

Information n° 5

As the work of preparing the *Programme Document* continues, the time for voting for the election of the Superior General and his Council is approaching. According to the calendar of the Chapter, the first votes will be tomorrow, June 14, but on the first day a journey of discernment was already started and led by the methodologist Don Rossano Sala, SDB.

The proposed itinerary helps the Capitulars to become aware of the seriousness of this choice. It cannot be made in haste or lightly. Inspiredby the theme itself – "Let yourselves be transformed by renewing your way of thinking" (Rom 12:2) – Fr Sala enlightened the Capitulars on the three moments of discernment.

The first moment, on 3 June, was dedicated to reflection on the *challenges* that the next General Government will have to face. These was in the various areas of Pauline life and mission; common and fraternal life; initial and ongoing formation; apostolic mission; and working collaboration.

Having identified the challenges that we consider most important, the afternoon of Wednesday 8 June was reserved for the evaluation of the outgoing Government. This is to offer operational guidelines for the next Government to work better internally and within the Circumscriptions. Time was dedicated, therefore, "to the *team* and to the dynamisms of the General Council" where strengths and weaknesses were identified.

The last moment of discernment took place on Saturday 11 June, totally dedicated to *persons*, or to the *profiles* of candidates. The following were answered: "What are the main qualities and skills that we see necessary in the persons who will be called to hold different positions in the next General Council? "

The set of responses of the three moments of discernment has become material for a work of personal reflection during the morning of today, Monday 13 June. Silence was necessary to listen to one's conscience and to the Holy Spirit, in the face of this great responsibility for the good of the Congregation and of the Church. It considers that "religious life belongs equally to the life of the Church and to her sanctity, the General Chapter must be seen as an ecclesial event, a salvific event, a page of hope, a particular Paschal celebration" (*Constitutions*, art. 211).

New pages of this Chapter are planned for tomorrow. Please remain in waiting and in prayer!

Ariccia, Casa Divin Maestro, 13 June 2022

Br. Darlei Zanon