Church is ever anxious that the Good News be proclaimed to the poor. Near you, or in far-away countries, they await your fraternal love and your help, to make them conscious of their human dignity, to free them from oppression of every kind, to dispel their ignorance, to lighten their spiritual distress to satisfy their long for a hope of salvation (RL 64).

We trace our origin back to 1715 when 4 young disciples of St. Louis Marie de Montfort took their First Vows in his presence. The whole Montfortian Family, and all their valuable Associates and Collaborators, had the joy of celebrating the Tercentenary of our origin and the death our beloved Founder, St. Louis Marie de Montfort in 2015-16. Therefore, this privilege of a Private Audience with your Holiness comes to us as a Jubilee Gift. We are reminded of that historical meeting of St. Montfort with His Holiness Pope Clement XI on June 6, 1706. The whole Montfortian Family is also indebted to Pope St. John Paul II, for his visit to the tomb of St. Montfort on the occasion of the 50th Anniversary of his canonization in 1997. We are equally proud of the fact that Pope St. John Paul II owed his episcopal



motto “Totus Tuus” to the writings of St. Montfort, as he himself declared in his letter to the Montfortian Family on 8th December 2003, on the occasion of the 160th anniversary of the publication of the “True Devotion to Mary”: “As is well known, in my episcopal coat of arms... the motto Totus Tuus is inspired by the teaching of St. Louis Marie Grignion de Montfort... This Saint’s teaching has had a profound influence on the Marian devotion of many of the faithful and on my own life”. I take the liberty of adding here that the whole Montfortian Family was praying and hoping that we would receive another Tercentenary Gift, the

declaration of St. Louis Marie Grignion de Montfort as a Doctor of the Church!

With renewed expression of our filial affection and assurance of prayers, most Holy Father, we seek your Apostolic Blessings on the whole Montfortian Family, and all our Associates and Collaborators in mission.

Bro. John Kallarackal, SG
Superior General

Pope Francis receives Montfort Brothers of Saint Gabriel and the Members of the Montfortian Family, in the Sala Clementina of the Vatican Apostolic Palace on 27-04-2018



Address of the Holy Father

Dear brothers and sisters,

I am glad to welcome you on the occasion of the 32nd General Chapter of the Brothers of Christian Instruction of Saint Gabriel. I thank the superior general for his kind words. I also greet the Monfort Missionaries and the Daughters of Wisdom, as well as the Sisters of Saint Joseph of Kottayam, with many good wishes for their anniversary.

This is an opportunity to commemorate, to give thanks and to return to the foundation placed more than three hundred years or so ago by Saint Louis-Marie Grignion de Monfort – the anniversary of whose death we remember tomorrow – a foundation to which Fr. Gabriel Deshayes has given new impetus. One of these foundations is the Word of God, to be meditated constantly so that it may be incarnated in

life and gradually models thoughts and gestures on those of Christ. The other is Wisdom, whose love and tireless searching inspired Saint Louis-Marie’s luminous pages. To obtain it, he invites us to “listen to God with humble submission; to act in Him and by Him, with faithful perseverance; and finally, to acquire the light and anointment necessary to inspire the love of wisdom in others, to lead them to eternal life(The Love of Eternal Wisdom, no. 30). Putting such counsel into practice, you will be able to discern the particular challenges that are always opportunities for “starting out again together from Christ and from Monfort”.

The theme chosen – Fraternal life and the community dimension in the Montfort mission – is intended to situate your mission in our world marked by individualism and globalization, consumerism, efficiency, and appearance, to try to be present in it as “inflamed” souls, inspired by the Spirit and living

Love with your heart and hands



in Wisdom. According to Saint Louis-Marie, this is the only wealth capable of “teaching us to be”. It is an appeal to each one of you and for your mission as educators. It rests on a certainty, that of the beauty of life, a freely-given gift of God, and on a hope: that of the possibility of its development to fullness thanks to the growth of love, which unifies all the dimensions of the person. This synthesis is built up every day in prayer, in docility to the Holy Spirit, in fidelity to your Rule of life and the charity you live. The perfect example to imitate is that of the Virgin Mary: as your Constitutions emphasize, total consecration to Jesus through Mary is the fundamental path of the Marian life of the members of the Institute.

Besides, fraternal life, as described in the Acts of the Apostles (2: 42-47), of itself bears witness. It attracts and evangelizes every day, and it is contagious. Those who see us live are sensitive to our way of being, of accepting the diversity of our points of view, of facing tensions and resolving them with delicacy, charity, and humility (cf. *Evangelii Gaudium*, 227; *Gaudete et Exsultate*, 89). In your communities or in apostolic workgroups, fraternity must encourage each person to be available to the Spirit by forgetting himself. Moving from a communal life to a fraternal life can make the daily journey easier and more joyful. Attention to the brother who stands beside me, along with dialogue, fosters communion in diversity. In the current spiritual crisis that generates anguish and sadness through the loss of the meaning of life, I invite you to form welcoming communities, in which it is beautiful to live, expressing to young people, in particular, the joy of following Christ and responding to His call. That they feel heard without prejudice, recognized and valued, so that they can offer with their enthusiasm the gifts that God has bestowed upon them for the good of all!

“Love with the heart and the hands”, summarizes what you aspire to live and to transmit. Only the “civilization of love” can give a soul to our globalized world, in the grip of constant change. Thanks to your charism lived with dedication and wisdom, you can be beacons, highlighting the evangelical character of the educational mission. The Gospel refers to life and action in all areas. Reflecting on it from this perspective, it can permeate the life of your communities as well as your collective mission as educators. Let us learn from Jesus, incarnate Wisdom, how to welcome the other and form links with him, especially if he is different, from another culture, from another generation, going to the heart of his expectation and expressing our love with concrete gestures, of compassion, of sharing, at the cost of risking, as I recalled in *Evangelii Gaudium* (88). Thus, the challenges of transmitting the faith and living together can be faced with creativity through pedagogy, the educational and social project of the institutes. At the center of your mission, there has always been attention to the poor and the marginalized. Continue to help them be agents of their future so as to take their place in society.

As I thank you for the treasure of your vocation in the Church, I invite you to “set out to sea” with trust and with renewed missionary zeal. In this Easter time, may the mystery of the death and resurrection of Christ be at the heart of your faith and your consecration, to enlighten the path of truth.

Entrusting the future of your mission to the maternal intercession of the Virgin Mary, Seat of Wisdom, I bless you all from the heart, along with your collaborators. And I ask you not to forget to pray for me. Thank you.



32nd GENERAL CHAPTER: (APRIL 8 TO 28, 2018)
 CLOSING MESSAGE OF SUPERIOR GENERAL ON 28.04.2018



MONTFORT BROTHERS OF ST. GABRIEL
FRÈRES MONTFORTAINS DE SAINT - GABRIEL



32nd GENERAL CHAPTER / 32^{ème} CHAPITRE GÉNÉRAL

**FRATERNAL LIVING AND THE COMMUNITARIAN DIMENSION
 OF THE MONTFORTIAN MISSION**



**VIE FRATERNELLE ET DIMENSION COMMUNAUTAIRE
 DE LA MISSION MONTFORTAINE**

APRIL 8 - 28, 2018 - ROME



Love with your heart and hands



As we come to the end of the 3 weeks we have lived together as brothers and as delegates of our entities making this historical event of the 32nd General Chapter a celebration, as envisaged by the Code of Canon Law (CC 631), I feel confident to call this Chapter an “unqualified” success for more reasons than one. As I reminded you all in the Inaugural Message, quoting from our Constitutions, “The General Chapter is a sign of UNITY and CHARITY (C 157). As we look back at the days we have lived together in the Chapter, it is quite evident that there was a great sense of unity and charity among the 50 delegates and all those others who were associated with the Chapter, despite the fact that we were coming from as many as 14 countries, born and brought up in different cultures, belonging to varied age groups, and adhering to different philosophies of life. It was very heartening to see that there was an appreciable degree of fraternal love and mutual respect for the persons, even when their views were quite contrary to ours. I feel confident to say that everyone who witnessed our life here during the days of the Chapter would proclaim that we have

been already living some of the aspects of Gaudete Exsultate of Pope Francis, even before the Apostolic Exhortation was officially released: “We are all called to be holy by living our lives with love and by bearing witness in everything we do, wherever we find ourselves (14)...Far from being timid, morose, acerbic or melancholy, or putting on a dreary face, the saints are joyful and full of good humor (122)”.

Words of Appreciation

If we can call the 32nd General Chapter an unqualified success, it is thanks to the collaborative efforts of different individuals and groups. On behalf of the Congregation I wish to place on record my sincere appreciation to all those who contributed in one way or another towards the meticulous planning, careful preparation and the successful completion of the 32nd General Chapter, though a formal Vote of Thanks was done yesterday evening.

1) In the first place, I wish to thank all the members of the Central Administration, who spent several months for the planning and preparation of this important event in the Congregation, especially in preparing their comprehensive reports on the different dossiers and by spelling out the challenges being faced today by the different sectors of the Congregation, which put the Chapter in the right perspective. Let me also take this opportunity to place on record my sincere gratitude to the outgoing



members of the General Council, Bros, Yvan Passebon, KM Joseph and Paulraj, for 6 years of living together as a community of government, six years of companionship and above all six years of valuable services as animators and administrators of the Congregation, in different capacities, and to Bros. Georges Le Vern and André Robert for their valuable contributions towards the successful function of the Central Administration.

2) My renewed thanks to Bro. Jean-Clouse the Facilitator-cum-Moderator, Bro. René Delorme and his team of the Chapter Preparatory Committee, all the Brothers, Sisters, the Chaplain and Collaborators of the Casa Generalizia, the Interpreters, the Secretary of the Chapter and the Assistant Secretaries, the Translators, the members of the Steering Committee, the members of the Drafting Committee, the Brothers who presided over the daily Eucharist, the two teams of the Tellers, the technicians, our high profiled altar boy, the Provinces that got ready with the backstage banner and the lovely mementoes, the catering service and all others who offered their committed services for the successful organization of the 32nd General Chapter. It is needless for me to say that we owe a great deal to the hard work, commitment and competence of Bros. Jean-Claude and René Delorme for the success of our Chapter.

3) I wish to say a special word of thanks to the Liturgy Committee, headed by Bro. Bernard Guesdon and abled assisted by Bros. Marcel and Sebastien, who animated all the liturgical services especially the meaningful and ceremonial celebration of the Eucharist this morning, and of course, without forgetting all the preparations done in advance by Bro. Ronald Brissette in getting the Prayers of the Church ready for our easy reference, for all the days of the Chapter.

Theme of the Chapter

Several Brothers had expressed their immense happiness as soon as they heard about the theme of the 32nd General chapter: “Fraternal Living and the Communitarian Dimension of the Montfortian Mission”, for its relevance to meet the main challenges that we are confronted with in living our life and mission more meaningfully in the 21st century, reading the signs of the times. The Logo and the Motto of the 32nd General Chapter further amplified the theme and gave us the needed tools to face these challenges. The motto “Love with your heart and hands” calls us to build our fraternity with our Brothers and all those who share our Montfortian Gabrielite Mission with love, compassion and joy, and to express our love and compassion by

concrete actions in our mission. The Logo with all its meaningful symbols, express our Christian identity, our Montfortian roots, the international character of our Congregation and finally reaffirming the powerful statement of Pope Francis, “Where there are religious, there is joy”, and that all our struggles in our life and mission as consecrated persons can be overcome with God’s grace. The Prayer prepared by the Chapter Preparatory Committee for our 32nd General Chapter, was a constant reminder to all of us of our origin, our call to be Religious Brothers and our mission as consecrated persons.

While listening to the reports of the Central Administration and the Provinces, we realized that there are lots of things that we as a Congregation can be proud of, and raise our hearts in thanksgiving. We were also brought face to face with a number of challenges of varied degrees. We were made to come to grips with the fact that the world is changing rapidly, and along with that our cultures and mentalities. During the General Chapter we became increasingly conscious of the need to be innovative in the field of formation in order to counter the challenges of declining vocations, increasing religious indifference, and constant erosion of basic religious values. We have realized that it is our responsibility as educators to take UN Sustainable development Goals as a focal point in mission. We have also realized that we need to rekindle the missionary dynamism of the Congregation in order to recapture the heroic services of missionaries of France, Canada, Belgium, Spain and Italy, who went as pioneers to Asia, Africa and South America. Time has come for the Congregation to strengthen its presence in the western sectors by starting International or Intercultural Communities and other innovative methods. The Chapter has also given a clarion call to the Asian Sector to lessen the burden of the west and to support the African sector in their march towards self-sufficiency.

Time of Grace

We were fortunate enough to have our General Chapter during a very important liturgical season, the Easter tide, beginning with the Feast of the Annunciation, contemplating Mary who said “Yes” to the message of Angel Gabriel, though she was totally unaware of what that entailed. In a similar fashion, about 15 days later Bros. Dionigi Tafferello, Jean-Paul Mbengue, Pratap Reddy and James TK have said their “Yes’s” to the mission that you have entrusted to them to be animators and administrators of the Congregation, following the example of our Blessed Mother, and trusting in the prayerful support of their Brothers. I wish to take this opportunity to congratulate Brothers



Dionigi Taffarello, Jean-Paul Mbengue, Pratap Reddy and James TK, for enjoying the trust of the delegates of this Chapter and thank them for their sense of availability to be at the service of the Congregation. The presence of our Bishop Gino Reali during the Inaugural Mass on 9th April, and the rare privilege we all had to be received by the Holy Father Pope Francis in Private Audience on Friday, 27th April, are all indications of the Church's interest in our Congregation because we are an integral part of the Church, participating in the common mission of the Church: Evangelization, Witnessing and Human Promotion.

It is another privilege to conclude our General Chapter on the Feast of St. Louis Marie de Montfort, our Founder and our inspiration, in the presence of the representatives of the whole Montfortian Family. Let me take this opportunity to congratulate Fr. Luizinho and his team of the General Council of the Montfort Missionaries on their election as leaders of their Congregation. I also take this opportunity to congratulate Sr. Louise and her team on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the beatification of Blessed Marie-Louis Trichet, and assure them of our

prayerful support for the success of their forthcoming General Chapter. We are ever grateful to the Montfort Missionaries and the Daughters of Wisdom, not only for their presence with us today as we conclude our General Chapter, but also for all the prayers offered at the grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes for the success of our General Chapter.

Dear capitulants, as you return to your Provinces, I request you to convey our greetings to all the Brothers, Associates and Collaborators in your Provinces. With renewed thanks to each and every one of you for your active and purposeful participation in the General Chapter, and with the fond hope that each one of you will become brand ambassadors of our resolve to love with our hearts and hands, within our communities and in our fields of mission,
NOW, I DECLARE THE 32nd GENERAL CHAPTER OF THE MONTFORT BROTHERS OF ST. GABRIEL CLOSED.

Br. John Kallarackal
 Superior General



Group photo of the 32nd General Chapter Members

Love with your heart and hands



BRIEF PRESENTATION OF THE GENERAL ARCHIVES

By Bro. Bernard Guesdon



PRESENTATION ON INFORMATION/COMMUNICATION

By Bro. Sebastian Antony Samy



REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL 2012-2018

By Bro. Georges Le Vern



TALK ON MONTFORTIAN EDUCATION

By Bro. Paul Texier



Love with your heart and hands



Feast of St. Louis Marie de Montfort and Closing Eucharist Celebration of the 32nd General Chapter



The delegates of the Chapter, the Members of the Central Administration of Montfort Missionaries and Daughters of Wisdom and the Brothers and Sisters of General House gathered in the Chapel at 11 h 00 for the Concluding Eucharistic Celebration which was presided over by Rev. Fr. Luizinho, the Superior General of Montfort Missionaries. The Holy Mass commenced with a procession of the Superiors General of Montfortian Family along with the concelebrants carrying the most significant Montfort's relic, Marie Louise's relic, Our Lady of the Way and Fr. Gabriel Deshayes' cross to the altar. Bro. Dionigi Taffarello has officially welcomed the gathering and the special guests. During the homily, Fr. Luizinho reiterated that his vocation as Montfortian was influenced by a Montfort Brother of St. Gabriel. He also invited the delegates to share a most striking sentence or a word from the message of Pope Francis to the Chapter delegates during the private audience. The grace-filled moment of the Holy Mass was pronounced by the newly elected General Council in serving the Congregation faithfully. After the Holy Communion the Superior General gave his closing message to the Capitulants which highlighted the theme of the Chapter, the proceedings and dynamism of the Chapter, words of appreciation and the moments of grace experienced. At the end of his closing message he officially closed the 32nd General Chapter at 12 h 28.

Love with your heart and hands



During the special Lunch Fr. Jean Claude, Fr. Luizinho and Sr. Louise were honoured with special shawls and mementos of the Chapter. The feast day celebration was marked with the cutting of the cake by the Superiors General. Bro. Pratap Reddy thanked Bro. John Kallarackal, the Superior General, for all his valuable contributions towards the success of the Chapter and the Papal audience. He also thanked the catering group for their service.



Love with your heart and hands



NEW RELEASE

Paul Texier

Louis Marie Grignion
de Montfort
éducateur



Frères de Saint-Gabriel – Province de France

MONTFORT BROTHERS
Trendsetters
in
Holistic Education

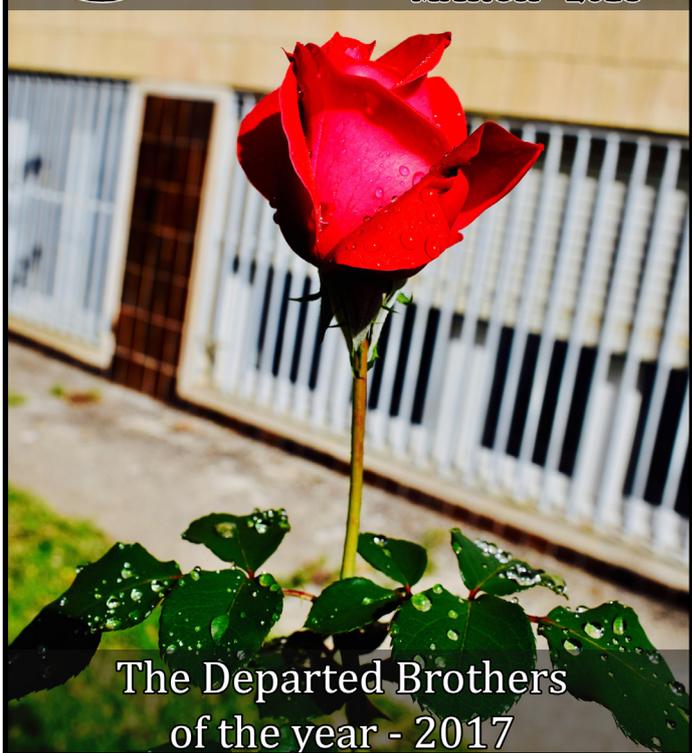


Montfortian Spirituality



Bro. Lawrence Joseph, s.g.

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The Departed Brothers
of the year - 2017

Love with your heart and hands

