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Italian Province in Chapter

BERGAMO, Italy - *From 9 to 11 October, the Provincial Chapter of Italy celebrated its second session, the one dedicated to the reception of the Acts of the General Chapter.*

A time to verify the spiritual path and the action plans while integrating the Provincial programs into the provisions given by the General Chapter.

In the last six years, both at an Italian and international level, the transformation in social and religious life as well as in the mission have been great. As a result, this calls for a different way of announcing the Gospel, a courage to adopt new forms of mission, a lifestyle centered on essential values, a language never heard before, a loyal and joyful challenge to the mentality of the world, in the name of divine wisdom.

The chapter assembly gathered in our house at Redona in the presence of the General Superior and his Vicar. In the process, the assembly became aware that the Company of Mary during the last General Chapter in May chose, as a theme for today in the Church and in the world, a Montfort's phrase which invites us to "dare to take risks" so as to accomplish "great things" for God. Paradoxically, for a Congregation that the Founder designated as "small and poor" and still today not very numerous, finds itself at the threshold, between young people coming

from different cultures and different worldview, enthusiastic but in need of experience, and elderly people rich in history and wisdom but weak in strength.

In this atmosphere echoes the voice of the Founder saying: “Do not be afraid, little flock... you have the Lord with you!” And he further calls each of us from agitation to tranquility and confidence in knowing that there is “a Father in heaven who never fails”.

In this perspective, the Province of Italy resumes accelerating its path for new projects, aware of its limits, but also proud of its founding charism, which speaks of a “chosen company” of children of God and Mary, free from everything but docile to the breath of the Spirit, “so that the face of the Earth may be renewed and the Church reformed”.

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