



Meetings in Africa

The study of the draft prepared by the General Definitory of the “Declaration on the Charism” is being studied, as we already know, in the various geographical areas in which our Order is established. We recently gave a report on the meetings held in Colombia and Italy, which are now joined by those

in Africa. To be specific, Nigeria, the Central African Republic and Malawi have welcomed solemnly professed friars, between 30 and 45 years old, from various countries on the African continent, to reflect on the document. The three meetings were attended and directed by Father Daniel Ehigie, ocd, General Definitory for Africa.

The “Declaration on the Charism” in the media

The digital diary www.religiondigital.org, widely spread throughout the Spanish-speaking world, has recently echoed our process of study leading up to the “Declaration on the Charism” of our Order. With the title “The Discalced Carmel

studies and debates a first draft of the Declaration on their Charism”, the journalist Baltasar Bueno reveals that “the General Definitory of the Discalced Carmel, within the context of the process of rereading its laws, initiated after the Chapter Avila (2015) and taking into

account what was approved by the Extraordinary Definitory of Goa (2019), has prepared a **first draft of the Declaration on their Charism**, which largely reflects the proposals made by all the Circumscriptions of the Order during the first phase of the process: the rereading of the Constitutions.”

The religious digital newspaper, after very detailed and complete information about the process, adds

an interview given a few months ago by Fr Saverio Cannistrà, ocd, for the newspaper “Levante”, published in la Comunidad Valenciana, Spain.

Here you can check the news (in Spanish):

https://www.religiondigital.org/baltasar_bueno-correspon-sal_en_valencia/Carmelo-Des-calzo-borrador-Declaracion-Carismatica_7_2192550727.html

News from the Definitory meeting

Since the first part of January, Fr. Saverio Cannistrà, Superior General, is conducting the pastoral visit to the Caribbean Commissariat which will conclude with the celebration of the Commissariat Chapter.

Fr. P. Agustí Borrell, Vicar General, will be present in several preparatory plenary councils of the provincial chapters in Italy. Specifically, those of Naples, Sicily, and Central Italy. As for the remaining definitors, Fr. Johannes Gorantla is providing encouragement for a variety of youth

gatherings in India that are reflecting on the charismatic declaration, while Fr. Daniel Chowning is in the United States.

These weeks, Fr. Javier Mena is accompanying several chapters that are taking place in the Circumscriptions of Latin America: Chile, Peru, and Argentina, among others. Finally, these days Fr. Daniel Ehigie is carrying out a visitation to the Delegation of Occidental Africa, which is under the Iberian Province and comprised of our presences in Burkina Faso, Togo, and the Ivory Coast.

Chapters

Various Circumscriptions of our Order are holding – or will hold soon – their chapter reunions. As is the tradition, the Latin American presences are the first to hold their chapter reunions. Therefore, the Brazilian Province of San José chose Fr. Emerson Santos as provincial, while the Brazilian chapter of Our Lady of Carmen chose Fr. Everton R. B. Machado. In Mexico, the new provincial is Fr. Leonel J. Cenicerós Castro. One of the first chapters to celebrate was Central America, whose new provincial is Fr. Luis Beltrán Martínez.

The Chapter of the Chilean Commissariat has re-elected Fr. Erwin Montoya. Arriving at the chapters of Columbia and Argentina, as previously elected, are Frs. Carlos Alberto Ospina and Ricardo Prado, respectively. Also, the chapter of the Peruvian Commissariat began recently. The Circumscription had previously re-elected as Superior Fr. Alfredo Amesti.

Soon, the web page will offer a section where we will update these newly elected Provincials and Counselors of the different Circumscriptions.

The Secretary of Missionary Cooperation of the Order visits the “Great Work – Obra Máxima”

Monday and Tuesday, January 13 and 14, 2020, Fr. Jerome Paluku, General Secretary for the Missionary Cooperation of our Order visited the San Sebastian site of the “Obra Máxima.” The objective of his visit was to congratulate

and, above all, to encourage the animators of this Carmelite, non-government organization which is deeply involved in the promotion and financing of the developmental works of many of our missions in various countries of the world. Fr. Jon Korta, General

Administrator of “Obra Máxima,” presented to Fr. Jerome the work that he and his team carry out daily: analysis and management of projects, assistance for the needs of the missionaries, and direction of aid to areas of need, etc. In this way, the NGO continues the tradition of providing help to the missions of the Discalced Carmelites of the Navarra Province, who merit our recognition and admiration. Very good channels of collaboration and communication exist between the Secretary of Missionary

Cooperation and the «Obra Máxima.» Both wanted their visit to reinforce this relationship. As a reminder, the «Obra Máxima» is the principal organ of the Carmelites of Navarra devoted to the development and evangelization of the towns. It has a history of more than 85 years of service to the neediest, helping many projects in poor and vulnerable communities, thereby sustaining missionary actions, promoting vocations, and helping young people in formation within the Order.

Gathering of European formators

These days (from January 27 through February 1) the annual gathering of provincial formators takes place during the European Provincial Conference held at the Teresianum of Rome.

The theme chosen for this session is: “Vows: method for human and spiritual growth.” In order to

develop this theme, the morning is devoted to master classes while the afternoon provides time for group sharing and debate on the contents presented, with the goal of encouraging fraternal communion among the formators of the diverse Circumscriptions. Fr. Agustí Borrell, Vicar General, accompanies the formators.