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Prot. MG 91/16



Subject: XII General Chapter, pre-Chapter commission and external support.

Dear Sisters!

With this letter, I think it is the last of this year 2016, I come to you to communicate some informative notices on the organization of the next XII General Chapter, which, as you all know, will be held in Rome from 1st to 31st May 2017.

The first notice and, I think the most beautiful, that I want to share with all of you, is that Pope Francis responded positively to my request and has granted a Private Audience to the Chapter Group, on 25 May. A great grace and a gift of Divine Providence for our religious family. Surely the words that the Pope will address to us on that day will be of a lot of light for the decisions of the Chapter and for the life of our congregation over the next six years.

After the conclusion of all the provincial and regional chapters, having already a list of elected delegates to the XII General Chapter, together with the General Council, I created the "pre-Chapter commission" and identified some people who will collaborate externally during the course of the Chapter, on different tasks.

Furthermore we selected a group of guests from the FDP, the lay of MLO and other collaborators, who will participate in the work of the Chapter on days 12th, 13th, 15th and 16th May, and will also participate at the Pope's audience. Finally, we have the confirmation of three speakers invited to provide enlightments during these same days.

► **The pre-Chapter commission:** convened in Rome from March 20th, 2017, consists of:

- **Conduction of works:** Sr. M. Mabel Spagnuolo
- **Responsible of the Commission's work:** Sr. M. Sylwia Zagòrowska and Sr. M. Bernadeth Martins de Oliveira and, if necessary, will be invited all the members of the General Council.
- **Members of the Commission:**

Sr. M. Gabriella Perazzi and Mother M. Elisa Armendariz, Province of Mater Dei (Italy)

Sr. M. Józefa Kalinowska, the Province N. S. of Czestochowa (Poland)

Sr. M. Jesús Nieva, the Province of S. N. Luján (Argentina)

Sr. M. Rufina da Luz Pinheiro Province of N. S. Aparecida (Brazil)

Sr. M. Egiptienne **Delegation** of Mary Queen of peace (Madagascar)

► **Translations and external help to the Chapter:**

- **Translation service in the cabins during the time of the Chapter:**

Spanish / Italian / English: Sr. M. Ema Benavidez.

Polish / Italian: Sr. M. Elzbieta Paszczyk.

Portuguese / Italian: the same sisters of Brazil will be available, those who will participants in the Chapter.

- **External help preparation and progress:**

Communications Secretary:

Miss Salaroli Agnese and Sr. M. Mònica Lopez

Preparation of environments/ornamentation:

Sr. M. Elena Varela

liturgical service:

Sr. M. Faustina Orchowska and sr. Ema M. Benavidez

► **Invited to the XII General Chapter**

As concerning invitees we will publish the full list when we will have confirmation of all, but in the meantime I can already share with you some presences:

- The FDP Superior General and the General responsible of ISO and MLO.
- were also invited three other brethren of the General Council FDP, other members of the MLO of Italy and Poland, and other lay people who collaborate closely with our Congregation in Italy and Argentina.

The total of invitees is 12 people and the total of the Chapter Sisters, including delegates and invited, we are 38.

► **Invited speakers:**

On 12th to 16th, we will also encounter with the presence of some of the speakers, who were entrusted with some issues that will be of light for the reflections and decisions of the XII General Chapter, these are:

- Card. João Bras de Aviz, Prefect of the CIVCSVA, at the Vatican.
- Prof. Marco Guzzi, philosopher, poet and creator of group "*find peace*".
- Sister Tiziana Longhitano, Dean ISCSM - Pontifical Urbanian University.

Dearest! The XII General Chapter is a moment of grace and responsibility, for the life of our congregation. It is an event of the Spirit who want to orientate and reorient in tune with the times, our vocation and our prophecy, in the track of our founder St. Luigi Orione, to make our identity and our charism always relevant, propositive and apostolically fruitful in the Church and among the poor of today.

Living like "*body*" the Chapter is one of the most profound ways of being LMSC, to experience the sense of belonging and responsibility that all, without exception, we have on the life, the mission and the future of our Institute: "*this is the family* "!

The Prayer for the Chapter, which we are praying every day, personally and as a community, is a way to unite our voices and our hearts at this time that prepares us for the celebration of the Chapter and to ask the Lord, with faith and trust, the light and the discernment, that put us on the right path of God's will for us.

I greet you with fraternal affection in the Lord, I wish you a good start of the New Year 2017, I ask you to live in communion, in fraternity and in holiness of life.

May Don Orione sustain us in this time and that there is always the horizon of his holiness and his passion for God and for the poor, so that we can "give ourselves totally to God to be all for the neighbor" with love, with joy and with boundless generosity.

I greet you also on behalf of the General council and we continue always united in prayer.

Sr. M. Mabel Spagnuolo

Superior general

Rome, General House, December 28, 2016.