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From the General Definitory

At the end of the General Definitory sessions in June, Fr. General and his eight Definitors sent a letter of communion and of communication to the Order. In it they first of all expressed fraternity as a grace and as a goal. 'We experienced it and we hope to experience it always, not as the fruit of our own efforts, they pointed out, but as a gift from God, which we share with the brothers who help us with different tasks in the Generalate and we wish to share also with you.'

Communication will increase thanks to new technology. In order to express better the role of the general government and that of local government we have invited a canonist, Fr. Domingo Andres, CMF, so that in September he can illustrate to the Definitory better channels for working.

Matters of special importance have been the financial situation of the Centre of the Order and the present situation in the General Delegation of Israel-Egypt, to which in this sexennium we wish to give particular attention.

As you know, the sexennium has begun its course guided by the hand of St. Teresa of Jesus. We trust in her as we journey on our way.

Distribution of the Responsibilities of the new Definitors

The June General Definitory established six areas of competence that each of the eight Definitors are going to look after:

- 1) Finances: Fr. Marcos Juchem & Fr. John Grennan;
- 2) Nuns: Fr. Albert Wach & Fr. Robert Paul;
- 3) Formation: Fr. Augustine Mulloor,
- 4) Culture: Fr. Emilio Martínez,
- 5) Missions: Fr. Peter Chung & Fr. George Tambala;
- 6) Secular Carmel: Fr. Peter Chung.

The following geographical areas will be the concern of the following Definitors:

Fr. General will make Pastoral Visitations to the Provinces to which the Definitors belong.

- 1) The Vicar and first Definitor of the Order, Emilio Martínez: will look after Italy, Spain and Portugal;
- 2) Fr. Albert Wach: Central and Eastern Europe;
- 3) Fr. Augustine Mulloor: India and Sri-Lanka;
- 4) Fr. Robert Paul, France: Belgium, Switzerland, Sweden, Middle East and Quebec.
- 5) Fr. Marcos Juchem: Latin America and the Caribbean;
- 6) Fr. Peter Chung: Eastern Asia, Indonesia, Vietnam and Australia;
- 7) Fr. George Tambala: Africa, Madagascar and the Indian Ocean;
- 8) John Grennan: England and Ireland, the Netherlands, Malta, the United States and English-speaking Canada.

Culture Commission

In fulfilling the commission given it by the Chapter, the Definitory appointed the members of the commission for the revitalization of the Teresianum and for the collaboration between the large cultural centres of the Order. Under the presidency of Fr. Augustine Mulloor the following Fathers will form the commission:

- 1) Stephane-Marie Morgain, of the Avignon-Aquitaine Province,
- 2) Marco Paolinelli, of the Venice Prov., and
- 3) Augustine Borrell, of the Catalonia and Balearic Prov.

Commission for the 5th centenary of the birth of Saint Teresa of Avila 1515 – 2015

Also in fulfilling the desire expressed by the General Chapter the Definitory proceeded to establish a central commission for the preparation and the animation of the 5th centenary of the birth of Saint Teresa, with guidelines and the preparation of various sub-commissions. The Order's Vicar General, Fr. Emilio Martinez, will preside. Fr. Alfred Amesti, of the Navarre Province, will assist him as secretary. The main committee will be entrusted with coordinating the activities of each of the four areas, to create, evaluate, and offer suggestions. It will coordinate with the various commissions through the secretary of the same.

The commission for *community animation* will prepare introductions to each one of Saint Teresa's books. Equally it will prepare activities and celebrations to help in the individual, community and extra-communitarian study of the Works of St. Teresa. The committee will gather together the bibliography to send out to the communities. The commission for *pastoral animation* will organize pastoral activities about the centenary, placing particular attention on working with youth. It will bear in mind the celebration of World Youth Day (JMJ) in Madrid in 2011.

The task of the area of *cultural animation* will be to organize seminars and congresses, as well as other intellectual activities, in collaboration with the Teresianum in Rome, CITEs in Avila, and other institutes of the Order. It has been suggested that a new International review in Spirituality be established, with its base in CITEs, Avila. The local commission will coordinate the activities organized by other provinces.

'Teresian' Astronaut greeted by the Pope

The space astronaut Ronald Garan was among the faithful who came together in St. Peter's Square, Rome, for the papal audience on Wednesday June 24. At the end of the audience he was able to greet the Holy Father in person. He is the American commander who from May 31 to June 14, 2008 participated in the operation to transport and attach the Japanese laboratory module, 'Kibo' (hope) to the international space station.

As we recorded previously in *Communicationes*, he took with him on this operation a relic of St. Therese, that since then has circulated in space on board the Shuttle Discovery. In the 2011 operation he will take into space another relic. The original idea was suggested to him by the Discalced Carmelite nuns of New Caney (Texas), when he asked them for prayers for his space undertaking. They agreed with the desire of St. Therese, who prophetically made known: 'I have the vocation of an apostle... I would like to travel around the world, to preach your name and to plant your glorious cross in the pagan world. My love, one Mission only would not be enough for me. I would like to proclaim the Gospel at the same time in the five continents, and to the most remote islands... I would like to be a missionary not only for one year, but to be one since the creation of the world until the end of time...' (Ms B 3r^o).

The astronaut, Garan, with his family has created the 'Manna Energy Foundation,' that with the technology from NASA and finances from UN has developed a system to consign drinking water to the peoples of Rwanda and to install solar panels in schools and hospitals.

Three New Provincials

With the election of Fr.Saverio Cannistra, Provincial of Tuscany, as Superior General, of Fr. Emilio Martínez, Provincial of Castile, as 1st Definitor, and Fr. Albert Wach, Provincial of Cracow, as 2nd General Definitor, it was necessary, according to the Constitutions, to celebrate three Provincial Chapters in order to elect their successors. Thus the new Provincials are: for Tuscany Fr. Graziano Sbrolli, for Cracow Fr. Andrzej Ruszała and for Castile Fr. Miguel Marquéz; at the latter chapter Fr.Eusebio Gómez Navarro was elected 4th provincial councillor. Korea, that was recently elevated from a Commissary to a Province, elected Fr. Jerome Suh as substitute for Fr. Peter Chung, the 6th definitor general, and to two more councillors: Bernard Chang and Joseph Kim.

Break in the publication of COMMUNICATIONES

As every year at this time, COMMUNICATIONES is suspending for two months its fortnightly news items until September 15. Should some exceptional event occur in the life of the Order, there will be an exceptional and immediate notification.