

FRANCISCAN MISSIONARY SISTERS  
OF THE SACRED HEART

# XIX GENERAL CHAPTER

JULY 2011

*From the gratitude of the memory*



*... to the commitment of the prophecy  
... in the footsteps of Providence*

**CHAPTER NEWSLETTER**  
**ONE ISSUE**

## A SPECIAL SURPRISE FOR THE 150 YEARS OF OUR INSTITUTE

**O**n the 8th of July, day of the solemn opening of the XIX General Chapter the delegates had a delightful surprise in the chapter room: the new full size oil painted portraits of our Founders! They are realised by the artist Gianluca Venezia and they seem so real that it is touching to look at them..

The foundress, Laura Leroux, the duchess of Beaufremont, young and delicate in her nobile features; the Founder, the Servant of God, Fr. Gregorio Fioravanti of Grotte di Castro in his Franciscan habit, holding his prayer book with a penetrating look which seems to scrutinise the observer. The background of the portrait is the cloister of St. Mary of Angels Monastery. The two portraits are certainly a special gift and an act



of gratitude, full of affection and devotion towards our Founders who 150 years ago, inspired by the Spirit and with strong faith following the path of Divine Providence, gave birth to the charism which the Lord entrusted to them: the mission in the Church of the Franciscan Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart.

To their intercession and that of our first sisters we entrust the Chapter work so that in the present remembering of the many blessings the Lord showered on our religious family we walk in newness of life and in the commitment of prophecy, to announce the total and unconditional love that Jesus on the Cross poured out from His heart on every human being.





## ON THE MEMORY STEPS...

### TO WALK TOWARDS THE FUTURE

The celebration of the 150 years of our Institute foundation in various and numerous circumstances is challenging each sister to go back with gratitude and awareness to the “grace of origins”. And so it seemed fitted to start the Chapter journey walking spiritually on the ways of our history, “remembering” the starting events so as to make present the enthusiasm and the courage of the beginning. A pilgrimage to the sources, drawing lymph and strength to look at the present with trust and open prophetically to the future.

From June 27 to July 2 the capitular sisters lived an intense experience of grace, through an itinerary of faith and of prayer, rich of so many emotions through the most meaningful places of our origins: from Padua, visiting Saint Anthony, our special Protector, to Venice, at the Convent and the Church of San Francesco della Vigna, where providentially the lives of our founders met to start the journey of the Franciscan Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart.

Most especially in Gemona, in the Mother House, it was very touching the connection with our origins, with our tradition and with the history of so many sisters that, in their daily fidelity and perseverance, lived and shared our charism in the whole world.

*Padua*



*Treviso*



*Cemetery Gemona*



*Motta di Livenza (TV)*



*Saint Anthony Shrine  
Gemona*



In the memory of all will remain unforgettable July 1, solemnity of the Sacred Heart: as in that April 21, 1861 so accurately narrated by Father Gregory in his historical Memoirs – the Cathedral of Gemona, crowded of people, coming even from Chile and Bolivia to share with the sisters this day of thanksgiving and of praise, welcomed the long procession of numerous sisters, gathered to celebrate the 150 years of the canonical opening of the Institute.

The Holy Mass, presided by the Archbishop of Udine, Mgr. Andrea Bruno Mazzocato and concelebrated by the emeritus bishops, Mgr. Alfredo Battisti and Mgr. Pietro Brollo, was a moment of intense and touching communion. This atmosphere of emotion and joy continued the whole day in the feast in the Mother House and ended with the Solemn Vespers, celebrated in the Shrine of saint Anthony in Gemona. The prayer was presided by fr. Luigi Bettin together with the community of our Franciscan brothers.



*The three Concelebrating Bishops*



In every moment of these days we could really exclaimed: “This is the Lord’s doing and it is a wonder in our eyes!” May He give to each Capitular sister the grace to draw with awareness to the source of the evangelical wisdom of our history, the capacity of discernment, an authentic spirit of faith to know how to share the richness of the past to a future full of hope, creativity and faithfulness.



*The vicar parish priest of Gemona offers a gift to Sr Emmapia*





## SPIRITUAL RETREAT

GUIDED BY FR GABRIELE FERRARI SSV

Today 5<sup>th</sup> July 2011, the chapter members, already gathered in the generalate of the Asisium enter into the real atmosphere of the chapter Assembly thus initiating the immediate preparation of the XIX General Chapter. In their reflection and prayer they were guided by the Most Rev. Fr. Gabriele Ferrari, a distinguished religious of the Xaverian Order, an expert in formation of consecrated

life and especially on mission issues.

In the morning hours Fr. Ferrari offered to the sisters interesting points of meditation, developing the theme: “Towards the General Chapter” giving accurate remarks and encouraging provocations such as:

1. What is a chapter?
2. What future are we facing?
3. Are we satisfied of the route we have already done or are we aware that we are “still on the way”?

The speaker continued by giving the audience precise indications such as:

1. Possible and dutiful routes,
2. The courage to be true to ourselves,
3. The exodus to be completed but together with the community.
4. How to overcome the fear the Institute is dying? How to increase our hope and faith about the future which does not depend on our own strength but on the quality of our sanctity.

In the afternoon father gave some time for deepening or clarifying questions which emerged in the morning. The atmosphere of sincere sharing in the discussion and the comparing of personal insights helped to the rising of further stimulating points of reflection regarding particularly: the identity of religious life in the church, the capacity of reading the signs of the time and the authentic dialogue with our society and history. Fr. Gabriele introduced then the theme of the mystical and prophetic dimensions of community life in the service of the mission. He put an emphasis on how today the community dimension of consecrated life is the sign that unifies and expresses religious consecration. Referring to some basic elements in



the documents Consecrated Life and Fraternal Life in Community he underlined three important truths for community life:

- consecrated life: a gift of God;
- a place where the religious try to conform their existence to Christ through the vows of obedience, poverty and chastity, which are considered as the symbols of man's original vocation.
- today the world and the man are in need of the **prophecy of fraternal life.**





**DURING THIS MORNING'S** meeting Fr Gabriele continued yesterday theme presenting the very important aspect of interpersonal relations pointing out that a religious community lives on communion and relations. This implies recognizing the otherness as diversity in the common identity. That requires openness and acceptance of the others in reciprocal love as it is a constitutive need of the person: I love you and I need your love. The human being has been infinitely loved and can love without limits. He can learn to love as Christ has loved him, with the love which was infused in his heart and which enables him to deny himself that is: not considering himself first and most important, retracting himself from being the centre in order to reserve that place to the kingdom of God.

The fact of recognizing otherness implies especially for us as a missionary Congregation, another fundamental aspect that of intercultural. If internationality is a fact, said Fr Gabriele, the intercultural is a duty, a must, a choice which has to be expressed, as a consequence in a certain mentality and spirituality. The interchange of cultures is always life giving. If the process of inculturation is realised in a project which enters into a culture and from it takes roots, the acculturation requires the disposition to approach the culture in which one arrives with an attitude of self-denial and understanding trying to enter the other's reality. The constitutions give the inescapable criteria to set up our way of life. Moreover the reciprocity of cultures requests the openness to novelty and to others as a stimulus and richness.



**IN THE AFTERNOON** Fr Gabriele continued the theme of "inter-culturation". He stressed that in order to nurture a spirituality of intercultural we should refer to the example of Incarnation on the basis of charity, solidarity, humble disposition, a service which excludes every paternalism, supported by a generous willingness of communion, sought as an end to attain not only as a necessary means. From this solidarity and communion a deep respect for the local culture is born in awareness that our charism can be lived in any culture. In this respect the Institute must give proof of flexibility and creativity beyond giving an adequate formation

not only of the new but also of the existing members by being open to novelty as well as to solicitations coming from the new generation.

A very animated discussion followed the exposition in an effort to find out together new ways to give vitality to the charism and to express it in an authentic and credible way especially for the future generations. The question which came up repeatedly was that of continuous and initial formation wishing that the chapter members would collaborate in giving some useful tips.

## DAY OF RECOLLECTION

GUIDED BY **FR. GIACOMO BINI** EX MINISTER GENERAL

Today's recollection is guided by Fr. G. Bini O.F.M. The starting point of his reflection is the text of Lk. 16,1-8 whose protagonist is the figure of the unfaithful administrator. The underlined expression of Fr Bini was exactly on the term "administrator". He is not an "owner". In this same way we are not the "owners" of our charism but we are the administrators of it. The charism is entrusted to us. The reflection on the attitudes and the qualities of the administrator helps to identify elements of discernment in order to keep alive the charism. These are:

- The shrewdness as the intellectual and clear sightedness of the heart to understand the urgencies of the present situation.
- The readiness and haste to look for solutions before it's too late.
- The daring and the courage to risk accepting our need for others.
- An attitude of hope and not of resignation.

From the group discussion and from the questions that followed we identified priorities to take into consideration so that we may react facing the present crisis defined by Fr. Bini "as the grace of the crisis" that is basically a crisis of values rather than of quantity:

- It is necessary to put in the first place the "person" and not the structure.
- To re-qualify our fraternal life and our relation with God as absolute priorities.
- To pay more attention to fraternal relationships which are the prophetic word for today's world.

In the afternoon Fr. Bini took in to consideration "the grace of the origins" which involves two attitudes:

- to live the Gospel radically and transmit it in a "meaningful way" to today's man and woman.
- in order to achieve this, one must be determined to have a culture of interiority which revives the falling in love of Christ and makes us a sign of His Way of being and living.
- The grace of our origins urges us to re-appropriate the intuition of our founders and find understandable ways of presenting it to the people of today. We should discover the value which can speak more clearly today. There is the need to bring forth from within our charism the value which can speak more clearly today.

We need a solid formation, a commitment to take care and defend interiority itself. We cannot speak anymore about personal sanctity but of fraternal sanctity so as to become credible signs. We have to consider consecrated life as a laboratory of eternity so as to nourish our history of eternity.







8<sup>th</sup> JULY

## SOLEMN OPENING

### OF THE XIX GENERAL CHAPTER

Since this morning in the Eucharistic celebration of the Holy Spirit we invoked light and capacity of discerning the will of God for the good and the vitality of the entire congregation.



The celebration of the opening of the XIX General Chapter started in the chapel of the Generalate with a moment of prayer during which the capitular sisters thanked God for His love recognizing His continuous presence in our history as FMSC and renewing their trust in His powerful help, especially in this important moment of the Congregation.



Then in procession they moved to the chapter room carrying the Bible and a lighted candle entrusting themselves to Our Lady who kept in her heart the Word and remained docile to the action of the Holy Spirit.

After placing the seal of the Congregation next to the Paschal Candle at the centre of the chapter room, the General Superior Sr. Emmapia Bottamedi officially declared the opening of the chapter, underlying with emphasis the importance of the jubilee year: The chapter of the jubilee marks the “watershed” between the past and the future, which requires, from the capitulars courage and responsibility in identifying prophetic choices in authentic Franciscan and evangelical spirit, sustained by a deep

faith transmitted as a heritage by our founders. The insecurities, the joyful and painful aspects of the present point out the continuous presence of the Lord which urges us to trustful abandonment to the Divine Providence.

The preliminary works started immediately with the appointment of the chapter secretary, Sr. Antonietta Pozzebon and the elections of the scrutinisers Sr. Eliodora Battiston and Sr. Margherita Menegazzi, and the fulfilment of the first formalities. Before taking into consideration the chapter Procedures and Regulations each capitular presented herself to the assembly sharing and the richness of her vocation and missionary experience.





## REPORTS OF THE PROVINCIAL SUPERIORS



The capitulars started a new day exhorted by the Foundress to develop for the Lord an “active grateful love” and sustained by the action of the Holy Spirit, invoked also this morning, so that as it was for Mary, may He render our heart sensible to the grace of God and to His ways to manifest Himself in our history.

The presentation of the reports of the various organisms have started today.

The icon of Our Lady of Perpetual help brought from Gemona and placed in the chapter room has been the background of the first report of the provincial Superiors. Sr. Luisangela Severin presented in details and deeply the situation of the Veneto Province Saint Mary of the Angels: In the afternoon section of the capitular work, started with a prayer, the presentation of the reports of the Provincial Superiors continued with Sr. Anne Matthew Carlone for St. Francis Province of U.S.A and with Sr. Bernadette Skorti for the Oriental Province of St. Elizabeth.

Sr. Ann Mathew offered to the assembly a very clear and concrete vision of the Province, underlining the historical richness, the actual difficulties but with trust and hope in the Lord.

Sr. Bernadetta Skorti with the support of a powerpoint presentation showed to the capitulars sisters the journey of the Province during these last years.



### Sr Luisangela Severin

*“The present report is the result of the group discernment of all the sisters of the Province regarding the evangelical itinerary which together and personally we have strived to live out and carry on following the footsteps of the Providence.”*



### Sr Anne Matthew Carlone

*“This theme of the General Chapter from the gratitude of memory to the commitment of the prophecy with the respective elements of Celebration and challenge embraces for us a period of 146 years...”*



### Sr Bernadette Skorti,

*“As a province we are grateful to those first sisters who in the far 1872 accepted to venture towards the big cosmopolitan city of Constantinople to support the Franciscan Missions. The challenges were and are many...”*



## EUCHARISTIC CELEBRATION AND MEETING WITH THE GENERAL MINISTER OFM

**P. JOSÉ RODRIGUEZ CARBALLO, OFM**

Today, Sunday 10th July, the Lord gifted us with the presence of the General Minister of the Franciscan Minors José R. Carballo. In the Eucharistic celebration with the capitulars and the entire community of the General House, father guided us to meditate deeply the parable of the sower, the Word given us in this 15th Sunday of ordinary time. He invited us to have an open heart which lets itself be penetrated by the word; exhorting to be on the alert on all the compromises with the idols which do not allow the word to bear fruit. Mediocrity is what he considers compromise. There can be life only if we allow the word. He gives us every day to be cherished in our heart and to bear fruit.

In the chapter room Fr. Jose' R. Carballo shared with us his knowledge, his human and spiritual experience, offering to us a clear and passionate reflection on the main objectives of a chapter as well as on the fundamental attitudes to adopt by living these days open to the Spirit.

Reflecting on the aims of a Chapter, He said that often we think in a wrong way giving the first place to the election and after to the legislation and at the end the revitalization of the legislation and of the mission. He underlined strongly that the main aim is the revitalization of the charism.

The charism is dynamic and, therefore, must be re-visited: an opportunity to actualize this re-vitalization is the general Chapter. To do it we need three fundamental attitudes: reciprocal dialog-listening, reflection and a lot of prayer otherwise it is impossible to enter in an atmosphere of discernment.

The Chapter is the moment in which all must speak and all must listen: "to dialog" means from the Greek "to allow oneself to be touched" by the word of another, to let one's heart to be touched by what the other says and thus requires much respect. Our model is Mary who treasured all in her heart.



In this perspective of discernment there are two fundamental questions we must ask ourselves: the first is the question of Saint Francis before the Crucifix: "Lord what do you want me to do?" The second, as a community, is that in the Acts of Apostles (Acts 2:37): "Brothers what do we have to do?"

To question one 'self personal and as a community is the basis of discernment.

Another fundamental attitude in a Chapter is the lucidity to answer an essential question: Where are we? Which are our real possibilities? We need to call things by their





who is walking can make mistakes, who is not walking will not make mistakes. Who is walking, must take on the difficulties of the journey, without walking we miss the train of our history. During the Chapter, therefore, it needs to answer three fundamental questions:

- Where are we?
- Where are we going?
- What is the Spirit asking us?

These are questions that touch deeply the theme of our identity: the guiding principles of the charism must be clear to each one so as to have a clear role of the Institute in the Church and in the society.

To revitalise our charisma, said firmly fr. Carballo, three movements are necessary:

- To centre oneself
- To concentrate
- To decentralize

We need to centre oneself in Christ. The transcendental dimension is the root of every form of consecrated life and even more for the Franciscan dimension.

To concentrate means to work on the essential elements of the charism that can be found in five priorities:

1. The spirit of prayer and devotion
2. The fraternal life in community
3. Minority, poverty, solidarity
4. Evangelization
5. Formation

Finally to decentralize means to go. Mission, Evangelization, Consecrated life have their main aim on bringing the Gospel to others and the Franciscan Order is the first missionary Order in the Church!





Which are the areas of the revitalization? They can be synthesised in three aspects:

1. spirituality,
2. fraternal life,
3. and the mission.

The revitalization of the charism is possible starting from these essential elements in every form of consecrated life, especially for the Franciscans.

Spirituality is based on faith: to have an authentic spirituality we must be first of all believers, we must cultivate a faith that embraces all the dimensions of our life. When we make some choices where is the place of Jesus?

What is the world of today asking us? First of all a unified spirituality, that manifests our children of heaven and earth at the same time and that in us there is no division between what is of God and what is of man.

Secondly a dynamic spirituality that brings us to be mystic and prophets, to have a deep union with Christ and to be a meaningful presence that speaks to the person of today.

What is the world asking us regarding fraternal life? That we might be more human and humanizing, that in our daily life we must live with simplicity the human virtues:

To say “good morning” with a smile, not with a face of “good Friday”. Maybe for the lay people – said with truthfulness and affection fr. Carballo – we have a radiant face, a lot of smile but for the sister or the brother we are always in good Friday!

The good Friday has not meaning without the Holy Saturday and Easter Sunday!

Three aspects are important to grow in fraternity:

- communication is not only what we do but also what we feel. We must learn to communicate on the level of faith and of vocation, which are our joys and which are our difficulties too;
- human warm: to give the possibility to feel at home in the community. Without this we cannot have fraternal life, on the contrary we search way to escape from it;
- truth: to be spontaneous, the “familiarity”, Saint Francis speaks about in the Rule and that gives the possibility to show with trust our own need to the other, to give oneself to the brethren.



The human warm, the truthfulness, the communication: this is what the world is asking us. A fraternal life truly fraternal.

Every mission must be sustained by a strong experience of God, it must be lived out in the fraternity and with the witnessing of the fraternity and it must give preference to the poor: there is no Franciscan Institute that was not born for the poor. This aspect is very important, it asks us to live in the frontiers, in the marginalized areas, to evangelize the forgotten and inhuman places. In all of this



we must be open today to collaboration with the laity, helping them to recognize their mission as baptised persons in the Church.

The clue of the revitalization of the charism, at the end, is in the formation, first the on-going and after the initial.

A formation must be:

1. Integral: it must include all the dimensions of the person, human, christen and charismatic.
2. Personal: the four vital centres must be touched 1) mind: the concepts; 2) heart: what we learn, must reach the heart, the sentiments; 3) the hands: what we have learned, what we feed must be brought to life; 4) the feet: they help us to walk on reality and not on clouds. Formation cannot be only pure ideal, pure theory.
3. on-going: the process starts with the first call and ends with the last call, sister death. We are all in formation and all are committed to an authentic discipleship; we all need to assimilate always more the sentiments of Christ and to be, like Him, rich in humanity, of communication and of truth.



After the important and profitable meeting of the Gen. Minister, in the afternoon of the 10th July we proceeded with reports of the superiors.

Sr. Elizabeth Varikkakuzhyil with deep realism, intense emotional participation and confident trust in God, illustrated the spiritual, fraternal and apostolic path of the French Province of St. Louis IX.



**Sr Elisabetta Varikkakuzhyil,**

*"I thank God for the life of the province and we want to look at our Founders and to all the sisters who left us and form our family in heaven. They help us to live with joy the gift that the Spirit has entrusted to us..."*



## THE PROVINCIAL SUPERIORS REPORTS CONTINUE

**T**ogether with the whole Church we celebrated the memory of St. Benedict, raising our prayer of praise for our Holy Father, the Pope Benedict XVI, imploring on him the gift of Divine wisdom, both during the Eucharistic celebration and in our prayer in the chapter room.

The chapter agenda continued with the report of Sr. Ermenegilda Cavašin, Provincial Superior of the Roma Province of Immaculate Mary and of Sr. Ines Pavan of the Latin American Province of St. Antony.

Sr. Ermenegilda, in her presentation, put in evidence the aspects of vitality and creativity of the Province, illustrating the variety of missionary tasks and the diligence with which the sisters try, in a spirit of gratuity and minority, to respond to the needs in the context where they operate.

Sr. Ines illustrated the prosperous and multi varied panorama of a young provincial reality, rich not only in vocations but also in various apostolic activities, offering motives of hope and praise of God for the progress done in this portion of the Congregation.

In the afternoon it was Sr. Fabrizia's turn, Regional Superior of the Apostolic Region The Holy Martyrs of Uganda and of Sr. Maddalena Moro, Provincial Superior of the province of Holy Family India. Sr. Fabrizia's exposition began with the memory of the terrible accident that a year ago caused the death of the General Vicar, Sr. Cecilia Subiabre and the serious injury of the same Sr. Fabrizia and of another Indian sister working in Cameroun Sr. Mary Lukose and Sr. Sylvie Assoana native of Cameroun.

Sr. Fabrizia expressed her gratitude to all the sisters, signs and instruments of God's love, for the care and the closeness manifested to all of them. After this she gave a simple, punctual report guided by a spiritual vision of the Province.

Sr. Maddalena offered us a vast panorama of the Indian Mission, a variety of apostolic activities, dedicated above all to the poor. She talked in particular about the two lastly opened missions where sisters are sharing fully the poor style of life of the population: Her presentation excited admiration and gratitude to God for the wonders that He continues to operate, through the dedication of our young sisters.



### **Sr Ermenegilda Cavašin**

*" Being missionaries is our look, the way we think, we express ourselves and operate; it is the spiritual dimension which helps others to become aware of us and to identify us."*





**Sr Inés Pavan**

*“ The patrimony we inherited from the generations that preceded us, illuminates us in order to discover and to re-affirm that the spirituality and the charism of our Congregation are capable of giving a profound meaning to our existence and give us strength, enthusiasm and courage in our mission”.*

**Sr Fabrizia Zanettin**

*“If we present today an image of the Apostolic Region, we can say that it is like a tree after a tempest which even if there are signs of the storm, in its green washed by the tears, expresses a new strength. I refer to the accident which provoked the death of our dearest Sr. Cecilia Subiabre.*



**Sr Maddalena Moro**

*“ It is a duty to praise God and His providence and be aware of how He guided us and supports with His Paternal hand whatever we begin and continue with the gift of young sisters wishing to increase our Province and to extend the kingdom of God beyond our frontiers”*





## REPORT OF THE SUPERIOR GENERAL

**Sr EMMAPIA BOTTAMEDI**

**B**eing a Tuesday, during the Eucharistic Celebration, we have placed today's work under the protection of St. Anthony.  
In the Chapter hall today we listened to the presentation of the report of the General Superior and the General Treasurer.

Sr. Emmapia illustrating the situation of our religious family pointed out the constant presence of God, His Providential action in every reality and in whole congregation.



The report aroused a very lively and moving participation of the Assembly which was provoked to grasp some solicitations as challenges for the chapter work.

The General Superior stressed with force the urgency to renew and strengthen our faith as a "priority from where to draw in every situation vitality for our mission life". The spirit of faith is a theme which is constantly repeated in the answers given by the sisters to the questioners in preparation for the General Chapter and therefore, it must be for all of us a motive of reflection and evaluation.

Especially in this important year of Jubilee, we are called to promote the evangelical quality of our communities, taking care that the spirit of sacrifice which characterises the generous service of our sisters does not degenerate in activism and in contrast with any form of individualism and rivalry, but reserving to God the centre of our being and work: this is the first and most efficacious vocational animation. We should immediately engage ourselves to overcome "the division between theory and life"

directing ourselves towards initial and continuous formation which will help us to realise the necessary union between interior, fraternal and missionary life.

Sr. Emmapia analysing the different areas of the congregational realities (charismatic identity, formation, fraternal life in community, missionary life, the ecclesial dimension of the charism and the economical aspect) pointed out clearly and concretely the situation, and at the same time, she showed the concrete attitudes to be taken up in our prophetic mission that looks faithfully to the future of our family. In this our on going we are helped by the awareness of all the good which has been done in the different continents where we are present to serve the poor: these are signs of hope which urges to fidelity and at the same time to creative and courageous answers open to the new challenges of evangelisation.







Through Sr. Emmapia's words the capitular Assembly was able to form a picture of the big and precious work that the General Council accomplished in the six years, promoting and realising various formative activities among those: the constitution of the historical commission for a unified transmission of charism, the meetings for formators, treasurers and educators and the international experience of a group of our young sisters.

At the end of the exposition, many of the capitular sisters expressed their gratitude for the exactness and objective exposition and for the service she and her council so generously gave to the Congregation.

*"I wish that we all come out this chapter strongly stimulated to form prophetic communities, for this the necessary initial step in order to realise what the Spirit is asking us at this moment: to move from memory to prophecy in a dynamic fidelity to the charism".*

## REPORT OF THE GENERAL TREASURER

**SR PAOLA DOTTO**

In the afternoon, after a short prayer, Sr. Paola Dotto read the report of the administrative and economical situation. Together with numbers and operations she pointed out that Divine Providence opens ways that the eye cannot always see as the Scriptures teaches us: "Your Providence Oh Father guides (the boat), for you have foreseen a way in the sea, a sure path in the middle of the waves." (sap. 14, 3) She underlined above all the works of adjustment and reconstruction of the General house. These works have also been presented with all the details by the committee of the experts who have undertaken this work; the Arch. Franco Ricci, Ing. Gianluigi Cecere, Geom. Luciano e Davide Sperandio, administrators of S.N.I.E.





**13<sup>TH</sup> JULY**

## REPORT OF THE MISSIONARY CENTRE

**B**efore starting the capitular agenda, the Superior General Sr. Emmapia Bottamedi invited the delegates to pray for the victims of disaster in Cyprus and Russia.



Later on some time was given for further requests of explanation on the administrative report. This was followed by Sr. Germana Tomat's exposition of the report on the activities of the Missionary Centre.

In the afternoon, after singing the song of Providence, composed especially for the congregational jubilee, more clarifications were asked for the Missionary Centre and the ONLUS Association and the various activities undertaken by this group in helping various nations, thanks to the contributions of benefactors.

We then continued with the presentation and discussion of the instrument work trying to find out a method of study and reflection to be realised in the groups.

## WORKSHOPS

**14<sup>TH</sup> - 19<sup>TH</sup> JULY**







*In our prayer today we put ourselves under the protection of St. Elizabeth of Hungary: Traditionally Thursday is dedicated to her. We invoked the assistance of the Holy Spirit, afterwards the capitulars began in groups to examine the instrument work. They were divided into five commissions according to the themes of the instrument, Formation, Prayer life, Fraternal life, poverty-minority, missions.*

## SR EMMAPIA'S BIRTHDAY

Even if we continued the group work in the different committees, today we thank the Lord for our Superior General's gift of life on her birthday.



The prayers that we offered for all her intentions is the gift that all we capitulars offer to her in a sign of gratitude for what she is for each one of us. All the sisters of the Generalate expressed their sentiments of love by preparing the morning prayer and the Eucharistic celebration in a very special way. Today's celebration was celebrated by a young friar coming from the Curia, Fr. Luis Martin OFM. A joyful atmosphere remained all over during the whole day especially during dinner, supper and the time of recreation when the young sisters offered a beautiful Indian dance and a short show.

This special Sunday lived in a spirit of joy, sharing and gratitude comes to a conclusion through the singing of the Ave Maria.





## REVISION OF THE CONSTITUTIONS AND DIRECTORY

Supported by the Word of God which is today again inviting to bring fruit in our life with hope and commitment, we, capitulars sisters, have started the discussion and revision of the Constitutions. The Canon Expert Fr. Augustino Montan ( from the congregation of Giuseppini of Murialdo) , Vicar for the consecrated life in the Roman Diocese, who has already guided the co-ordinate commission in the collection of the proposals of all the sisters and the preparation of the document for study, will also accompany our work, offering us his precious competence.



22<sup>ND</sup> - 23<sup>RD</sup> JULY

By celebrating the Feast of St. Mary Magdalene yesterday the Church wanted to invite everyone to develop a tireless search for the Lord, an attentive and passionate listening to His voice which calls each one by name, and a Love constantly longing for Him. In this day all the sisters present in the Generalate celebrated the Feast Day of Sr. Maddalena Moro, Provincial Superior of the Holy Family Province, India. The Indian sisters present and the delegates gave us a beautiful day with their songs and special food, and it was ended with the projection of a power point on their latest missions. In the chapter room the delegates continued the examination of the Constitutions and Directory helped by the precious presence and competence of Fr. Agostino Montan







## GREAT THINGS THE LORD HAS DONE FOR US!

### ELECTION OF THE GENERAL SUPERIOR



24<sup>th</sup> JULY

**L**et us give thanks to Him, the Giver of all good and faithful guide of our history, because He makes himself present to us through our superiors too. Let us express our gratitude and affection to Sr. Emmapia Bottamedi, who during these last six years of her mandate she guided our religious Family with promptness and listening to all the sisters in all the regions in the world she has visited. **THANK YOU VERY MUCH SR EMMAPIA!**

Let us rejoice for the election of our new general Superior,: we feel ourselves deeply close to her with the desire to support her in this task so delicate and important and we ask for her the gift of the Holy Spirit so that she can discern and fulfill God's plans for our Congregation in this time and for the future.

Since this morning all the sisters in the generalate House gathered in prayer to invoke the Holy Spirit to guide each capitular sister in her discernment and choice. The Eucharistic Celebration, presided by Fr. Philip ofm, gave us fitted points of reflection, well summarized in the opening prayer: "Father, source of wisdom, who has revealed to us in Christ the hidden treasure and the precious pearl, give to us the spirit of discernment, so that we can appreciate, among the things of this world, the inestimable value of your Kingdom, ready to make any sacrifice to get your gift".

The Gospel was a strong challenge to "sell everything" to treasure the precious pearl that is Jesus, our unique wealth.

At 9.45 a.m. all the capitular sisters with the community of the generalate house gathered before Jesus, who in the Blessed Sacrament always manifests then greatest sign of his love, giving Himself to us. The hour of Adoration and of prayer wished to interiorly dispose all to welcome the gift of the Spirit, trusting that it is always the Lord to guide our Religious family.

After the intense hour of prayer the capitular sisters went to the chapter room where fr. Aidan McGrath ofm, general secretary, delegate of the Minister General P. José Rodríguez Carballo, together with sr Emmapia Bottamedi, the start the elections procedure.



Fr. Aidan gives to the new General Superior Sr Paola the seal of the Congregation



The sound of the bell called in the chapter room all the Sisters of the community to welcome the Sister chosen to be our guide and spiritual mother: sr Paola Dotto, to whom, soon after the declaration on her election, was given the sigillum of the Congregation.

Afterwards all together we proceeded to the Church for the solemn song of Te Deum and the final prayer of Father Aldan:



*Blessed are you, God our Father, for the great gifts of your Love. In Christ your Son, present and working in your Church, you have called these daughters to collaborate with you for the coming of your kingdom, according the Saint Francis' spirit. Look with fatherly benevolence upon the new general Superior, to whom you are entrusting a little chosen portion of the Church: grant that, through the intercession of her holy protectors and of the Founders, Laura Leroux and the servant of God Fr. Gregorio Fioravanti, the Congregation of the Franciscan Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart may grow and be renewed in Love, to bring the heart of every person to the Heart of your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns forever and ever.*

***Thank you sr Paola for your availability,  
we are with you in the journey!***



*The general Superior Sr Paola and the ex-general superiors Sr Emmapia, Sr Ermenegilda and Sr Inés.*





**THE STEPS OF DIVINE PROVIDENCE  
CONTINUES TO TRACE OUR JOURNEY...  
EVEN THROUGH THE GIFT  
OF THE NEW GENERAL COUNSELORS**



**ELECTION OF THE GENERAL COUNSELORS**

**T**oday, in the feast of Saint James, the Gospel of the day gives us the authentic meaning of a real service: to be “first” means to obey to the other, it means to be available for him, and so following Jesus “who came not to be served but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for all”.

The evangelical passage is really fitted to accompany the election of the general counselors: in the morning, after having invoked the Holy Spirit, the new-elected Superior general presides for the election of the Vicar and the three counselors.

Therefore here it is the new Council who collaborate in the following six-years to guide our Religious Family:

**General Vicar:** sr Roxana Zapata  
**2nd Counselor:** sr Emmapia Bottamedi  
**3rd Counselor:** sr Ansamma Pulikattil  
**4th Counselor:** sr Tiziana Tonini

To each one of them let us express our gratitude and our fraternal affection.

A warm Thanksgiving with affection to the Sisters who, with generosity and dedication served our Religious family in the last six years.



*The two general councils*



26<sup>TH</sup> JULY

## MEETING WITH THE PRESIDENT OF MISSION TAU ONLUS

The Church today celebrates the memorial of Saints Joachim and Ann, parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary, to their intercession, in the Holy Mass, were entrusted all the families and the numerous sisters., present in the generalate house, who are bearing the name: Ann and in

particular the Superior of St. Francis' Province: sr Anne Matthew. From Feast to Feast!

Actually this morning there was still the atmosphere of the beautiful evening spent by the capitular sisters with the new general Council in the community of Viale Saffi with our elderly and sick sisters. It has been a moment of deep fraternal sharing, with touching encounters, memories, pizza and jokes that involved all in an atmosphere of serene joy!!.

Today, in the morning the delegate sisters had a meeting with Sabrina Vivan, the president of the Association Tau Mission ONLUS, born in 2006 to support the mission of our Institute: she offered a passionate and comprehensive report of the projects realized in five years of the association life and, helped by the images of a power point, she showed the numerous thins done in the different continents where the Franciscan Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart are working for the poorest ones

The money received through many activities – concerts, small markets for missions, missionary animation made possible the construction of multipurpose centers, schools, wheels, apart from food, clothes, schools supplies and medical materials... manifesting the generous and gratuitous collaboration of lay people, attentive and sensitive to the Providence of God.

In the afternoon the capitular sisters gathered in the organized commissions to continue the reflection and confrontation about the topics that will constitute the Chapter document, already in the final drafting.



## THE WORK IN THE COMMISSION PROCEEDS



27<sup>TH</sup> - 28<sup>TH</sup> JULY

Many times during these days the Gospel of the day has challenged us, though the images in the parable of the wheat separated from the wheeze or the good fish separated from the bad ones.. The constant direction of God's Kingdom, makes us free to choose between bad and good. The daily invocation of the Holy Spirit sustains the capitular sisters in the research and the final formulation of the spiritual and practical guidelines in order to formulate the congregational journey for the following six years.

During these days we proceed on working out the chapter document, already approved in the first draft.



## MEETING WITH HIS EXCELLENCY

### MONS. LORENZO CHIARINELLI

BISHOP EMERITUS OF THE DIOCESE OF VITERBO AND COUNSELOR IN THE  
CONGREGATION FOR THE CANONIZATION OF SAINTS



The opening prayer of today's Eucharistic Celebration, memorial of saint Martha, exhorts us to serve and welcome our brethren, seeing in them the presence of the Lord who encounters us in our "homes": "Father, your Son honored St. Martha by coming to her home as a guest. By her prayers may we serve Christ in our brothers and sisters and be welcomed by you into heaven, our true home."

Today in a very especial way the delegate sisters have the opportunity to welcome His Word and His Visit in the person of His excellency Mons. Lorenzo Chiarinelli, Bishop emeritus of the diocese of Viterbo and counselor in the Congregation for the canonization of saints: in 2008 he welcomed the first community of the Franciscan Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart in Grotte di Castro, birth place of our Founder Fr. Gregorio Fioravanti.

Mons. Chiarinelli solicited the encounter with the capitular sisters, desiring, as he has said with enthusiasm quoting Saint Paul, to share "the spiritual fruits" of his spiritual journey.

In the chapter hall, in the whole morning he has offered a profound and rich meditation on the history and spirituality of the Franciscan Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart, starting from two clue words of the XIX general Chapter: memory and prophecy.

Our own existence, he said, is memory and prophecy and "to do in memory" is one of Jesus' commandments to the disciples. The Church is, by her nature, place of expectation and of prophecy, place where to listen to and to look forward.

At the beginning of our history, the encounter, the different personalities and roles of our Founders speak to us of a love journey that develops from

Laura Leroux with her desires and intuitions to father Gregorio Fioravanti, who gives life and historical manifestation to the aspirations of the Duchess. From the dynamism of desiring to the fullness of love is the journey from Eros to Agape every Christian has to renew, also through the friendship, the philia, that is the relationship among Mary, Martha and Lazarus with Jesus, presented by the liturgy today.

In our origins a diversity of tensions gives life to a Charism expressed in our Constitutions, in our being Franciscan Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart.

Three are the aspects underlined by Mons. Chiarinelli, through which the specific spirituality of a Franciscan Missionary Sister of the Sacred Heart must be expressed: fraternity, closeness, authenticity.

The fraternity, center of Franciscan spirituality, is described in its lights and shadows, in the chapter 18 of Matthew





Gospel, in the context of the “ecclesial talk”. To the ecclesial community Jesus points out a paradoxical example: a little child, whom set in the midst of them, that is to say - to be His Community – we must put at the center those who are weak, small, without voice.

In the community of brethren there are those who sin, who are ambitious, who hurt others, who make mistakes, and because they are brethren it is possible to forgive and to relate, in the strength that we are all children of One Father.

The closeness is showed in the compassion, a

“visceral” love for the other, whose icon is the evangelical parable of the good Samaritan (Lk 10:25-37) Closeness implies to take care of the other person, to carry him and to be ready to pay personally for him. In this parable Jesus does not say who is the neighbor but who becomes neighbor: that is the one who uses mercy.

The fraternity is expression of our being Franciscan, and it is connected with the closeness, that manifests our being missionary.

The authenticity is the method we are called to live out our vocation. The evangelical icon, proposed by Mons Chiarinelli, that shows this value is that of today liturgy: Lk 10,30-42 and brings us to the house of Martha in Bethany, place of friendship, of familiarity, of rest.. Place of gratuitousness, showed by Mary, sister of Martha, who lives out the beatitude of “those who listen the Word of God, and put it into practice”. Martha is busy with so “many duties-services”: this last word, in Greek is expressed by the noun diakonìa, used only here in the Gospel of Luke. The same work is found in the Acts of the Apostles to express the ecclesial services.

It is not secondary the use of diakonìa referring to Martha, it makes us meditate on the Church’s services, all dutiful but they do not have to be reason of anguish, dissipation and division.

Rebuking Martha with affection Jesus challenges her to lose herself!: the root of all our doing is listening to the Word: service is useful if it is coming from the Word. This is the only necessary thing. In Bethany Martha and Mary, the sisters Jesus loved, show us the modality in which the Church must put herself at the feet of His Lord.

The summit and the root of fraternity, closeness and authenticity values is the Sacred Heart, as it is in the Chapter 19 of John.

The pierced Heart of Jesus has been object of so many meditations of the fathers of the Church: as from the side of Adam came forth the woman, from Christ, new Adam, was born – at Calvary! – the Church, constituted by the Sacraments, signified by the blood and water, the Eucharist and Baptism.

To enter in the authentic spirituality of the Sacred Heart Mons. Chiarinelli has chosen to meditate the chapter 9 of Saint Luke’s Gospel (vv. 10 ff.): the apostles, after their experiences, came back to Jesus and shared what they lived out.

The Lord called them to go to a deserted place but as the people knew it, they followed them. Three are the attitudes of Jesus toward the needed crowds: he “welcomed them”, “he spoke to them about the kingdom of God”, “he healed those who were sick”. After giving the Word and the healing, Jesus invited the disciples to give them something to eat. When we think of the Heart of Christ, said Mons. Chiarinelli, we should read again this Gospel passage: here we can see the intimacy of His Heart and the way to care for one another, providing for word, health and food.

The pierced heart of Christ is a symbol of Love who gives himself totally to the end. This is a vital





reality for us and it must bring us to reflect that we are not a solidarity movement, but we are called – as Franciscan Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart – to witness the Love of God through our words, our way to welcome and to heal others, substituting our “I” with the “I” of Christ, looking at the person with His Eyes, loving with His Heart.



31<sup>TH</sup> JULY

The Eucharistic celebration of the 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time – presided by fr. Rafael Blanco, Director of the Office Pro Monialibus of the ofm general Curia.- in the image of the multiplication of the fish and bread by Jesus, urges us to strengthen our faith in the divine Providence and to believe that the Lord wishes to work through us, as he did through his disciples, challenging us to commit ourselves. He renews the prodigious multiplication at each Eucharist Celebration in

all the altars of the world! This faith must sustain and nourishes us even in the most difficult moments, when we feel unworthy. It is He who works every good in us and through us!



*With the Community in the Provincialate House  
“M. Immacolata”*



*In the Church of the Provincialate House  
“M. Immacolata”*

the sisters enjoyed to meet maybe after many years! The capitular sisters, after the initial welcome, gladden by the song of the young sisters, had the opportunity to visit the school, the infirmary and the community. They gathered afterward in the church for the celebration of the Vespers and then for a abundant supper buffet style, prepared with care by the sisters of the house in a joyful atmosphere and of gratitude for being together!

Consoled by these words the capitular Sisters continue their work already going to end: yesterday the capitular Document was already examined and approved, today it has been ended the reading and approval of the amendments of Constitutions and Directory.

In the evening the capitular sisters with the new general Council went to visit the Centocelle Community, seat of the Roman Province “Mary Immaculate” for a beautiful moment of fraternity:





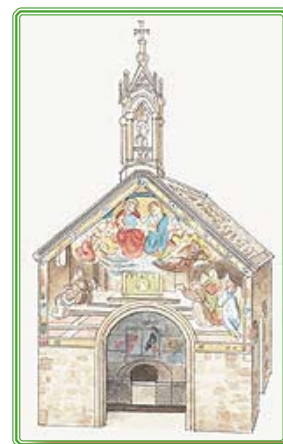
2<sup>ND</sup> AUGUST

## CLOSURE OF THE XIX GENERAL CHAPTER

Today the whole Franciscan family celebrates the Solemnity of Saint Mary of the Angels of Portiuncula.

The sisters present in the generalate house celebrate the Assisi pardon during the morning prayer and, in communion with all the Franciscan Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart, they have offered the Holy Mass of this morning according to different intentions: to remember the birth of our Foundress Laura Leroux de Bauffremont, for the Veneto Province "saint Mary of the Angels", to thank the outgoing general Council for the service done in the last six years and for our dearest Sr. Cecilia Subiabre after almost one year from the terrible accident in which she lost her life.

Moreover the celebration was a thanksgiving for the closure of the XIX general Chapter: time of grace and of memory, of commitment and of discernment for the future, a special and unique occasion of the 150 years of foundation of our Institute.



In the morning the capitular sisters have brought to an end the approval of the minutes and the reflections about some important matters which needed to be clarified.

In the afternoon they gathered for the official closing of the Chapter: The general Superior, sr. Paola Dotto, in her final speech underlined that the chapter works went on for 40 days!

The delegate sisters journeyed almost an exodus that has taken place in the intense jubilee atmosphere starting with the pilgrimage before the Chapter proper, visiting the meaningful places of our history. Then the chapter works, have been an opportunity, said sr. Paola, for a clear evaluation of the personal, communal and congregational living, in a sincere and fruitful collaboration of all.

In particular, said the general Superior, in the reports of the superior of each Province and vice-province and of Sr. Emmapia, were presented the elements of difficulty and of weakness as well as the signs



*Fr. Alfonso Limone, Vicar general of the Vocationist Fathers presides the Holy Mass on August 2, 2011*



of newness and of courage. The revision of the Constitutions and Directory have contributed meaningfully to deepen the main elements of our identity of Franciscan Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart. The evaluation of the instrumentum laboris that gathered all the answers by the sisters in the world to the questionnaire, has raised fundamental questions about our consecrated life. Where are we? What is the Spirit asking us? How can we start again?

God is always with us, said sr. Paola with emotion, He is Providence in our life of faith, fraternity and mission. It is from a renewed and intense life of faith that we must help each other to start again: a renewed faith, aware of the plan of love the Lord has for each one of us, in the certainty that all things work together for the good of those who love God” (Rm 8:28). Fraternity is the privileged place where our faith is expressed and matures, first of all on welcoming each sister with her richness and poverty as a providential gift of God, in a constant commitment to build more human and humanizing relationships, using - as suggested the Minister general Fr. José Carballo, speaking to the capitular sisters - hands, head and heart to build true fraternities.

“A priority I treasure in my heart”, said then Sr. Paola before declaring the closure of XIX general Chapter, as a great challenge: “the poor of everyday life and all over the world. They are the measure of our evangelical choices!”.

Touched by the true and deep words of the general Superior, the capitular sisters proceeded to the Chapel to give back to God the richness of exchanges and perspectives experienced in the 40 days lived together, thanking and praising Him for all the Provinces and the sisters of the Congregation.

Once again from their heart all expressed their sincere and touched thanks to the outgoing Council and a wish, sustained by the prayer, to Sr. Paola and the new Council.



*Sr Paola Dotto, general Superior gives the final speech of the Chapter*



*A moment of prayer at the closing of the XIX General Chapter*





*The small statue of the B.V. Mary on the presidential table watched over the Chapter works*



*The signatures of the Minutes at the closing of the general Chapter*

Tomorrow the capitular sisters will live out another very touching moment participating to the public audience of the Holy father Benedict XVI in Castelgandolfo.

In the afternoon they will visit the community in Lido dei Pini, sharing time and joy with the sisters and the children of “Mater Amabilis” Home.



### LIST OF THE CAPITULAR SISTERS

Sr M. Emmapia Bottamedi, Sr M. Paola Dotto, Sr M. Gracy Thuruthippallil, Sr M. Germana Tomat, Sr M. Augusta Visentin, Sr M. Luisangela Severin, Sr M. Anne Matthew Carlone, Sr M. Bernadette Skorti, Sr M. Elisabetta Varikkakuzhyil, Sr M. Ermenegilda Cavasin, Sr M. Ines Pavan, Sr M. Fabrizia Zanettin, Sr M. Maddalena Moro, Sr Anna Maria Volpato, Sr M. Giordana Marta, Sr M. Chiarfrancesca Cappelletto, Sr M. Marzia Ceschia, Sr Dinamaria Contini, Sr Anna Maria Not, Sr M. Petra Zanghi, Sr M. Beatrice Skorti, Sr M. Josephine Vrahimi, Sr M. Armelle Kosta, Sr M. Emmanuelle Piccolo, Sr M. Marta Camerotto, Sr M. Tiziana Tonini, Sr M. Paola Aita, Sr M. Cristiana Basso, Sr M. Fides Lorenzon, Sr M. Bernarda Alvarez, Sr M. Roxana Zapata, Sr M. Beatrice Bifouma, Sr M. Dorothée Ngassouga, Sr M. Annamma Kumpalathu, Sr M. Monica Pullattukala, Sr M. Ansamma Pullikattil



*Let us give thanks to God for this time of evaluation, of confrontation, of fraternity. Let us give back everything to God, with faith and hope that He will work wonders in the life of each sister and in the entire Congregation. Grateful for our history, sure that the Providence of God will trace our journey, with renewed enthusiasm let us start anew, together, in the prophetic commitment to announce the Gospel to the people nowadays to bring every person to encounter Him.*

**MAY CHRIST BE PRAISED. AMEN**





## *Special moments “after the Chapter”!*

**I**n Lido dei Pini with the sisters of the community and the children, always source of joy, life and hope.

Fraternal encounter with the Franciscan Missionary Sisters of Mary for a serene sharing.

A special gift was offered not only to the capitular sisters but to all of us Franciscan Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart.

In Castelgandolfo while we were waiting the arrival of our Pope Benedict XVI for the usual Wednesday public audience, our general Sr Paola Dotto received the invitation to enter, with other privileged persons in the papal palace court and so to have a brief encounter - greeting with His holiness. So much moved and happy she presented to the Holy Father all of us renewing to Him our fidelity and obedience to the Church.



*On going to the Papal Palace of Castel Gandolfo*

*Waiting for the Pope*



*The general Superior Sr Paola Dotto with the Holy Father Benedict XVI in the private encounter after the general audience*





Pope Benedict XVI with joy gave His Apostolic Blessing upon the entire Congregation and every sister. May it be for all a sign of God the Father's Providential love, who will continue to sustain our journey of faithfulness and holiness.



*With the sisters of the Community and the children, always source of joy, life and hope*





*The painter Gianluca Venezia came to greet the sisters in Lido dei Pini*

The group of the people coming from Chile and Bolivia, who participated to the Jubilee Celebration in Gemona, came to visit the sisters in the generalate house after visiting many cities in Italy

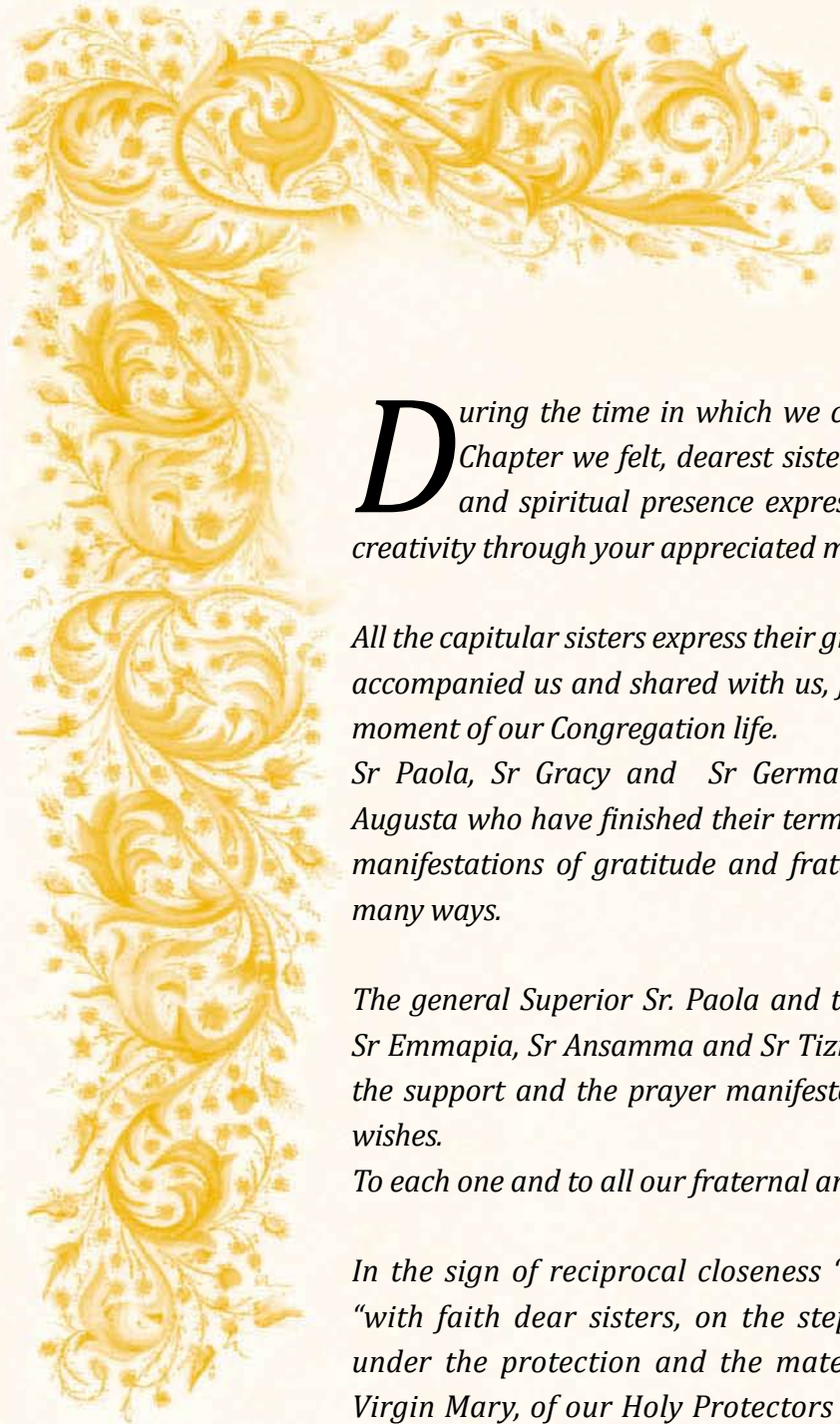


*The group accompanied by Sr Marcela and Sr Mercedes with Sr Inés in the Church of the generalate house*



*Moment of fraternal sharing and refreshment with songs and thanksgiving*





***D**uring the time in which we celebrated the XIX general Chapter we felt, dearest sisters, your deep, affectionate and spiritual presence expressed in various ways with creativity through your appreciated messages.*

*All the capitular sisters express their gratitude and joy for having accompanied us and shared with us, fraternally, this important moment of our Congregation life.*

*Sr Paola, Sr Gracy and Sr Germana and the secretary, Sr Augusta who have finished their term, give thanks to all for the manifestations of gratitude and fraternal affection showed in many ways.*

*The general Superior Sr. Paola and the Counselors, Sr Roxana, Sr Emmapia, Sr Ansamma and Sr Tiziana, give thanks to all for the support and the prayer manifested through so many good wishes.*

*To each one and to all our fraternal and affectionate "thanks".*

*In the sign of reciprocal closeness "let us, then, start anew", "with faith dear sisters, on the steps of Divine Providence", under the protection and the maternal care of the Blessed Virgin Mary, of our Holy Protectors and our Founders, Laura Leroux and Fr. Gregory.*

*To the Trinitarian God,  
source of every good and all  
goodness may be all praises,  
glory and honor.*