



CASA GENERALIZIA CARMELITANI SCALZI
CORSO D'ITALIA, 38
00198 ROMA

Prot. n. 2022/234 DF

In the 35th session of the 15th day of June, 2022, the General Definitory approved the following

**PRACTICAL DECLARATION
ON THE INTERPRETATION OF N. 161 OF THE NORMS,
ON THE CONDITIONS NECESSARY FOR PERMISSION FOR A NEW FOUNDATION**

The General Definitory, having received the request to be able to start a new foundation of Friars, presented by a Circumscription, considers it necessary to specify the conditions for the Definitory to grant such permission.

The General Chapter, held in Rome from 30th August to 14th September 2021, approved the amendment to various *Norms*. Adding an important clarification to the previous formulation, *Norm* n°. 161 says:

New houses of the Order shall not be established nor retained, unless a sufficient number of religious, that is, never less than three solemnly professed, can be assigned such that our particular form of life can be duly carried out and our apostolic service adequately provided in a suitable manner, taking into account the needs of the Church and the appropriate expansion of the Order.

In this way, the Chapter wanted to draw attention to the fact that it is not licit to establish a new presence of the Order mainly to respond to an immediate pastoral need (in general, through taking on a parish), but it is necessary to verify seriously the possibility of being able to «duly carry out our particular form of our life»; as the *Declaration on the Teresian Carmelite Charism* approved by the same General Chapter (nn. 30-42) strongly reaffirms – it is qualified by an indispensable and robust community dimension, which cannot be disregarded without seriously distorting our identity and the quality of our witness.

In view of the real (and not only intentional) fulfillment of this norm, the General Definitory declares that from now on permission for a new foundation will be granted only after all the houses that make up the Circumscription will be permanently constituted by at least three solemnly professed.

All circumscriptions are therefore invited to conform their lives and structures to the indispensable needs of the charism of our Teresian Family, by making appropriate decisions.



P. Miguel

P. Miguel Márquez Calle, OCD
Superior General

P. Angelo Lanfranchi

P. Angelo Lanfranchi, OCD
Secretary General