



## Definitory Meeting

**O**n June 1, the General Definitory began its quarterly meeting. A hallmark of this meeting is the confinement of the Superior General and Definitors in the General House in Rome since the last meeting in March. Logically, there have been no visits to provinces or travel of any kind, although the Definitory has been able to follow the situation of the circumscriptions using telematic technologies.

During this time, the Definitory will analyze the state of affairs of the numerous provincial chapters that are pending. The hope is that it will be possible to celebrate most of them in June and July. Meanwhile, preparation for the next course will move forward,

focusing on the General Chapter which is expected to be held in May 2021. An important milestone that will occur previous to that event is the Extraordinary Definitory in which the new provincial superiors are called to participate. Because the initial plan to celebrate it at the end of August in Mexico is unlikely, a new date will be decided upon in this meeting.

As usual, the Definitory will discuss other specific topics of interest in the present moment and will especially take into consideration the way in which the unexpected and surprising coronavirus pandemic has affected friars, nuns, and seculars, and its consequences in the life of the Order.

## Priestly Ordination in Lithuania

**O**ur brother Jonas Vidas Labanauskas received his priestly ordination on May

30, 2020, from the hands of Bishop Eugenijus Bartulis.

Father Vidas' Carmelite and theological

formation was mostly undertaken in Spain. He has a licentiate in Theology from the Theological Faculty of Northern Spain, Burgos, with a thesis on the presence of the Holy Spirit in the work and doctrine of Saint Teresa of Jesus.

Together with two Polish Discalced Carmelites in the Province of Warsaw,

Father Vidas will continue to belong to the Kaunas community in Lithuania, which with work and enthusiasm sets roots for the presence of the male branch of the Teresian Carmel in that Baltic country. Construction of the convent is still underway, and we hope that the brothers will soon be able to move into it.

## Fr. Jean-Raoul Kiyangi, Congolese Carmelite, Province of Germany

**O**n June 2 during its triennial Chapter, the German Province of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross elected their new Provincial, Fr. Jean-Raoul Kiyangi who was professed in the General Comisariat of the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Fr. Jean-Raoul was born in 1970 in Lusanga in the Kikwit region. On August 15, 1994, he made his religious profession in the noviciate of Kananga and was ordained to the priesthood in 2002. He arrived in Germany in 2004 to undertake doctoral studies in

theology. He finished his studies in 2010 at Würzburg University with a thesis on juvenile violence. He served as provincial counselor (2011) as well as Provincial Vicar and Prior in Munich (2017).

The past 2nd of June he was elected Provincial in the Chapter that met in Würzburg. Fr. Jean-Raoul became the first non-European Carmelite to lead a European Province of the Order.

Undoubtedly, the Order will remember this fact in the future, a sign of maturity and the fruit of the Carmelite missionary efforts.

## A stamp dedicated to St. Teresa of the Andes

The Vatican Post Office is returning slowly to normal activity following the unavoidable hiatus caused by the COVID-19 crisis. So, next June 23, new stamp series will debut, among which is expected a stamp of St. Teresa

of Jesus of the Andes. The stamp has been scheduled to commemorate the centenary of the death of the Chilean Carmelite saint on this past April 12. Because of the pandemic, the Holy See also conceded an expansion of the jubilee year motivated by this centenary.

## Our Order in Tanzania

We have received good news from the Vicarate of Tanzania: on July 7 and August 6, deacons Peter Carol Chami and Simon Rupoli will be ordained to the priesthood. On July 20, our brothers Hezron Michael Lucas, Cedrich Melkiory, Laurent Joseph, and Datus Prosper will make their first profession in Uyole-Mbeya (novitiate community). We thank God for these vocations to the Teresian Carmel and for them, we

ask for the protection of the Most Holy Virgin and St. Joseph.

The presence of the Order in Tanzania began with the building of a mission supported by all the provinces of India in 1983. Later, on May 8, 1992, the Province of Karnataka-Goa became responsible for the presence of the Teresian Carmel in the region. On March 20, 2002, the Regional Vicarate of Tanzania was created, dependent on that Province.

# Mancera, 450th Anniversary

The Iberian Province in Spain informs us of the 450th Anniversary celebration of the foundation of the friary of Mancera, Salamanca.

On a June 11th Feast of St. Barnabas, friars Juan de la Cruz and Antonio de Jesus of the then community of Duruelo (where the two friars had been novices) left Duruelo at the request of the Provincial Alonso because of the community's small size and unhealthy condition. Along with friars Juan Baptist and Pedro de los Angeles (who would later profess in Mancera on October 8, 1570), they made a foundation in Mancera. The friars

continued in Mancera for 30 years. In 1600, they made a new foundation in Avila that has been recognized since then by the title of first Discalced foundation. Teresa de Jesus attests to this fact in her book, *Foundations*, chapter 14.

Fr. Provincial Miguel Marquez of the Iberian Province presided over the Eucharistic celebration for the commemoration of the foundation. The Mass was concelebrated with D. Jose Carlos Alejo, (Vicar of the Contemplative Life), D. Fernando, (a young priest, son of Mancera), and Fr. Miguel Angel Gonzalez, OCD (Prior of Alba de Tormes).