



SG 30-2022
Rome, 14 June 2022

DARE TO TAKE RISKS FOR GOD AND FOR HUMANITY

Our creative fidelity

Dear Confreres,

First of all, I would like to greet you, renew my closeness to you and assure you of my humble prayers.

I am reaching out to you, once again, with another document. It is for us to continue together the path towards the General Chapter of 2023 with the same motivations with which we began the process in 2021 in the dynamics of communion, participation and acting together. We know that it is a process that is a real *Kairos* for the whole Congregation.

Yes, what we are experiencing is a *Kairos*: that is, a moment of God, a grace and a call that the Lord addresses to the whole Congregation. I hope it will truly be an authentic event of the Spirit that involves the participation of all, including the lay people who work alongside us in the different areas of mission.

For this process to be truly fruitful, it is essential that it be a true journey of discernment, open to the Holy Spirit, carried out in prayer and contemplation. If, along the way, a difficulty arises, it must be faced with serenity and dialogue.

It is therefore in this climate of dialogue, of walking together, as a Congregation on “going out” that we are entering the second phase of our preparation for the General Chapter of 2023.

In the first phase we suggested a theme and you were asked to propose logos, drawings, poems, videos... with the help of texts from Father de Montfort. We thank all those who sent us proposals.

The definitive theme chosen for this General Chapter is therefore “Dare to take risks for God and humanity. Our creative fidelity”. You also have at the top of this letter the retained logo inspired by an expression of Father de Montfort.

For this second phase of preparation, we propose that you reread the acts of the General Chapter of 2017, to begin with what had been decided and to go deeper into what demands new actions and reflections. We also propose that you reread the *Vademecum* which insisted on certain points present in the acts of the General Chapter.

For us to have a real synodal approach, we invite you to mobilize the councils, communities or groups of confreres so that they can do this rereading and be able to respond within the framework of a meeting to this questionnaire that you have in your hands. This shouldn't take more than half a day of reflection. We are counting on you to transmit this document as soon as possible, including lay people if you think it possible. You are invited to send your thoughts **before November 20** to the following address: chapitresmm2023@gmail.com

If in some entities it is easier to centralize responses, thank you to those responsible for collecting the completed forms and sending them to the same address. If postal mail is better, you can send this to the general administration.



If confreres wish, they are invited to do the same with the same final date to respond. A very big thank you to all in advance for taking charge together of the future of our congregation.

In order to live this half-day well and to begin in a spiritual way, we propose for you a Para liturgy which could be of help if you so desire. You will find it at the beginning of the questionnaire. At the end of your work, you could also offer a Marian prayer for the success of the General Chapter and sing, for example, a “Salve Regina”.

The questionnaire makes use of the acts of the General Chapter of 2017 as well as the *Vademecum* by highlighting the convictions expressed there. This is a reminder before responding to the different questions. If you have other convictions, thank you for making them known to us.

Then, we have retained questions that touch on the actions that were suggested in the documents. We have only kept the actions that seemed most important to us. For most of the questions you are invited to say YES/NO or IN PLANNING. It suffices to check off a square, but we ask you to MAKE A COMMENT to illustrate your response in the square provided for that. Your other reflections are also welcome.

The analysis of the answers will lead to the choice of the themes which will be treated during the General Chapter of 2023. This will be the third phase of preparation. These will be complemented by questions expressed during the 2022 EGC in Rome. The idea is to propose a General Chapter as close as possible to the concerns of all while taking into account the diversity that characterizes the congregation.

We are also sending you an image (logo) with the prayer that we are proposing to you to accompany the Chapter. This logo has been selected during the EGC of last May among the five logo proposals that we had received from different entities. It is the same for the prayer which is composed from four other suggestions. This small gift will strengthen our unity since we will all be drawn into the same prayer. This image can be distributed during the half-day of reflection and its use explained so that we move forward together towards the central theme “Dare to take risks for God and humanity. Our creative fidelity”.

The risks in question relate to all the aspects of innovation that we have implemented since the last Chapter to respond better to our missionary vocation, to serve God and humanity better. To risk is to dare, like Father de Montfort, to reach out to those who do not know Christ, it is to be close to the neglected, it is to invent a lifestyle that responds to the challenges of our time, it is to seek ways of being fraternal, it is to be missionary disciples, men of hope.

All these steps that we have taken together as Montfortians are to be celebrated and strengthened from the spiritual treasure that our Founder left us and that the Virgin Mary accompanies. Our tradition is a living resource when it is kindled by the Lord, this is what we will try to specify in a concrete way during our future General Chapter. But this can only be done thanks to your participation in this preliminary phase that we propose to you and to your prayer that the Chapter will be a good moment of missionary fraternity.

For the general administration team,

*Fr. Luiz Augusto STEFANI, SMM
Superior General*



SUGGESTION FOR A PARALITURGY

OPENING SONG

PRAYER:

O God, you inspired Saint Louis Marie to undertake the apostolic mission of preaching the Gospel of Christ your Son to all people. Aided by his prayers and taught by the Virgin Mary, grant that we may be open to the inspiration of your Spirit, attentive to the cries of the poor, and so become untiring messengers of your reign. We make our prayer through our Lord Jesus Christ your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever. Amen.

WORD OF GOD: 2 Tim 1: 6-11

“For this reason, I remind you to stir into a flame the gift of God that you have through the imposition of my hands. For God did not give us a spirit of cowardice but rather of power and love and self-control. So do not be ashamed of your testimony to our Lord, nor of me, a prisoner for his sake; but bear your share of hardship for the gospel with the strength that comes from God. He saved us and called us to a holy life, not according to our works but according to his own design and the grace bestowed on us in Christ Jesus before time began, but now made manifest through the appearance of our savior Christ Jesus, who destroyed death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel, for which I was appointed preacher and apostle and teacher.”

MEDITATION SONG:

Before each intercession one can light a candle or make another symbolic gesture

INTERCESSIONS:

Let us lift up our prayer to God who is faithful and good and who never abandons his handiwork. Let us entrust to him the Montfortian Congregation that he has raised up for the service of the Church.

Refrain: e.g. “O God hear us, hear our prayer”

Father, you who wish to inaugurate the Reign of Jesus through Mary, make us good workers for your harvest, so that we might participate in building with you, through our mission, this reign of love and justice.

Father, you who have promised the Holy Spirit so that under his inspiration all things might be renewed, give us enough courage and clear-sightedness to discover a new way of being Montfortian today.

Father, you who provide for different needs of the Churches and peoples today, open our eyes to discern the signs of the times and help us to respond to the hopes and anguish of our world.

Father, you who call us to be men who are free, ready to go wherever the Spirit blows, make us imitators of the Apostles who proclaim the Gospel with fidelity and creativity.

Father, you who chose the Virgin Mary to give the world your Son, the Word made flesh, make us her true children, so that in her we might be formed to attain the full stature of Christ.



PRAYER FOR THE 2023 GENERAL CHAPTER:

God our Father,
remember your Congregation
that you possessed in your heart and
that your Son entrusted to Mary, his mother.

Look at us in our poverty and limitations.
Receive and transform them with your own power
so that your kingdom comes in us and through us.

May your Spirit of love
make us true promoters of communion and participation
in the mission of the Church,
following the example of your servant, Louis-Marie de Montfort.

May your light guide our steps
to be faithful to our missionary heritage within the Church:
to establish the reign of Jesus through Mary.

May this divine fire give us the audacity to take risks, without fear,
so that we can respond effectively with new missionary initiatives
to the needs of the most fragile of humanity.
Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Mary, Queen of the Apostles, *pray for us.*
Saint Louis-Marie de Montfort, *pray for us.*
Blessed Marie-Louise of Jesus, *pray for us.*



REFLECTIONS ON OUR REALITY IN PREPARATION FOR THE CHAPTER OF 2023

FROM THE GENERAL CHAPTER OF 2017

1. THE CHALLENGE OF ONGOING CONVERSION

- Convictions expressed at the general chapter

The passionate love of God for us is the heart and the basis of our religious life. We need to constantly renew our answer to this love and to who we are. Spiritual experience and fraternal life form a single whole that one cannot separate.

Since the chapter, do you have another conviction to express

1.1. Establishing a time of renewal in the entity

Yes		No		In Planning	
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Your comments:

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1.2. Prepare programs to revive the sources of the Montfortian tradition

Yes		No		In Planning	
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Your comments:

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1.3. Have you found a way to reflect on our vows in the world of today?

Yes		No		In Planning	
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Your comments:

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1.4. Have you utilized modern means of communication to nourish relations among you?

Yes		No		In Planning	
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Your comments:

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1.5. Have you proposed meetings and community retreats that integrate times for sharing on the spiritual life?

Yes		No		In Planning	
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Your comments:

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1.6. How do you see the accompaniment of the confrères by the superior (provincial and community superior) in your entity?

Strong		Little satisfying	
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Your comments:

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2. THE CHALLENGE OF CREATING A CULTURE OF ONGOING FORMATION

- Convictions expressed at the general chapter

The love of Christ and love for the congregation and the needs of the world today impel us to act and to hold ourselves accountable to our ongoing formation. To choose ongoing formation is to choose life. Not to choose it or to delay it is to choose death. Ongoing formation allows the confrères and the communities to be more vibrant, passionate, and with a vision toward the future. The responsibility for ongoing formation lies primarily with the individual confrère.

Since the chapter, do you have another conviction to express?

2.1 Promote a kind of ongoing formation in each entity

Yes		No		In Planning	
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Your comments:

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2.2 On which points have you advanced?

	Yes	No
Holistic approach		
Human formation, Psychological et sexual.		
Montfortian formation		
Acquiring competencies for ministry		



Your comments:

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2.3 What means of ongoing formation have been reinforced?

	Yes	No
Lectio Divina		
Regular reading of the works of Father de Montfort		
Community rereading of "Together... in the footsteps of the poor apostles"		
Reading of the documents of the Church (e.g. Evangelii Gaudium) and of the Congregation		

Your comments:

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2.4 Prepare an annual plan for ongoing formation and make a report to the general administration on what has been done

Yes		No		In Planning	
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Your comments:

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2.5 Find ways of fostering growth of their spiritual life among the confrères

Yes		No		In Planning	
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Your comments:

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2.6 Efforts by each confrère to put into practice the program of ongoing formation

Yes		No		In Planning	
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Your comments:

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2.7 Your satisfaction level with the « ongoing formation resource bank »

Very satisfied		Satisfied		Not satisfied	
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Your comments:

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2.8 Utilization of existing means of ongoing formation

	Yes	No
The resource-community at Saint-Laurent		
FIM (Montfortian International Formation)		
The Montfortian Month		
PPP (Preparation for Perpetual Profession)		

Your comments:

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2.9 Are you satisfied by the way in which your entity and the generalate are attending to ongoing formation

	Yes	No
At the level of the generalate:		
At the level of the entity:		
Identifying and formation of confrères who show talents to become formators or in charge of services		

Your comments:

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3. THE CHALLENGE OF INITIAL FORMATION AND ACCOMPANIMENT OF YOUNG CONFRERES IN A MONTFORTIAN SPIRIT

- Convictions expressed at the general chapter

We believe that formation is the work of a team and not of a single man. We are convinced of the need for involvement of the whole entity, and of the importance of witnessing in the formation process. We insist on the implementation of the Montfortian identity in the process of initial formation and in the day-to-day life of our young confreres involved in missionary activities.

Since the chapter, do you have another conviction to express?

3.1 Elements to reinforce during initial formation. Have you done them?

	Yes	No
Psychological and psychosexual evaluation of each candidate.		
Offer a personal and regular accompaniment during the scholasticate		
Take into account the personal history and family milieu of each candidate		
Offer a personalized follow-up by professionals in the case of a difficult situation		
A specific formation concerning the protection of minors and of vulnerable adults.		



Your comments:

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3.2 Prepare new programs in favor of young confrères

	Yes	No
Prepare communities capable of welcoming young confrères		
Name a reference person responsible for the young confrères		
Organize regular formation sessions for the team that accompanies the young confrères		
Consolidate or put into place meetings of young confrères on the level of the Congregation at various levels		

Your comments:

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3.3 Put the accent on Montfortian identity

	Yes	No
Consecrate specific time for Montfortian formation		
Make available Montfortian resources during the stage of initial formation		
Promote the missionary dimension during of formation		
Encourage Montfortian moments (pilgrimages, Montfortian week-end, preparation for the consecration		
Evaluate and update frequently the formation programs		

Your comments:

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3.4 Your satisfaction concerning Volume 2 of the Ratio of our Congregation

Very satisfied		Satisfied		Not satisfied	
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Your comments:

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4 THE CHALLENGE OF EVANGELISATION OF TODAY'S WORLD « A LA MONTFORT »

- Convictions expressed by the General Chapter

We are convinced that, as followers of Jesus, « the Lord has sent us to bring Good News to the poor» (the peripheries) Father de Montfort pushes is to be daring and creative, in abandonment to Divine Providence on our missionary journeys. We are challenged by the thirst for transcendence and spirituality in today's world. Our prayer and enthusiasm enable us to « touch hearts ».

Since the chapter, do you have another conviction to express?

4.1 Put in place an « itinerant popular mission »

Yes		No		In Planning	
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Your comments:

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4.2 What is the level of your collaboration with lay people?

Very satisfying		satisfying		Little satisfying	
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Your comments:

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4.3 Do you have a program to share our spirituality with lay associates?

Yes		No		In Planning	
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Your comments:

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5 THE CHALLENGE OF THE TRANSMISSION OF THE MONTFORTIAN HERITAGE

5.1 Spiritual heritage

- Convictions expressed by the General Chapter

Daring to journey as Father de Montfort did, with our creative fidelity, finding a new breath in the understanding of the writings and life of Father de Montfort ; proposing Marian devotion in a renewed language. The Montfortian sites are a source of inspiration for our spirituality. Our communities are important for the diffusion of the spirituality and ought to be places of welcome, where hope, peace and joy are nurtured. The life and works of each confrère have great value, particularly those of the senior confreres.

Since the chapter, do you have another conviction to express?

5.1.1 Strengthen the bonds with the Marian associations

Yes		No		In Planning	
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Your comments:

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5.1.2 Launch new courses or new research in Marian theology

Yes		No		In Planning	
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Your comments:

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5.1.3 Have you begun to gather the memoirs of the older confrères?

Yes		No		In Planning	
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Your comments:

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5.2 Heritage of our temporal goods and fixed assets

- Convictions expressed by the general chapter

The vow of poverty involves dealing with the management of our temporal goods. The goods and the administration of finances are at the service of the mission. Solidarity among the confrères is essential. Our temporal goods are the heritage of the whole Congregation.

Since the chapter, do you have another conviction to express?

5.2.1 Preparation of brothers for management

Yes		No		In Planning	
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Your comments:

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5.2.2 Create a plan for financing formation

Yes		No		In Planning	
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Your comments:

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5.2.3 Launch new projects with a view toward economic self-sufficiency, taking it in charge

Yes		No		In Planning	
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Your comments:

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5.2.4 Have you made an inventory of the temporal goods of the entity?

Yes		No		In Planning	
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Your comments:

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6 CHALLENGE OF A STYLE OF GOVERNANCE ADAPTED TO THE REALITIES OF THE CONGREGATION AND THE WORLD

- Convictions expressed by the General Chapter

Governance is a way of being present, of entering into relationships. The leader must be a man of contact, actively involved in the life around him, loving humanity; he must practice trust and be perceived as a man of trust; he must follow Christ, seeking to imitate his gentleness, his gaze, his words and his deeds. We must always aim at shared responsibility. In governing one must always try to exercise a balance between openness toward confrères and confidentiality.

Since the chapter, do you have another conviction to express?

6.1 Formation for leadership. Have you launched some programs ?

Yes		No		In Planning	
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Your comments:

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6.2 Have you launched procedures for evaluation?

Yes		No		In Planning	
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Your comments:

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6.3 Have you launched operations for collecting funds?

Yes		No		In Planning	
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Your comments:

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FROM THE VADEMECUM

7. COMMUNICATION AT THE SERVICE OF THE CONGREGATION AND ACCOMPANIMENT OF THE CONFRÈRES

- Convictions and challenges from the *Vademecum*

The domain of communication with its effects imposes itself more and more on our modern society, determines a style of life and new values and touches our Congregation.

Since the chapter, do you have other convictions to express?

7.1 Your satisfaction on the way information circulates in the Congregation and in your entity.

Very satisfied		Satisfied		Little satisfied	
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Your comments:

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7.2 The impact on the use of modern means of communication on your fraternal life.

Positive		Negative	
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Your comments:

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7.3 Are you well equipped to use the media with responsibility, but also to easily detect false information/fake news?

Yes		No	
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Your comments:

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8. ACCOMPANIMENT OF THE CONFRÈRES

- Convictions and challenges from the *Vademecum*

Every believer needs to be accompanied in his spiritual life.

The question of integral accompaniment concerns all the confrères at every stage of their Montfortian life, and most particularly the youngest, beginning their apostolic life, an often delicate period of transition.

Since the chapter, do you have other convictions to express?

8.1 Do you sometimes have recourse to external mediation / specialized persons in the context of accompaniment?

Yes		No	
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Your comments:

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8.2 The spiritual dimension, is it regularly worked on in this process of accompaniment (retreats, recollections...)?

Yes		No	
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Your comments:

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8.3 Are meetings of confrères of the same generation often organized in your entity?

Yes		No	
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Your comments:

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9. FORMATION FOR LEADERSHIP

- Convictions and challenges from the *Vademecum*

Formation of a leader putting the accent on listening, on recognition of the other's gifts, on trust and boldness aiding in learning constructive dialogue, active non-violence. It ought to lead the entities toward a renewal of their dynamism, and openness of spirit; toward giving responsibility to the youngest.

Since the chapter, do you have other convictions to express?

9.1 Have you proposed formation programs about constructive dialogue?

Yes		No		In Planning	
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Your comments:

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9.2 Have you made progress in the domain of consulting the confrères?

Yes		No	
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Your comments:

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9.3 Have you proposed formation programs for future leaders?

Yes		No		In Planning	
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Your comments:

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9.4 Have you noticed in your entity/community a growth in openness to the intercultural and international dimension?

Yes		No	
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Your comments:

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PROCEDURAL NORMS FOR THE GENERAL CHAPTER 2023

(Propositions to be voted in the Chapter)

Introduction

The course of the General Chapter is regulated by articles 222-228 and 236-243 of the Constitutions. It is usual to add a procedure which specifies certain points, facilitates a better organization of the work of the Chapter.

1. The Direction of the Chapter	<i>Suggestions:</i>
<p>1.1 - The Chapter is presided over by the Superior General with the help of a steering committee. The steering committee is constituted by the Superior General, Secretary General and two members elected by the Chapter with an absolute majority. The role of this committee is to direct the course of the Chapter by establishing the program and the daily agenda. The facilitator attends the meeting of the steering committee to present the process for the next day.</p> <p>1.2 - A secretariat, under the responsibility of the Secretary General of the Chapter, elected with an absolute majority, attends to the editing of the report and prepares the ballots for vote. The secretariat will be composed of the Secretary General and two assisting secretaries (who need not be from the capitulants) identified and proposed by the Superior General with the consent of his Council.</p> <p>1.3 - The scrutineers are the two youngest capitulants. Their role is to distribute, to collect and to count the votes, as well as to control the good running of voting.</p> <p>1.4 - The steering committee can call in experts on the matter being treated.</p>	



2. The assembly of the Chapter	<i>Suggestions:</i>
<p>2.1 - The assembly of the Chapter has the power to establish and modify its own procedure. Once it is established, any modification requires the approval of a qualified majority (two thirds).</p> <p>2.2 - The decisions and the orientations are only those which come from the capitulants gathered in the assembly.</p>	

3. The Sessions	<i>Suggestions:</i>
<p>3.1.1 - <u>The sessions of Information</u> deal notably with the reports of the generalate and of the different entities of the congregation. These reports involve some exchange and discussion, but they do not usually involve a special approval.</p> <p>3.1.2 - As much as possible, the reports which come from the government and from the Chapter groups are given to the capitulants in writing, before being read in assembly.</p> <p>3.1.3 - In the sessions of information, one can also deal with arguments presented by the capitulants, provided that they have been placed on the daily agenda. If the steering committee, by its good judgement, decides not to place it on the daily agenda, they must give their reasons to the interested party. This person can make an appeal to the assembly, which will decide on the matter by means of an absolute majority.</p> <p>3.2.1 - <u>Deliberative sessions</u> follow the rules set out in nn. 4.3 up to 4.10. Once the discussion is closed, the moderator/facilitator asks the assembly if it wants to vote on the proposition. If the assembly expresses, by an absolute majority, its desire to vote, the Secretary General reads the proposition in its definitive form and the vote is taken. If the proposition is rejected, it is sent back to the group from which it came, and the group decides, if needs be, whether to revise it and present it again.</p> <p>3.2.2 - An amendment can be made on the same proposition and only on that one; the discussion and the vote then is on the amendment only. If the amendment is accepted by the assembly, the discussion resumes on the proposition as amended; if the amendment is rejected, discussion resumes on the main proposition.</p>	



<p>3.3 – Sessions of Elections are the sessions in which the Chapter proceeds to the elections for the management of the Chapter, or the elections of the Superior General and of his council. The election of the Superior General and of his council is regulated by canon law, the Constitutions and the Statutes: (see) cf. Constitutions, no. 222-228; 236-243 and the respective General Statutes.</p>	
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4. Procedure	Suggestions:
<p>4.1 – Throughout the Chapter the report of the session will be dealt with in an appropriate way, agreed by the assembly. This will be proposed and accepted in the opening sessions.</p> <p>4.2 - The President presents the daily agenda for the current session and the work begins.</p> <p>4.3 - During the discussions, the facilitator gives the floor to the speakers, following the order of requests. No one takes the floor without going through the facilitator.</p> <p>4.4. - Interventions must not exceed three minutes.</p> <p>4.5 - One can speak for a second time only after the other capitulants (those who requested to speak for the first time) have finished their interventions.</p> <p>4.6 - The facilitator sees to it that each intervention made follows procedure and deals with the topic under discussion. Each capitulant can make an appeal against the decisions of the facilitator on these different points: such appeals are then voted without discussion by an absolute majority.</p> <p>4.7 - During the course of every debate or report, each capitulant can make the following motions: a) a request to suspend the session; b) a request to end the session for the day; c) a request to prolong his own intervention for a set amount of time. These motions must be seconded by another capitulant; if they are, a decision is made immediately, without discussion, by an absolute majority.</p> <p>4.8 - A point of order can be made when an intervention is not in line with the discussion in progress or if someone wants to clarify a doubt pertaining to the order of the business. One can even make a point of order which interrupts the one who has the floor. It is up to the</p>	



<p>facilitator to resolve the doubt.</p> <p>4.9 - Proposed modifications in procedure must be seconded by another capitulant. The facilitator gives the floor to the one who is proposing the modification and to another capitulant who is in favour of the modification. Two other capitulants can express the contrary view, after which a vote is taken, which requires a majority of two thirds.</p> <p>4.10 - The closing of discussion is made in the following manner:</p> <p>a) When there are no more requests to make an intervention, the facilitator declares that the discussion is closed, and a vote is taken, if one is required.</p> <p>b) A capitulant can present a motion to close the discussion. If this motion is seconded by another capitulant, it is voted on immediately, without discussion. To close the discussion a two thirds vote is required. If the discussion is closed, a vote is taken, if one is required.</p>	
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5. Voting and Elections	<i>Suggestions:</i>
<p>5.1 - Before a vote or an election, the facilitator will explain the rules which pertain to voting in order to assure a clear progress.</p> <p>5.2 - For the elections and the votes, we will proceed, unless otherwise indicated, according to Canon 119, which says:</p> <p>"1° - if it is a question of elections, that action has the force of law which, when a majority of those who must be convoked are present, receives the approval of an absolute majority of those who are present; after two indecisive ballots, the choice is between the two candidates who have obtained the greater number of the votes, or, if there are several (with the same numbers), between the two who are senior (in profession or age); after a third ballot, if the tie remains, the one who is the senior (in profession or age) is considered elected;</p> <p>2° - if it is a question of other matters, that action will have the force of law which, when a majority of those who must be convoked are present, receives the approval of an absolute majority of those who are present; after two ballots if it is a tie vote, the president can break the tie by his vote;</p> <p>3° - what touches all as individuals must be approved by all."</p> <p>The majority can be understood as follows:</p> <p>a) qualified majority: 2/3 of the votes cast;</p> <p>b) absolute majority: more than half of the votes cast;</p> <p>c) relative majority: the largest number of the votes cast.</p>	



<p>5.3 - The adoption, suppression or modification of an article of the Constitutions or of a norm of the Statutes requires a qualified majority.</p> <p>5.4 - That which touches the election of the Superior General and his assistants is explained in the Constitutions, articles 236-243.</p>	
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6. Groups for the discussions	<i>Suggestions:</i>
<p>6.1 - In order to accomplish its work or to facilitate the study of propositions brought before the Chapter, groups can be formed, made up of different members of the Chapter.</p> <p>6.2 - It is up to the steering committee to decide the number and the role of a group, after having consulted the assembly of the Chapter. People can also express their personal preferences.</p> <p>6.3 - Each group will choose for itself a president and a secretary, and determine its meeting times and the rules of procedure. All of the above is with the agreement of the steering committee which can make different suggestions.</p> <p>6.4 - Propositions brought before the Chapter are ordinarily assigned to a group. If capitulants themselves have their own propositions to contribute, they may give them, in writing and signed, to the corresponding group.</p> <p>6.5 - Each group prepares a written report, and, as much(far) as possible, communicates it to all the capitulants before the presentation of it in the assembly.</p> <p>6.6 - If at least two members are not in agreement with the report of the majority, they can prepare a minority report which enjoys the same right to be presented and discussed in the general assembly.</p> <p>6.7 - The reports of groups can follow this schema: notes and reports received - the reflections of the group - the conclusions of the groups with their motivations -the concrete propositions.</p> <p>6.8 - In the presentation of propositions, it is necessary to indicate whether it is a matter of propositions for normative texts (Constitutions or General Statutes) or propositions of simple opinions or <i>desiderata</i> regarding the life and the apostolate of the congregation.</p>	



7. The Manner of Concluding	<i>Suggestions:</i>
<p>7.1 - When the reports, the discussions and the voting are finished, it is good that the president of the Chapter gives/opens the floor to the capitulants who would still like to intervene or make some propositions.</p> <p>7.2 - It is desirable that the intervention be written, justified and not exceed three minutes. The facilitator asks the assembly if it wants to discuss the proposition. If there is a majority in favour, the discussion is begun, following the procedure indicated above.</p> <p>7.3 - At the end of the session, all the reports and propositions voted on by the Chapter are entrusted to the Secretary General, so that the definitive text may be prepared and that the complete acts of the Chapter may be signed by the members of the Chapter.</p>	



PROCEDURES FOR THE ELECTION OF THE SUPERIOR GENERAL AND OF HIS COUNCIL

(Proposition to be voted in the General Chapter 2023)

Procedures for the election of the Superior General	<i>Suggestions:</i>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Meeting by linguistic groups: Each group should define a profile of the leadership team to confront the current challenges which pose themselves to the Congregation. 2. In the general assembly we read these profiles retained in the groups. 3. A first personal orientation vote is proposed. The facilitator counts the votes and verifies with a council of wise men the acceptation for eligibility. He asks for a CV from the confreres who have accepted. 4. Present the names of the 3 confreres who have accepted their eligibility with their CV, having the most votes without indicating the number of votes. 5. Time for silence and prayer. 6. The next day, Mass of the Holy Spirit, then the voting according to the constitutions: role call of the capitulants, reminder of the secret nature, voting and proclamation of the results by the exiting superior general. 	
Procedures for the election of the General Councilors	<i>Suggestions:</i>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In the general assembly: reminder of the profiles drawn up by the groups. The superior general may intervene without giving names. 2. Meeting by continent and discussion not on the names but on the priorities. 3. Orientation vote on a list of 4 names. 4. The facilitator counts the votes and verifies with the council of wise men the acceptation for eligibility. 5. Display the 6 names most often suggested, but without indication of the number of votes. 6. Silence, prayer. 7. The next day we can proceed with the voting according to the constitutions. 	



AGENDA

1 May 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Opening Mass, procedures... - Report of the General Administration
2 May 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Economic report - Stroll about before the pannels and 1st presentations
3-4-5 May 2023	- Continuation of the presentations and first discussions of the themes
6-7 May 2023	- Workshops
8 May 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discernment with a view toward the election of the Superior General - Time of silence and adoration
9 May 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Elections - BBQ
10-13 May 2023	- Work in workshops and GA
14 May 2023	- Free time
15 May 2023	- Workshop ...
16 May 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discernment for the General Councilors - Elections
17 May 2023	- Workshops
18 or 19 May 2023	- Private audience with the Holy Father Pope Francis
18 or 19 May 2023	- Acts of the Chapter, letter to the confrères
20 May 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pact of the catacombs or Church of St. Bartholomew - Mass for the deceased - End of Chapter
21 May 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mass João Braz Card. DE AVIZ or Mons. José R. CARBALLO, O.F.M.
To be fixed	- Day of the Montfortian Family and lay associates (day of the audience)