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**FR. LUIS IGNACIO ROIS ALONSO, O.M.I.**

**THE 14<sup>TH</sup> SUPERIOR GENERAL  
OF THE MISSIONARY OBLATES OF MARY IMMCUALATE**

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## THE 37TH GENERAL CHAPTER

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### Election of the Superior General

On Thursday, 29 September 2022, the 37th General Chapter of the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate elected **Fr. Luis Ignacio Rois Alonso, O.M.I.** as its 14th Superior General for a term of six years.

The 29 September election took place at the Centro Ad Gentes in Nemi, Italy. The General Chapter is being held through October 14.

#### *Curriculum vitae*

Fr. Luis Ignacio Rois Alonso, O.M.I., was born on 4 December 1963 in Madrid, Spain. He professed his first religious vows as a Missionary Oblate of

Mary Immaculate on 19 September 1982, and received priestly ordination on 21 May 1988.

Within the religious institute, he has held the following roles: Vocation director for the Province of Spain (1988-1992), Superior of the Scholasticate in Pozuelo, Spain (1996-1999), provincial of the Province of Spain (2000-2004), and General Councilor for Europe (2004-2016).

From 2017-2022 he served in the Western Sahara Mission of the Mediterranean Province.

He speaks Spanish, English, French and Italian.

### Election of the Vicar General

On Thursday, 01 October 2022, the 37th General Chapter of the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate elected **Fr. Antoni Bochm, O.M.I.** as the Vicar General for a term of six years.

The election took place at the Centro Ad Gentes in Nemi, Italy.

#### *Curriculum vitae*

Fr. Antoni Bochm, O.M.I., was born on 29 March 1969 in Miedzna, Poland.

He professed his first Religious Vows as a Missionary Oblate of Mary Immaculate on

08 September 1993, and received priestly ordination on 19 June 1999.

He served as assistant parish priest for two years before pursuing higher studies to prepare himself for formation ministry at the Oblate Scholasticate in Obra. There, he served as spiritual director and professor, as well as Superior until he became Provincial of the Province of Poland in 2014.

During the 36th General Chapter held in 2016, he was elected the General Councilor for Europe. He speaks Polish, English, French and Italian.

### Election of the Assistants General

#### **Election of the First Assistant General**

On Saturday, 01 October 2022, the 37th General Chapter of the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate elected **Fr. Raymond Mwangala, O.M.I.** as First Assistant General for a term of six years. The election took place at the Centro Ad Gentes in Nemi, Italy.

#### *Curriculum vitae*

Fr. Raymond Mwangala, O.M.I., was born on 25 August 1975 in Choma, Southern

Province, Zambia. He professed his First Religious Vows as a Missionary Oblate of Mary Immaculate on 2 February 1998, and was ordained a priest on 8 May 2004.

He served as Pre-Novitiate Formator in Luska, Zambia from 2004 to 2005. In 2006 he was assigned as Formator at the Scholasticate in Cedara, South Africa, and at the same time served as a professor at St. Joseph's Theological Institute. In 2016

he did advanced studies at Oblate School of Theology in San Antonio, Texas, USA, and at the same time served as Formator at the

San Antonio Scholasticate. In 2021, he was appointed Superior of the Delegation of Zambia. He speaks English and Italian.

### **Election of the Second Assistant General**

On Saturday, 1 October 2022, the 37th General Chapter of the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate elected **Fr. Henricus Asodo, O.M.I.** as the second Assistant General for a term of six years.

The election took place at the Centro Ad Gentes in Nemi, Italy.

#### ***Curriculum vitae***

Fr. Henricus Asodo, O.M.I., was born on 14 July 1974 in Semarang, Indonesia.

He professed his First Vows as a Missionary Oblate of Mary Immaculate on 11 August 1996, and was ordained a priest on 7 December 2003.

He served as Parochial Vicar in two parish from 2003-2006. He then studied Spiritual Direction in Australia from 2006-2007. In 2008, he joined the Formation Team in the Scholasticate in Jogjakarta, Indonesia. From 2009-2013 he served as Superior of the Scholasticate in Jogjakarta, Indonesia. In 2013 he was assigned to the community in Aix-en-Provence, Francia and in 2019 he was named Superior of the same community.

## **Election of the Regional Councilors**

### **Election of Regional Councilor for Africa-Madagascar**

On Tuesday, 4 October 2022, the 37th General Chapter of the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate elected Fr. **Erastus Kapena Mbili Shimbome, O.M.I.** as the General Councilor for the Africa-Madagascar Region for a term of six years.

The election took place at the Centro Ad Gentes in Nemi, Italy.

#### ***Curriculum vitae***

Fr. Erastus Kapena Mbili Shimbome, O.M.I., was born on 08 September 1971 in Omusati, Namibia. He professed his First Vows as a Missionary Oblate of Mary Immaculate on 5 February 1994, and was ordained a priest on 4 December 1999. Following Priestly Ordination, he served as Vicar at Christ the King Parish in Okatana, Namibia (1999-2002). From 2002-2018, he was Pastor of four different parishes. Since 2019, Fr. Shimbome has served as Provincial of Namibia Province.

### **Election of Regional Councilor for Latin America**

On Tuesday, 4 October 2022, the 37th General Chapter of the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate elected Fr. **Jorge Albergati, O.M.I.** as the General Councilor for the Latin America Region for a term of six years. The election took place at the Centro Ad Gentes in Nemi, Italy.

#### ***Curriculum vitae***

Fr. Jorge Albergati, O.M.I., was born on 20 April 1963 in San José, Uruguay. He professed his First Vows as a Missionary Oblate of Mary

Immaculate on 22 January 1989, and was ordained a priest on 8 October 1995.

Following Priestly Ordination, he served in Parish Ministry from 1995-1997. From 1998-2003, Fr. Albergati served as Vocations Director in Uruguay and Venezuela. From 2003-2007, he was assigned as Superior of the Prenovitiate. In 2008, he was appointed as Provincial Councilor where he served until 2013, when he became Superior of the Delegation of Uruguay. Since 2018, he served as Provincial of the newly formed Province of Cruz del Sur.

### **Election of the Regional Councilor for Asia-Oceania**

On Tuesday, 4 October 2022, the 37th General Chapter of the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate elected Fr. **Eugene Benedict**, O.M.I. as the General Councilor for the Asia-Oceania Region for a term of six years. The election took place at the Centro Ad Gentes in Nemi, Italy.

#### ***Curriculum vitae***

Fr. Eugene Benedict, O.M.I., was born on 29 October 1970 in Mutur, Sri Lanka. He professed his First Vows as a Missionary Oblate of Mary Immaculate on 8 September 1993, and was ordained a priest on 5 May 1998.

Following Priestly Ordination, Fr. Benedict was a member of the Preaching Band (1998-1999). He was then asked to serve in the Mission of Pakistan (1999-2001). He served in Parish Ministry from 2001 to 2007. From 2007 to 2009, he was asked to be the Director of the Jesuit Relief Service. In 2009, he began to pursue a Licentiate in Moral Theology in Rome. In 2011, upon completing his Licentiate he became Pastor of a Parish in Lunugala, Sri Lanka. From 2019 to 2020, he was named Superior of the “Amaladayam” Oblate Community in Trincomalee, Sri Lanka.

Since 2020, he has served as Provincial of the Province of Jaffna.

### **Election of the General Councilor for Europe**

On Tuesday, 4 October 2022, the 37th General Chapter of the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate elected Fr. **Alberto Gnemmi**, O.M.I., as the General Councilor for the European Region for a term of six years.

The election took place at the Centro Ad Gentes in Nemi, Italy.

#### ***Curriculum vitae***

Fr. Alberto Gnemmi, O.M.I., was born on 13 August 1964 in Fara Novarese, Italy.

He professed his First Vows as a Missionary Oblate of Mary Immaculate on 29 September 1990, and was ordained a priest on 22 April 1995.

He served as parochial vicar of Maria Immacolata Parish in Aosta, Italy, for five years (1995-2000). He was then appointed as Pastor of Maria Immacolata Parish in Aosta, Italy, for five years (2000-2005). From 2005-2012, Fr. Gnemmi served as Provincial Treasurer for the Province of Italy. From 2012-2018, he was appointed Provincial of the Mediterranean Province. Since 2018, he has served as Superior of the “St. Eugene” Oblate Community in Passirano, Brescia.

### **Election for the General Councilor for the Canada-United States Region**

On Tuesday, 4 October 2022, the 37th General Chapter of the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate elected Fr. **James Brobst**, O.M.I., as the General Councilor for the Canada-United States Region for a term of six years. The election took place at the Centro Ad Gentes in Nemi, Italy.

#### ***Curriculum vitae***

Fr. James Brobst, O.M.I., was born on 24 March 1960 in Alton, Illinois (USA). He professed his First Vows as a Missionary Oblate of Mary Immaculate on 14 August 1985, and was ordained a priest on 8 September 1990.

Fr. Brobst first served as parochial Vicar in two parishes (1990-1997). He was then invited to join the formation team at George Sexton House of Studies in San Antonio, Texas (1997-1999). From 1999 to 2005, he was named Director of the Oblate House of Theology in Chicago, Illinois. In 2005, he joined the Oblate Community in Anchorage, Alaska. In 2006, he was named Formation Director for the US Province. Later in 2008, he was named Director of Kings House Retreat and Renewal Center in Belleville, Illinois. In 2011, he was appointed Midwest Area Councilor for the US Province. Since 2017, he has served as Vicar Provincial for Mission in Ministry for the US Province.



## Address of the Holy Father to the participants in the General Chapter

Dear brothers, good morning and welcome!

I am pleased to meet you, on the occasion of your General Chapter. I thank the Superior General – poor thing, taken from the desert and brought here to Rome! – for his introduction, and I wish serene and fruitful work to him and the new Council. And let us thank the Superior and the Counsellors who have concluded their service.

You are a religious family dedicated to evangelization, and you are gathered to discern together the future of your mission in the Church and in the world. You have chosen, for this Chapter, a demanding theme, very similar to what has been chosen for the Church's next Jubilee: "Pilgrims of hope in communion". It is a theme that sums up your identity on the streets of the world, to which, as disciples of Jesus and followers of your founder Saint Eugène de Mazenod, you are called to bring the Gospel of hope, joy and peace. It is a world that, on the one hand seems to have reached seemingly unreachable goals, yet on the other is still enslaved by selfishness and full of contradictions and divisions. The cry of the earth and of the poor, wars and conflicts that shed blood on human history, the distressing situation of millions of migrants and refugees, an economy that makes the rich ever richer and the poor ever poorer, are some aspects of a scenario where only the Gospel can keep the light of hope burning.

You have chosen to be pilgrims, to rediscover and live your condition as wayfarers in this world, beside the men and women, the poor and the least of the earth, to whom the Lord sends you to announce his Kingdom. Your founder too was a wayfarer, at the origins of your religious family, when he went walking with his first companions in the villages of his native Provence, preaching the popular missions and restoring to the faith the poor who had turned away from it, and that even the ministers of the Church had abandoned. It is a tragedy, this, when the ministers of the Church abandon the poor.

Pilgrims and wayfarers, always ready to set out, like Jesus with his disciples in the Gospel. As a

missionary Congregation, you are at the service of the Church in seventy countries throughout the world. To this Church, that the Founder taught you to love as a mother, you offer your missionary zeal and your life, participating in her exodus towards the peripheries of the world beloved by God, and living a charism that leads you towards the furthest, the poorest, those whom no-one reaches. Walking this road with love and fidelity, you, dear brothers, render a great service to the Church.

You have heard the call to rediscover your identity as priests and brothers united by the bonds of religious consecration. Pilgrims of hope, you walk with the holy people of God, living in fidelity your missionary vocation, together with laypersons and young people who share in the Church the charism of your saintly Founder, and who wish to play an active part in your mission. Saint Eugène taught you to look at the world with the eyes of the crucified Saviour, this world for whose salvation Christ died on the cross.

You have already dedicated one of your preceding General Chapters to the theme of hope, when you heard a particular call to be witnesses to this virtue in a world that seems to have lost it, and that seeks elsewhere the source of its happiness. Being missionaries of hope means knowing how to read the signs of its hidden presence in the daily life of the people. Learning to recognize hope among the poor to whom you have been sent, who often succeed in finding amid the most difficult situations. Letting yourselves be evangelized by the poor you evangelize: they teach you the way of hope, for the Church and for the world.

In addition, you wish to be witnesses of hope in communion. Communion today is a challenge on which the future of our world, the Church and consecrated life depends. To be missionaries of communion, it is necessary first of all to live it among ourselves, in our communities and in mutual relations, and then to cultivate it with everyone, without

exception. You frequently referred, during your Chapter, to the ecclesial pathway of this time, which is rediscovering the beauty and the importance of “walking together”. I urge you to be promoters of communion through expressions of solidarity, closeness, synodality and fraternity with all. May the Good Samaritan of the Gospel be an example and a stimulus to make you close to every person, with the love and tenderness that drove him to take care of the robbed and wounded man ( cf. Lk 10:29-37). To make yourself a neighbour is a daily job, because selfishness pulls you in, pulls you down; to make yourself neighbour is to get out.

In this Chapter, you have also often evoked your commitment to the common home, seeking to translate it into concrete decisions and actions. I encourage you to continue to work in this direction. Our mother earth nourishes us without asking for anything in exchange; it is up to us to understand that she cannot continue to do so if we do not also take care of her. They are all aspects of that conversion to which the Lord calls us continually. Returning to the common Father, returning to the source, returning to the first love that impelled you to leave everything in order to follow Jesus: this is the soul of consecration and mission!

May your Founder, the charism he transmitted to you, and his missionary vision be and remain points of reference for your life and your work; to stay rooted in your missionary vocation,

above all by living the testament of your Founder, in mutual love among yourselves and in zeal for the salvation of souls. It is the heart of your mission and the secret of your life, and this is why the Church still needs you. In the immense field of the mission that is the entire world, may Jesus always be your model, as he was for Saint Eugène. Before the crucified Saviour, he decided one day to offer his own life so that everyone, especially the poor, might be able to experience the same love of God that had restored him to the path of faith.

This year you have celebrated the memorial of a special grace that Saint Eugène received two centuries ago, before the statue of Our Lady Immaculate in the church of the mission in Aix-en-Provence. This renews to you the invitation to take Mary as your travelling companion, so that she may always accompany you on your pilgrimage. Mary the pilgrim, Mary journeying, Mary who arose in haste to go and serve. After saying her “yes” to God through the archangel Gabriel, she departed in haste to go to her cousin Elizabeth, to share the gift and to place herself at her service. In this too, may Mary be an example to you, for your life and for your mission.

Dear brothers, I wish you a good conclusion to your Chapter, and I accompany you with prayer. I heartily bless all of you and your confrères, especially those who are sick and frail, and those who are in difficulty at this time. And you too, please, pray for me. Thank you!

### **Address of the Superior General at the Papal Audience**

Holy Father, and our father, Pope Francis,

The Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate in our 37th General Chapter greet you warmly and with great gratitude for receiving us today in this audience. We come to express our communion with you and with the entire Church. We are 78 Capitulars engaged in evangelizing the poor and most abandoned people in 70 countries around the world. We are inspired by the charism of St. Eugene de Mazenod who founded us in Aix en Provence, France in 1816. The theme for our General Chapter, Pilgrims of Hope in

Communion, has been a very rich source of reflection, motivation and call to conversion for our missionary lives.

Your Holiness, your ministry as successor to St. Peter has inspired us in our commitment to the mission of the Church. During this General Chapter we have been very much in harmony with your call for a synodal Church and we have been engaged in various ways in the synodal process in the Church as well as which have lived during our General Chapter. We have heard your call to be una Chiesa in Uscita. Your

writings, especially *Evangelii Gaudium* (2013), *Laudato Si'* (2015), *Gaudete et Exsultate* (2018), *Querida Amazonia* (2020) and *Fratelli Tutti* (2020) have inspired us throughout our General Chapter. Likewise we feel invited to put into practice your call to work in the promotion of human fraternity and peace.

In our pilgrim journey toward the fullness of the Kingdom, we recognize that at times we have lost our way and we have not always been faithful witnesses to the Good News. Aware of our sinfulness and weakness, we have asked forgiveness of God and from the people we have hurt in the process of evangelizing. With a deep longing for our own conversion, we humbly join the pilgrimage of the human family, journeying toward communion with God and with all our brothers and sisters.

During this Chapter, the world's cares have come to us very closely: the war in Ukraine; the refugees of natural disasters and the devastation caused by the damage inflicted on our common home by the way we live; the violence in the cities and areas of drug trafficking; the various forms of persecution, religious, social, economic, etc. Even with all these shadows on the human family, this General Chapter has filled us with hope as we

heard of many beautiful signs of God's saving power among us.

Your mission, Holy Father, as the successor of St. Peter, fills us with hope and with joy. We are filled with gratitude for this wonderful moment to be with you. We are here to renew the strongest bonds of communion and fidelity to you, Holy Father.

We ask for your blessing upon us, our entire Congregation, and all the laity, religious men and women, and priests who feel make our charism a part of their lives and make up what we call the Mazenodian family. May your blessing help us to renew ourselves in the spirit of the charism of St. Eugene, a spirit of daring to announce the Gospel to the poor and most abandoned at the margins of our society.

We are committed to pray for you and we ask for the protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary upon you.

With filial devotion, in Jesus Christ and Mary Immaculate.

Praised be Jesus Christ and Mary Immaculate.

Father Luis Ignacio Rois Alonso, OMI  
Superior General

### **Address of Fr. Superior General at the Closure of the General Chapter**

My dear brother capitulants and all of you who participated in the Chapter as auxiliary personnel,

The first word I want to say to you from the bottom of my heart is thank you! Thank you very much for being the way you are and for dreaming with hope what you want to be. Thank you for your effort and your work at the service of the mission and the Congregation during these days. Above all, thank you very much for the family and fraternal spirit and the mutual affection you have shown each other. Your witness makes me dream, with the Founder, that we are the most united family on earth. A unity that is built on the joyful respect for our rich diversity, joyfully lived in these days and that is

a sign of hope for the poor, for the Church and for our charismatic family. I hope that what we have lived here in Nemi can gradually permeate every corner of our Oblate world.

I have heard in this room the concern about post-capitular animation. Let us begin ourselves and let us begin now, without waiting for tomorrow. At the closing of the General Chapter, I would like to place before our eyes the powerful image evoked by Pope Francis in his message to the Chapter: the group of the first missionaries of Provence on their way, on pilgrimage, to preach the Good News in the villages of Provence. I believe that this image can be an icon that expresses what we have lived in these days and also to stimulate us in our journey as pilgrims of hope in communion.

Let us remember: in the days prior to the preaching of their first mission, the Missionaries of Provence had lived through intense personal emotions: days of radical farewells for many of them; days of taking risks by abandoning their settled life to start living in community without hardly knowing each other; days of shared dreams, of preparing together the text of the Supplication to the Vicars General. We do not know how many amendments and sub-amendments and drafts they had to make before arriving at the final text we know. Would it be something similar to what we have experienced in this room?

Before setting out to preach the mission, they made their first spiritual retreat. Then they decided to go on foot, from the house in Aix to Grans, some forty kilometers. Their intention was to imitate as much as possible the Apostles who, sent by Jesus and in the same way as Jesus did, went out on the roads to preach the Good News of the Kingdom. They wanted in everything to live like the Apostles, that is, they wanted to live the Gospel. Undoubtedly along the way they discovered at their side the Pilgrim who made their hearts burn with hope, as happened with those on the road to Emmaus. In his first mission the Founder sees miracles: the poor hear the Gospel in their mother tongue and open their hearts to God's mercy, reconciliation is achieved between divided families, Jesus becomes present in their midst with his forgiving and healing power.

The missionaries felt sent to preach the Good News to the poor, and the poor received it with joy. This filled the hearts of the poor with hope and also that of the missionaries. Let us say that they lived what Pope Francis asks of us in his message: "learn to recognize hope among the poor to whom you are sent, who often manage to find it in the midst of the most difficult situations. Let yourself be evangelized by the poor whom you evangelize: they teach you the way of hope, for the Church and for the world".

From the earliest days, our charismatic family has not ceased to go on pilgrimage, boldly exploring new paths to proclaim the Gospel. The Pope told us: "You have chosen

to be pilgrims, to rediscover and live your condition as travelers in this world, together with men and women, the poor and the least of the earth, to whom the Lord sends you to announce his Kingdom". It would be a drama if we were to abandon the poor on our pilgrimage, but even more, we are called to walk with them to be sowers of hope and communion in the heart of the world.

We have experienced the grace of participating in this Chapter: Let us go out on the roads to meet our brothers and sisters in humanity, especially the poor! Let us go out on the roads to share the wonders we have discovered during these days! Let us walk, yes, but let us walk together, being promoters of communion in a Church that walks synodically. Let us walk together living the Gospel and following the path outlined by our Constitutions and Rules. Let us walk together exploring how to promote communion and universal human fraternity, how to promote peace and reconciliation in this broken world: Let us be promoters of the justice willed by God, promoters of care for all creation that inhabits our common home and accompanying and protecting the most vulnerable. Let us be simple servants inhabited by the transforming power of the Gospel, announcing in community that the Kingdom is already among us.

As we close the General Chapter, I feel that a new adventure begins for the entire Oblate family: the adventure of living our beloved as pilgrims of hope in communion. Let us be animators of the Chapter in our respective communities. To this end, let us set out each day to be those pilgrims who enthusiastically live the Gospel and invite others to share the journey towards the One who will be all in all and who is bringing about the miracle of the new heaven and the new earth that one day we hope to inhabit. Let Eugene de Mazenod, his first companions and all the Oblate saints who have gone before us accompany us on this pilgrimage by their witness and intercession.

I declare the XXXVII General Chapter of the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate closed, Laudetur Jesus Christus, et Maria Immaculata.



## Homily of the Superior General at the Closing Eucharist of the General Chapter

As we celebrate the closing Eucharist of the Chapter, I would like to propose the gospel story that we have just heard as the paradigm of what is expected of us as pilgrim missionaries of hope in communion. Pope Francis suggested it to us in his message: “Mary the pilgrim, Mary journeying, Mary who arose in haste to go and serve. After saying her “yes” to God through the archangel Gabriel, she departed in haste to go to her cousin Elizabeth, to share the gift and to place herself at her service. In this too, may Mary be an example to you, for your life and for your mission.” I will propose some possible tracks that help us to learn from Mary the pilgrim and Mother of hope and of communion.

### *1.- Mary the Oblate.*

We have wondered in this Chapter about our identity. It is a question that we share with many in the face of the brutal reality of injustice and destruction that surrounds us. The Church also wonders about her identity and her sense of mission. Deep down we wonder about our own mystery: Who am I and why am I here? Let us learn from Mary to respond from a hopeful oblation. Faced with a mystery that surpasses her, Mary places her whole life in the hands of God and in this way she makes it possible for the Word to become flesh in her womb. She does not understand everything, she does not know what she has to do, but she has heard that everything will be the work of the Spirit and she puts all her trust in Him, collaborating body and soul with God’s project. As she feels her body being transformed, she learns to know and love that mystery that inhabits her. Constitution 2 tells us that in order to be cooperators with Jesus, the Oblates “leave everything” and “feel compelled to know him more deeply, to identify with him and to let him live in themselves. Striving to reproduce him in their own lives, they give themselves obediently to the Father, even to the point of death, and place themselves at the service of the people of God with selfless love”. “Mary Immaculate, by her response of faith and her total availability to the call of the Spirit, is the model and the safeguard” (C.13) of our oblation.

Let us learn like Mary to renew our oblation every day, knowing the Lord more intimately and walking with zeal along the paths of the mission.

### *2.- Mary the pilgrim.*

The Gospel text tells us that Mary leaves in a hurry. In this pilgrimage there is no time for immobility or self-referentiality. Pilgrimage with hope requires leaving oneself and traveling the paths, sometimes winding, that lead us to the others, to the other, to the OTHER. I like to think of Mary on a pilgrimage to that mountain village. Her bare feet sow beauty because they leave a footprint pregnant with hope towards the full manifestation of the Saviour that she already carries in her womb. Mary walks in communion with everything created and the entire creation is blessed as she passes. Let us learn from Mary and her contemplative walk, to care for and respect our common home. Furthermore, her encounter with Elizabeth is an epiphany of her own identity and mission: blessed among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb. Let us learn from Mary to go out to meet others. In them we will discover what we are in the eyes of God. Let’s do it with a simple life, open to others, leaving in our common home the mark of praise and beauty and never the mark of hatred, destruction or waste.

### *3.- Mary the servant.*

The pilgrim who carries the Savior knows that this mystery that inhabits her can only be lived by putting herself at her service, intentionally making herself a neighbor to the one who needed her: Elizabeth. If we want to feed our hope, we have to do it like Mary does, putting ourselves at the service of the poor and walking with them. Let us not forget that the communion promised by Jesus is also manifested when, like Him and in memory of Him, we wash one another’s feet. We say of Mary that she is the Mother of hope and the Mother of the Church communion. She bears the roles because she has become a humble servant of the Lord and of his people, the poor. Let us learn from Mary to go on pilgrimage serving every time with more love and dedication.

Dear brothers, I feel that Mary has blessed us in this Chapter. She has done it discreetly, with a smile looking over our entire family. The pope, recalling the experience of Saint Eugene 200 years ago, invited us “to take Mary as a traveling companion, so that she always accompanies you on your pilgrimage.” In order to be the pilgrims of hope in communion that we have dreamed of in our Chapter, we have to learn to walk hand in hand with Mary and sing with her, full of the Spirit, the revolutionary praise of the Magnificat that shows the way to be Sowers and leaven of “the beatitudes in the heart of the world” (C.13). Let us walk living “the joys and sufferings of missionaries in intimate union with her, Mother of Mercy” and let us announce, with our lifestyle, “the definitive victory of God over evil“. (C.10)

Come walk with us Mary, pilgrim of hope in communion. Give us your hand and your smile. Teach us to look with the heart, to discover the merciful passage of God. Teach us to look at those whom no one looks at and discover that they are the ones chosen by Jesus as signs of

His presence: the small and poor, the humble and vulnerable. Make us worthy to walk with them every day.

Take care, Mother, of our common home and our Oblate home. Help us discover what we need to do to make the planet and our communities a home where Jesus can be born. May our communion be the seed and leaven of universal brotherhood for the world.

At the foot of the cross and the crucified, teach us, Mary, to look at the world with the eyes of the crucified Savior. As we contemplate you, Mary, may we commit ourselves to collaborating with the One who will bring God’s definitive victory over evil.

We are your Oblates: give us your smile, as you have done since our beginning. She intercedes for us, together with Saint Eugene and all the Oblate saints who have preceded us and make us embark on bold paths to become authentic pilgrims of hope in communion, who live and announce the Gospel. Amen.

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## ANNIVERSARIES - OCTOBER 2022

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### 75th Anniversaries of Vows

07/10/1947	08945	Bro. Donato Cianciullo	Mediterranean
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### 70th Anniversaries of Vows

07/10/1952	09396	Mgr. Alessandro Staccioli	Mediterranean
18/10/1952	10040	Fr. Christian Duriez	France

### 70th Anniversaries of Ordinations

19/10/1952	08349	Fr. Dominique Kerbrat	Lacombe
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### 65th Anniversaries of Vows

01/10/1957	10394	Fr. Richard Doll	Lacombe
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### 65th Anniversaries of Ordinations

18/10/1957	09370	Fr. George Gruber	Lacombe
27/10/1957	09634	Fr. Gabriel Gérard	Belgium & Netherlands

### 60th Anniversaries of Ordinations

07/10/1962	10768	Fr. Palmiro Delalio	Mediterranean
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### 50th Anniversaries of Ordinations

21/10/1972	11906	Fr. Ronald Rolheiser	Lacombe
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### 25th Anniversaries of Ordinations

11/10/1997	13469	Fr. Domenico Rodighiero	Philippines
18/10/1997	13076	Fr. Lucian Phokojoe Tsehla	Lesotho

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**ANNIVERSARIES - NOVEMBER 2022**


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**70th Anniversaries of Vows**

01/11/1952	10058	Bro. Jean-Yves Poulin	Notre-Dame-du-Cap
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**60th Anniversaries of Vows**

01/11/1962	11354	Fr. Anton Lötscher	Central European
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**50th Anniversaries of Ordinations**

27/11/1972	11815	Fr. William Ousley	Australia
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**25th Anniversaries of Ordinations**

04/11/1997	13470	Fr. Francesco Anastasi	Mediterranea
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04/11/1997	13422	Fr. RizaldeOrola	Philippines
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23/11/1997	13387	Fr. Jean-Marie Mboudandi	Cameroon
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**Suffrages for our Deceased - October 2022**


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No. 73-81

NAME	DATE	DIED AT	BORN	PROV/DEL
Bro. Oscar González	02/10/2022	Santiago de Chile	02/06/1935	Cruz del Sur
Fr. Czeslaw Pantol	08/10/2022	Nysa	13/12/1954	Poland
Fr. Elmar Theisen	16/10/2022	Bad Hersfeld	14/11/1937	Central European
Fr. Louis McDermott	18/10/2022	Dublin	05/03/1944	Anglo – Irish
Fr. Luigi Sion	20/10/2022	Rome	05/03/1932	Mediterranean
Fr. Louis Haag	22/10/2022	Strasbourg	17/09/1937	France
Bro. Duly Charles	23/10/2022	Port-au-Prince	15/12/1934	Haiti
Bro. Andrew Lawlor	28/10/2022	Belleville	15/10/1947	United States
Fr. Pius Nyior	29/10/2022	Makurdi	23/03/1984	Cameroon

“They are before God, bearing the sign, the kind of character proper to our Institute, the vows common to all its members, the firm habit of the same virtues.

We are linked to them by the bonds of a special charity.

They are still our brothers and we are theirs.

They now live in our mother-house, our main residence.

The prayers and the love they retain for us will one day draw us to them and we shall live in our place of rest together with them.”

*(Letter of Founder to Fr. Courtès, 22 July 1828)*

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Fax: (39) 06 39 37 53 22 E-mail: [information@omigen.org](mailto:information@omigen.org)

[www.omiworld.org](http://www.omiworld.org)

Editor & Webmaster: Shanil Jayawardena

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