

Informationes

Society of the Divine Savior

Vol XI, Nr. 34 • August 2018, Rome



Dear Confreres,

"Yes." This was Fr. Jordan's final word spoken on 08 September 1918. It strikes me as very meaningful as we celebrate the XIX General Chapter of the Society at St. Ottilien near Munich, Germany.

Although it was spoken by Fr. Jordan in response to a statement by Fr. Pfeiffer that he would remember him at mass that day on which the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary was to be celebrated, in a way it reflected Fr. Jordan's "yes," who like Mary, wanted to do the will of God throughout his life. Fr. Jordan responded "yes" to God's call to priesthood and consecrated life. He responded "yes" to working in response to the needs of the Church and incorporating men, ordained and non-ordained, women, young and old into the work God was laying out for him and which he called the Apostolic Teaching Society. He responded "yes" when this work was directed by the Church to become the Society of the Divine Savior. He responded "yes" to sending missionaries to remote places and to establishing new foundations as quickly as possible. He responded "yes" to carrying the cross of Christ, confident that Divine Providence was with him and guiding him, together with the Blessed Virgin Mary. He responded "yes" in gratitude for the prayers that would be offered on his behalf on the last day of his life.

Would that all of us Salvatorians could respond "yes" to what God is asking of us today. I personally find much courage to respond "yes" when I consider Fr. Jordan's life and as I reflect on Pope Francis' apostolic exhortation Gaudete et Exsultate (2018). The exhortation presents a very Salvatorian perspective, almost as if the pope had taken our charism and mission and was holding them up to the Church to see. It says to me that our charism and mission are still very much needed in these times.

As we gather for the General Chapter and make decisions, I hope we will be bold so that we may be able to evangelize and leave the mark of God's salvation in this world (GE n. 129). I hope that we will respond to the Spirit's promptings, letting go of our fears and excessive caution (GE n. 133). I hope that we will overcome the temptation to flee to a safe haven (GE n. 134) so that we can pass beyond what is familiar (GE n. 135). And thus, be able to know the Father, the only true God, and the one whom he has sent, Jesus Christ (cf. Jn 17:3 and GE n. 170).

Dear Confreres, please pray with me that we will be able to "...rethink our usual way of doing things; let us open our eyes and ears, and above all our hearts, so as not to be complacent about things as they are, but unsettled by the living and effective word of the risen Lord" (GE n. 137). And with the pope "let us ask the Lord for the grace not to hesitate when the Spirit calls us to take a step forward" (GE n. 139). Go, enflame all!

*Fr. Raúl Gómez Ruiz SDS
Vicar General & General Secretary*



Generalate Travel Plans

The members of the Generalate will be away from the Motherhouse on these dates in August and September:

Fr. Milton:

08 AUG – Germany
11 SEP XIX General Chapter & Centenary Celebration

Fr. Raúl:

09 AUG – Germany
10 SEP XIX General Chapter & Centenary Celebration

Fr. Chris:

12 AUG – Germany
10 SEP XIX General Chapter & Centenary Celebration

Fr. Agustín:

08 AUG – Germany
11 SEP XIX General Chapter & Centenary Celebration

Fr. Thomas:

12 AUG – Germany
10 SEP XIX General Chapter & Centenary Celebration



*Assumption of the Virgin –
Painting by Titian*

Visit

Kenya (01-05 JUL 18)

After having finished the Canonical Visitation of the Congo Missionary Pro-Province, Fr. Agustín Van Baelen, General Mission Secretary, paid a visit to our Otto Hopfenmüller mission in Kipkaren River, Kenya from 01-04 JUL 18. The community is led by Fr. Justine Tesha and includes Br. Dennis Gwaya, Frs. Dieudonné Zeng



a Zeng, Patrick Mgumba, Fidèle Musau Mukanya, and Elphas Mukhanatsi. The ingredients of the visit were individual talks with all the members



of the growing mission, two community meetings during which they evaluated the year which has passed since his last visit and planned the coming year. He also visited the construction of the Mater Salvatoris House and greeted the teachers and pupils of the Mater Salvatoris Academy. Both the house and academy have benefited from funds raised by SOFIA Global.

Taking advantage of having to wait for the next flight, one evening at Nairobi, Fr. Agustín also met with Fr. Benedict Munyaka on 05 JUL 18; he belongs also to our Otto Hopfenmüller Mission and is finishing a Masters degree at African Nazarene University in Nairobi, while living and working in Saint Peter Claver Parish near the cathedral of the capital of Kenya.

Meetings

International Historical Commission

The International Historical Commission (IHC) met at the Motherhouse in Rome from 29-31 MAY 18 to assess what it has accomplished and to complete its service for the current term of this Generalate. Under the leadership of Fr. Michael Overmann, General Archivist, the IHC had set for itself ambitious goals for this six-year term and happily reached most of them. This included publishing *Salvatorian Motherhouse in*



Rome 1882-1995 (DSS vol. XXIV, 2015), new or renewed editions of the series *Salvatorians Worth Knowing* in various languages, some of which will be published later this year, new archive rules, and a book in honor of the Centenary of Death of the Founder, *Dialoguing with Father Jordan* (2017). Progress was also made on another DSS volume on various writings of the Founder. There are also other projects that were begun but will need to be completed during the next term. The IHC is grateful to confreres and others from around the world who helped it accomplish its goals. Also, the Generalate is grateful to Fr. Michael, as well as to the members of the commission: Frs. Raúl Gómez Ruiz (liaison), Adam Teneta, Piet Cuijpers, Vinoy Thottakkara, and Mr. Johan Moris.

Chapter Preparatory Commission



The Chapter Preparatory Commission (CPC) met at the Motherhouse in Rome from 05-07 JUN 18 to continue its work on the XIX General Chapter (13 AUG-09 SEP 18). Under the guidance of

Sr. Dulcelene Ceccato SDS and Fr. Dennis Thiessen SDS, facilitators, the members made significant strides forward in planning the processes, activities, and tasks of the General Chapter. Consequently, the CPC reviewed the proposals which have arrived and identified six working committees for addressing them. Also based on the list of delegates it identified possible discussion groups according to languages. In addition, it finalized the Liturgy Plan for the General Chapter. The members of the CPC include Frs. Milton Zonta, Raúl Gómez Ruiz, Agustín Van Baelen, Hubert Veesser, Mirosław Stanek, Charles Mushitu, and Vinoy Thottakkara. Although this was the last meeting of the full commission, the members have continued to work on tasks that will be finalized when the Chapter begins at St. Ottilien. We express our gratitude for all the work and time they have dedicated to preparing the General Chapter.

ICDS 3rd General Assembly



Delegates of the International Community of the Divine Savior (ICDS) gathered at WICO campus Salvator in Hamont, Belgium from 18-25 JUL 18 for the Third General Assembly. The theme of the General Assembly was “Discovering, Sharing, Being – Lay Salvatorians around the World.” Fr. Milton Zonta, Superior General, presided at the Opening Eucharist and also greeted those gathered on behalf of the Society. On 23 JUL 18 the delegates elected the new leadership for a six-

year term including: Christian Patzl (Austria), President, Ken Drake (USA), Vice-President, Sabin Ormaza (Venezuela), Secretary, Ann Cullander (Australia), Treasurer, Rita Van Olmen (Belgium), First Consultor, and Olga Lucia Hurtado (Colombia), Second Consultor. Among the agenda items were four joint proposals from the three Salvatorian Family leaderships and other proposals for governance of the ICDS. They also engaged in consideration of various topics including Salvatorian identity and mission, Community Building and leadership, and initial and ongoing formation. The delegates also worked on the statutes of the ICDS so that the Vatican approval process can move forward. We congratulate and offer our best wishes to the new leadership which will take office on 08 DEC 18.

Why I became a Salvatorian...



...because it is the most concrete and real understanding of the way of salvation that we are called to construct following in the footsteps of Jesus.

Fr. Ederaldo Macedo de Oliveira, Brazilian Province

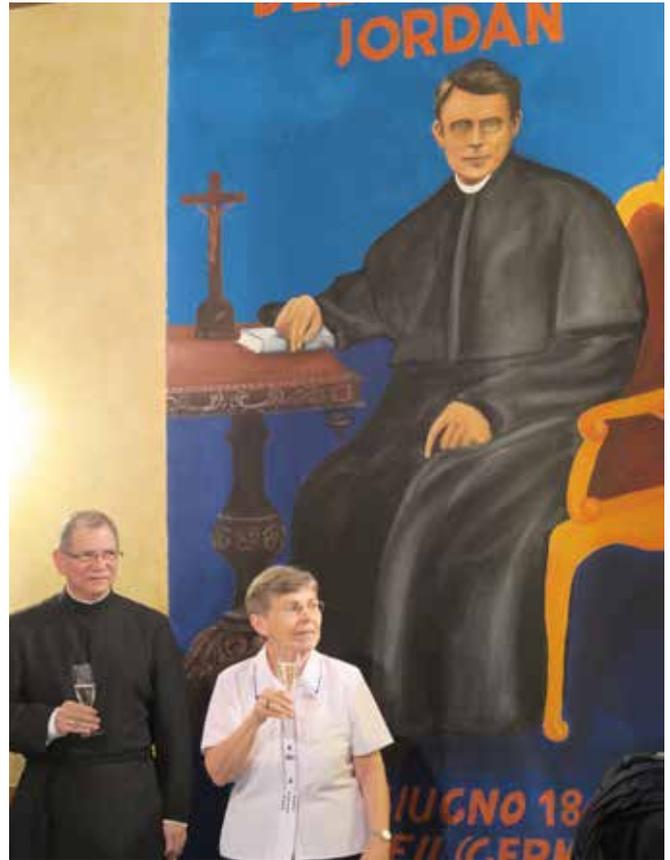
To see other statements and photos go to sds.org/vocations and click on each of the first four categories: “Called by God,” “Consecrated Religious,” “To be a Salvatorian” and “Formation Stages.”

Motherhouse

Fr. Jordan's Birthday (16 JUN 18)



This year marks a number of significant anniversaries for the Salvatorian Family including the 170th birthday of the Founder, Fr. Francis Mary of the Cross Jordan. Members of the family gathered at the Motherhouse in Rome on Saturday, 16 JUN 18 to celebrate the Eucharist, pray at the Founder's tomb, and to share in an aperitif in the library in honor of his birthday. Fr. Raúl Gómez Ruiz, Vicar General, presided at the Eucharist and Fr. Adam Teneta, Postulator General, offered a reflection on the Founder's holiness of life. The Salvatorian students from Tor de' Cenci provided liturgical service and music and Dcn. Ermes Luparia served as the deacon. In addition, Sr. Edith Bramberger, Superior General of the Congregation, offered a toast during the aperitif. We were also pleased to have a group of Lay Salvatorians from Albania who made a



special pilgrimage to the Founder's tomb for this occasion. The joy was increased by a couple from Porrino who came to express thanks to the Founder because they attribute the recent birth of their twin son and daughter after many years to the intercession of Fr. Jordan.

Addio Sr. Paulina

On Friday, 06 July 18, the Motherhouse community bid farewell to Sr. Paulina Klejny CST who has been reassigned by her community to Poland. We are very grateful for her joyous spirit and her ability to beautify our celebrations with her artistic skills. We wish her the best in her new assignment. Until we meet again.



Travelling to Rome

Members needing a visa in order to enter Italy are asked to note the following:

- One is required to provide the following information: the first and last names of the member as they appear in his passport; the member's place of birth (i.e., city/state/country); the number of the member's passport and dates of arrival and departure from Europe.
- This information should be sent directly to Father Krzysztof (Chris) Kowalczyk at the Generalate (krzysztof.kowalczyk@mailsds.org). Since it takes some time to complete all the steps, please send this information sufficiently in advance of the planned visit.
- Members planning to visit the Motherhouse are asked to contact directly the local superior, Father Juan Carrasquilla Ossa, in order to request guest rooms and make other arrangements. Father Juan can be reached at:

E-mail: juan.carrasquilla@mailsds.org

Fax: +39 (06) 68629.400

Telephone: +39 (06) 68629.213

- Please be advised that because of the planned papal celebrations and audiences, we may be unable to meet you at or take you to the airport, especially on Sunday and Wednesday.

XIX General Chapter

Ready for the General Chapter

We are fast approaching the XIX General Chapter (13 AUG-09 SEP 18). The theme of the Chapter is "Go, enflame all!" and is based on an entry in Fr. Jordan's Spiritual Diary (SD II/2). The Chapter takes place at St. Ottilien Monastery near Munich, Germany

and ends with a three-day Jubilee Celebration of the Centenary of the Founder's Death at Freiburg (Germany), Tafers (Switzerland), and Gurtweil (Germany). We ask all the members of the Society to keep the XIX General Chapter in your prayers asking for the guidance of the Holy Spirit that we may fulfill the charism and accomplish the mission given to us as Salvatorians. Please pray also that the implementation of the Chapter decisions afterwards goes smoothly. Thank you.

Also, during the General Chapter the communications committee will post photos and brief reports on the Chapter Blog, <http://www.sds19.org/>. This will provide the members of the Society the chance to follow along and to receive official news.

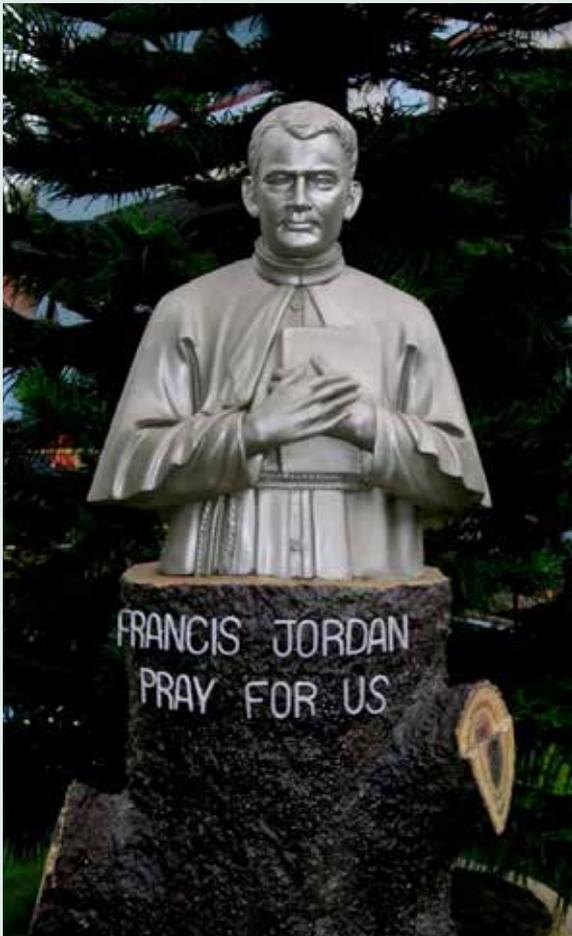
Centenary Materials

Please remember: materials for use by members for the celebration of the Centenary of Death of Fr. Jordan are available at www.sds.org. You can also send

photos and brief reports on local celebrations to chapterblog@mailsds.org.



From Father Jordan:



Spiritual Testament

Last Will and Testament of Our Venerable Father Francis Mary of the Cross Jordan, Founder of the Society of the Divine Savior*

Greetings and blessings to all the members! Father Francis of the Cross bequeaths to his spiritual sons in the Society, living now and in the future, this his last will.

- 1 *As a lasting inheritance foster trust in Divine Providence. It will always care for you like a loving mother.*
- 2 *I place in your hands the faithful observance of poverty. It is a treasure of great price and a precious pearl for which God will demand an account from you on the Day of Judgment.*

3. *Put all your hope and trust in God alone, He will fight for you like a mighty hero.*
4. *Woe to you if you put your trust in men or riches.*
5. *Remain sincere and loyal sons of our mother, the holy Roman Church. Teach what she teaches; believe what she believes; condemn what she condemns.*
6. *Love one another in the Holy Spirit. Let your love be plain to all.*
7. *You know I have deeply loved you. I want you to love one another.*
8. *Sanctify yourselves. Grow and spread over the whole earth until the end of time.*

In the name of the Lord, AMEN

*(Drafted in 1886: Found in Annales, vol. VI, 8 December, 1956. No. VIII, p. 371. Also, SD, Eng. ed., pp. 346-347).

Spiritual Diary

Nothing should come from the mouth of a priest unless it is holy, unless it is honest and useful. Imitation of Christ
(The last entry: 14 APR 1918)

Final Words:

(See Postulation press, no. 10, July 1998):
The dear God will make everything turn out right. Others will come, they will remember our suffering and continue our work.
(In response to Fr. Pfeiffer's concerned look: on 03 SEP 1918).

Yes.

(In response to the statement by Fr. Pfeiffer that he would make a special memento for him at Mass on the occasion of the Nativity of Mary and his last word around 5:00 AM; Fr. Jordan died at 8:02 PM that evening, 08 SEP 1918).

Congratulations

First Profession of Vows

Congratulations to our new confreres who recently made their first profession:

- On 16 JUN 18, Cl. Michael Calucin SDS, Cl. Gabriel da Costa, Cl. Yohanes Don Bosco Kollo SDS, Cl. Richard Lania SDS, Cl. Joseph Mai Van Phuc SDS, Cl. Joseph Nguyen Khanh Tam SDS, and Cl. Peter Tran Van Trung SDS of the East Asian Mission Vicariate at Mother of the Savior Formation House, New Manila, Philippines to Rev. Adam Januś SDS, Vicariate Superior;
- On 16 JUN 18, Cl. Johnson Bhengra SDS and Cl. Niju Josey SDS of the Indian Mission Vicariate at Mother of the Savior Formation House, New Manila, Philippines to Rev. Adam Januś SDS, East Asian Vicariate Superior.

Final Profession of Vows

Congratulations to the following confreres who made their final profession of vows:

- On 16 JUN 18, Cl. Perekala Anil Kumar SDS, Cl. Donbosco Kharmawlong SDS, Cl. Ksankupar Khongwar SDS, and Cl. Starlight Khongsit SDS of the Indian Mission Vicariate at the Otto Hopfenmüller Study House, Shillong, India to Rev. Sunil Thomas Kashamkattil SDS, Vicariate Superior.

Ordination to the Diaconate

Congratulations to the following confreres who were ordained deacon:

- On 19 JUN 18, Cl. Patric Nikolas SDS and Cl. Octavio Trejo-Flores SDS of the US Province, at Mother of Good Counsel Parish, Milwaukee by Most Rev. James Schuerman, Auxiliary Bishop of Milwaukee;
- On 23 JUN 18, Cl. Perekala Anil Kumar SDS, Cl. Donbosco Kharmawlong SDS, Cl. Ksankupar Khongwar SDS, and Cl. Starlight Khongsit

SDS of the Indian Mission Vicariate, at Oriens Theological College, Shillong by Rt. Rev. Joseph Aind SDB, Bishop of Dibrugarh.

Ordination to the Priesthood

Congratulations to the following confreres who were ordained priests:

- On 03 JUN 18, Dcn. Florencio Ompad SDS of the East Asian Mission Vicariate, at St. Mary Magdalene Parish, Amadeo Philippines, by Most Rev. Reynaldo G. Evangelista, Bishop of Imus;
- On 16 JUN 18, Dcn. Celestino Manuel Madaba SDS of the Mozambique Region of the Brazil Province at Nossa Senhora Aparecida Parish, Moema, São Paulo, by Most Rev. José Roberto Fortes Palau, Aux. Bp. of São Paulo, Tiranga Region;
- On 07 JUL 18, Dcn. Cyprian Kikoti SDS and Dcn. Exuper Adomari Mkwawe SDS of the Tanzania Missionary Pro-Province at Msimbazi Center, Archdiocese of Dar es Salaam, by Most Rev. Eusebius Alfred Nzigilwa, Auxiliary Bishop of Dar es Salaam.

Prayers

Please Pray for...

- A fruitful and Spirit-filled XIX General Chapter of the Society
- Successful celebration of Fr. Jordan's Centenary of Death
- The official recognition of the ICDS by the Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life
- Those in Formation and their Formators
- Acceptance of a miracle for the beatification of Fr. Jordan
- Our deceased confreres

Please note that we are posting death notices on the SDS website (www.sds.org).

We also send them to each member at their mail.sds.org email address.



SOFIA

Salvatorian Office
for International Aid

Promulgation of SOFIA Constitution

For a long period of time, we have been working on a structural framework of SOFIA, collecting and developing several different texts, which taken together, amount to a kind of constitution of SOFIA. The document, which is in English, serves to describe SOFIA's legal status. It defines the cooperation concerning fundraising and project work, the core business of SOFIA, and it organizes the relation between SOFIA Global and the SOFIA local offices.

On 16 JUN 18, the birthday of our beloved Founder, Fr. Francis Jordan, this document was promulgated *ad experimentum* for 3 years by our General Superior, Fr. Milton Zonta, and is now an *official* document of the Society. After using the document during a period of 3 years, taking into account the experience of all concerned, a review of its content should be made.

The objective of all this is to define more clearly some procedures. In this sense we hope that it will serve for the smooth cooperation in our Society concerning our fundraising efforts. Cooperation will prove to be fruitful for the benefit of our apostolates and projects, and ultimately will serve the people our members are serving.

The document was emailed to the units in late June of this year. If you would like a personal copy, please contact Dn. Joby Philip at joby.philip@sofiaglobal.org.

Update on ELKAP



Almost three years have passed since the inauguration of the hydro-energy power plant built in Kapanga by the Salvatorians. ELKAP – ELectricity for KAPanga currently provides electricity to 170 customers including social and commercial entities, among them schools, clinics, the municipality, small business and private households. The plant

can potentially serve 400 customers. ELKAP signed important supplying contracts with key local economic actors such for example the telecommunication company "VODACOM". It connected the Salvatorian Sisters' hospital in Ntita and the Methodist's hospital, SAMUTEB, in Musumba. In August 2017, a new pumping system project has also been connected to the grid. This project allows to serve the whole population of Musumba with clean water, avoiding people to do a great effort transporting water from impressive distances.



SOFIA Global is currently carrying out a 3-year empowerment project with the support of the Irish organization Misesan Cara. Started in 2016, it is having a great impact on ELKAP's operations and in its effort to reach sustainability. In general, the service provided to customers is appreciated and ELKAP is known also in villages and small cities far from the territory. DR Congo is facing an energy crisis and in the major cities such as Lubumbashi and Kinshasa, the customers of the main electricity provider, SNEL, face many blackouts during the week. Today Kapanga can get advantages from a reliable and clean electricity provider. The current stable service required great effort of all ELKAP's team, which faced many technical problems in the first two years of operation. In order to reach financial sustainability, ELKAP introduced a new payment method

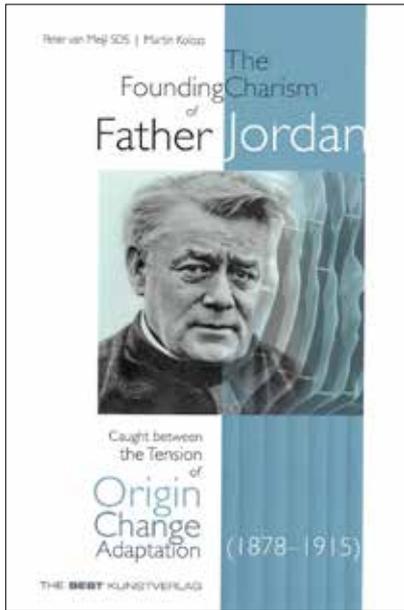
optimizing the selling of the electricity. The new payment method will be based on consumption, pushing the customers to a more efficient way of consuming electricity and allowing ELKAP to sign new contracts having some power capacity available. In fact, this new system will decrease the wasting of power, increase efficiency and simplify the administration. Most of the customers are teachers, policemen, farmers having a salary of approximately \$100 per month. Many of them have not been paid since many months due to economic crisis. So they are facing problems in paying the bills. The new pre-paid meters will help them in using the electricity only when they can afford it. Another key issue to reach the sustainability of ELKAP is to consolidate and improve the managing procedures of the legal entity governing ELKAP, adopting international best management practices.

At the end of this period of activities supported by Misesan Cara, ELKAP will be able to manage the power provision service in a much better way. The local community will be aware of, and have better access to improved community services - such as hospitals, schools, mills, with significant improvements in health and education. In addition, the local income will increase through the strengthening and creation of small informal businesses. In this context, ELKAP organized some internal and external training activities in February 2018.



Publications

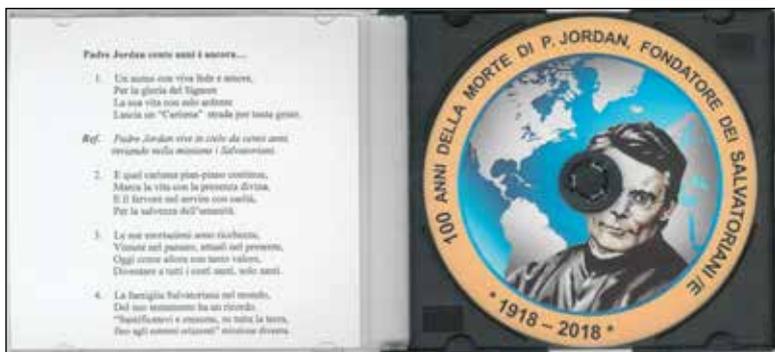
Salvatorian Charism: Reinterpreting the Roots



The Founding Charism of Father Jordan-Caught between the Tension of Origin, Change and Adaptation (1878-1915) is the full title of a new publication issued by Fr. Peter van Meijl SDS in cooperation with Martin Kolozs. The booklet is published in a bilingual edition, German and English, by The Best Kunstverlag and is intended as an important contribution

from the Austrian Pro-Province to the necessary process of a modern awareness of our founding charism in response to the call of the Superior General, Fr. Milton Zonta, in several of his Pastoral Letters.

Fr. Jordan’s Passing: Hundred Years and Beyond



The song in honor of Fr. Jordan’s 100th Anniversary of Death, composed by Sr. Silva Jaku SDS and Mateus Jaku (see *Informationes* n. 33), is now

available as a CD. It can be ordered by contacting Sr. Silva at sdsilvamaría@hotmail.com. In addition, it can be accessed at <https://youtu.be/xxwPQ2K1FJw>.

Jordán y lo típico “específico SDS” by Fr. David Restrepo Rodríguez SDS



For Fr. Jordan, the fundamentals of his “intimate awareness” of what was to be specific about the SDS, began to appear as an initial source of inspiration as early as 1866 when he was 18 years old. This was when he perceived “something special” requested from him by God as His will. In this essay, available in Spanish and in electronic form only, Fr. David Restrepo SDS traces the “Salvatorian” peculiarities of our Founder’s life and spirituality through the stages of his era and beyond. Ask Fr. Restrepo for the PDF by e-mailing him at archivosalvatoriano@gmail.com/.



Informationes

Society of the Divine Savior

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