

SMbulletin

Friday, 14 March 2025

PLENARY SESSION



The General Council has been meeting in plenary session for the past three weeks. A lot of attention was given to the preparation work for the General Chapter, assisted by the outcomes of the meeting of the Pre-Capitular Committee prior to the plenary session. Among other things it was decided to invite one observer from the Omnes Gentes communities to the General Chapter, as well as some representatives from Lay partners in the Society's mission. It was also decided that the proposed secretaries to the General Chapter will be Fr Ricardo Navarrete and Ms Sophie Janssens, while Frs Stev Youm and Andreas Rupprecht have been invited to be the Minutes' Secretaries. Four seminarians from Casa di Maria will be present at the Chapter as assistants, and also help out with translations and liturgies. Also the Chapter Prayer was approved. A prayer card is being printed and will be distributed soon to all confreres.

A usual, the members of the General Administration had a few days together just outside Rome, this time at Palazzola, to consider wider issues in an especially prayerful and relaxed atmosphere.

The final plenary session of this General Administration team will be held in July.

SURVEY AND ASSEMBLIES IN PREPARATION FOR GC2025

Last year a survey was held among confreres worldwide on the present reality of the Society both locally and globally. Confreres were invited to share topics, concerns, challenges and hopes to be discussed during the upcoming General Chapter. The responses have recently been synthesised in a document, which was shared this week to all confreres. Fr Juan Carlos Piña, chairman of the Pre-Capitular Committee proposed that "assemblies" be held in all units to discuss the

findings of the synthesis and he included some guide questions which were proposed at the recent PCC meeting in Rome. Ideally, at each of these regional assemblies, at least one chapter delegate will be present, so that they can bring the fruit of these discussions to the General Chapter.



INTERNATIONAL FORMATION REPORT



During the plenary session the report from the International Formation Review Committee was tabled. Fr Martin McAnaney (EU) was the chair of this committee and along with other religious,

at the request of the Superior General, has carried out a thorough review of the Society's International Formation Program. The report from the Committee has been translated into French and Spanish. It will be shared soon with all confreres and will be presented for discussion at the General Chapter.