



Communiqué OMI No. 143

2021

**Plenary Session
Rome
April 12 - May 14**

The second plenary session of this year, 2021, coincided with the joy and celebration of the Easter Season as the first day of the session began immediately after the Octave of Easter. Despite the ongoing presence of the Covid-19 pandemic, the joy and new life of Easter filled us with the hope of better days ahead. After the initial days of sharing our personal reports and our activities of the past months, the Central Government reflected together on the Easter Gospel of the Road to Emmaus, led by Fr. Alexius IGBOZURIKE, a recently arrived new formator at the International Roman Scholasticate (IRS).

The internal committees of Formation and Leadership set plans for the proposed upcoming gatherings this year for the workshop for formators in Rome for July 5-31 and the orientation session for new major superiors, scheduled for November 19 – December 4, also in Rome. It is hoped that some of the formators can actually attend the workshop, though most may only attend online. The Orientation session plans are also made with the hope that later this year, travel restrictions will be lifted, and that most of the prospective major superior attendees can be physically present.

Following one month of recovery after his surgery, Fr. General returned to Rome and joined the sessions in person on May 3. He expressed gratitude for everyone's prayers and the ongoing work accomplished by the vicar general and the general administration in Rome in his absence. As in the past three plenary sessions, the meetings were primarily held in the afternoons of Rome

time to accommodate Fr. General and the General Councilor for Canada-US who were prevented from traveling back to Rome.

The plenary session included presentations and discussions on issues affecting the Oblate Regions, especially on the question of restructuring and the upcoming joint sessions with the Latin American and Canada-US regions, both to be held virtually later this summer. Three provincial councils were appointed during the session (Anglo-Irish, Indonesia, and Mediterranean), and three replacement councilors were appointed, for India, Lesotho and Namibia. A procedure for the confirmation of delegation superiors and councils was also discussed and approved.

The ongoing formation day on religious life was led by Fr. Sebastian Babu, CMF, of the Claretianum University, to which members of other General House communities also attended. The sessions were devoted to reflecting and sharing on a recent document from the Vatican Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life, entitled: "The Gift of Fidelity, The Joy of Perseverance."

With the newly appointed Director of the General Service for JPIC in Rome, Fr. Jean-Hérick JASMIN, the internal mission committee prepared an upcoming joint meeting for the JPIC General Service and the General Mission Committee to discern how best to actualize the principles of *Laudato si'* in the life of the Oblate Congregation. The meetings are scheduled to

be held online June 2-4. After much discussion and preparation, the Superior General in Council formally approved the establishment of the Mission of Ghana and its statutes.

The financial structures of the Congregation were reviewed, including the audits of the General Administration and the Congregation's five Trusts. During the plenary session the Central Government discussed the future of the IRS building in view of the ongoing renovations of the General House.

The entire General House community joined in celebrating the perpetual oblation of a scholastic from the IRS, Bro. Thomas MABITLE, who made his profession on May 1st. During the session and over the past months, incoming graduate students and scholastic brothers have arrived to begin their

preparations for the next academic year in Rome. In another session, the "Guidelines on the Protection of Minors and Vulnerable Adults" for the 290 via Aurelia compound were approved by the Superior General in Council.

As usual, the community life of the Central Government during the session included daily Mass and social gatherings to celebrate anniversaries. Some of the group made a day trip to the nearby village of Sutri, and the plenary session concluded with a Eucharist of thanksgiving and the customary pizza party.

We wish our brother Oblates and their families who are sick around the Congregation a quick and stable recovery and entrust our common prayer to the many who have gone to be part of the heavenly Oblate family during this pandemic.

Elections and Appointments

Provincial Councillors

Indonesia

Agustinus Adeodatus WIYONO
Bernardus RUKMONO
Ignatius Wasono PUTRO
Aloysius WAHYU NUGROHO

Anglo- Irish

Lorcan O'REILLY
Eduardo NUÑEZ YÉPEZ
Terence MURRAY
William FITZPATRICK
Irvin MORASTIL

Mediterranean

Giuseppe RUBINO
Alberto RUIZ GONZALEZ
Carmine MARRONE
Javier MONTERO INFANTES
Fabio BASTONI

Lesotho

Paul Lesia MATLOSA

Namibia

Kiwawa Jean-Pierre YAMBENG

India

Peter Naron SAKRA



Appointments and Confirmation of Provincial Appointments since the last Plenary Session

Provincial Vicars

Olotsh Zenon BERIKANI, Cruz del Sur
Sergio Rubén SERRANO, Cruz del Sur
Mario GAZZOLA, Cruz del Sur
Lizwelinjani MLOTSHWA, Southern Africa

Delegation Superiors

Slawomir KALISZ, China
Louis DIEDHIOU, Senegal

Provincial Treasurers

Pawel NYREK, Assumption
Antonio MARIANGELI, Cruz del Sur
Kamiel DEGRIECK, Belgium & Netherlands

Scholasticate Superiors

Sathiyaseelan PATHINATHAN, Jaffna
Gregory AROKIASAMY, IRS-Rome

Delegation Councillors

Subash Anthony COSTA, Bangladesh
Bawel Valentine TALANG, Bangladesh
Bejoy Gabriel REBEIRO, Bangladesh

Maqsood NAZIR, Pakistan
Thyagan Emmanuel FONSEKA, Pakistan

Dominic RIAZ, Pakistan
Mark Anthony SERNA, China
Giovanni ZEVOLA, China

Vincent Waly DIOUF, Senegal
Georges Pascal NDOUR, Senegal
Isongolo Adelin NSANGUMPAMBA, Senegal
Pascal FAYE, Senegal

Appointments to General Services, Committees and Commissions

N.B. If not stated otherwise, the official publication of the following appointments in the Communiqué replaces the individual decrees of appointment.

General Committee of Oblate Brothers: With the consent of his Council, the Superior General has appointed Bro. **Raymond CARRIÈRE**, of the Province of Notre-Dame-du-Cap, as a member of the General Committee of Oblate Brothers, representing the Region of Canada – United States, for a first term of 3 years.

Future Events

2021

*CIAL Meeting	May 24	(Video Conference)
*Global Oblate Fundraisers	May 24-26	(Video Conference)
*General Service of JPIC Meeting	June 2-3	(Video Conference)
*General Mission Committee Meeting	June 3-4	(Video Conference)
*OIP Board Meeting	June 7-10	(Video Conference)
*Joint Session with Canada - US Region	June 21-25	(Video Conference)
*Workshop for Post-Novitiate Formators	July 5-31	Rome, Italy (& Video Conference)

Communiqué 143/4

*Joint Session with Latin America	August 16-20	(Video Conference)
*Central Government Annual Retreat	August 30 - September 4	TBA
General Council Plenary Session	September 8 - October 13	Rome, Italy
De Mazenod Experience (English)	September 15-November 11	Aix-en-Prov., France
*CIE Meeting	September 21-23	Florence, Italy
*AMR Meeting	October 17-21	(Video Conference)
OIP Board Meeting	November 8-10	San Antonio, USA
CROCUS Meeting	November 8-14	TBA, Canada
Orientation Session for Major Superiors	November 19 - December 4	Rome, Italy
*General Finance Committee	December 13-17	Rome, Italy

2022

General Council Plenary Session	January 10 - February 11	Rome, Italy
AORC Meeting	February 21-25	TBA, Australia
CROCUS Meeting	March 7-13	TBA, Canada
Joint Session with the Region of Europe	March 28 - April 2	TBA
*General Finance Committee	April 19-25	Rome, Italy
De Mazenod Experience	April 20 – June 16	Aix-en-Prov., France
General Council Plenary Session	April 25 - May 24	Rome, Italy
*2nd Oblate Lay Associations Congress	May 27-29	TBA
Ongoing Formation Workshop	July 4-25	Aix-en-Prov., France
37th General Chapter	from September 14	Nemi, Italy
CROCUS Meeting	November 7-13	TBA, U.S.A.

** indicates a new or changed item.*

Joint Sessions of the Central Government with Regional Conferences:

2021: Latin America; 2021: Canada - US; 2022: Europe

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