

# Informationes

Society of the Divine Saviour

Vol XII, Nr. 3 • June 2019, Rome



**Dear confreres,**

*Soon after the publication of this issue of Informationes, we will celebrate the 171<sup>st</sup> birthday of Fr. Francis Jordan on 16 June. Later, on 21 July, we will continue to celebrate the 141<sup>st</sup> anniversary*

*of Fr. Jordan's ordination to the priesthood. These two anniversaries give us an excellent opportunity to reflect on the life and personality of our Founder, as well as on the rich heritage he has left for us.*

*These moments of celebration and remembrance surely invite us to further our knowledge about Fr. Jordan and to deepen our personal relationship with him. It is very important that our Founder be recognized as our spiritual father and guide for each and every one of us as Salvatorians, just like he was for the first generation of his spiritual sons and daughters. This personal relationship with the Founder leads us to become more aware that his apostolic and missionary activity originates from his virtuous life. His personal quest for holiness and his union with Christ the Saviour were the source and foundation of his apostolic works. Such insight naturally evokes reflection on our own way towards apostolic holiness.*

*At the same time, we are invited to a deeper reflection on our own Salvatorian life and ministry. The last General Chapter, in the Statement of Priorities, recognized the importance of the missionary spirit which defined our Founder's apostolic zeal. It stated that this spirit, which we inherited as the members of the Society of the Divine Saviour, is the guiding principle for, and an essential quality of, all Salvatorian endeavours. As the*

*Chapter members pointed out: Mission is the foundation, the architecture, the guiding principle for everything else. Consequently, as a community, we are gathered for mission, and our community life is an important testimony in fulfilling our mission. Also, our initial and ongoing formation has to prepare us for and direct us toward mission. Our Salvatorian apostolate means to be sent in mission responding to the needs of today, using available resources and being open to new possibilities while always proclaiming the Saviour.*

*The commemorative celebrations, connected with the life and person of our Founder, are wonderful occasions for making him more widely known and for making others aware of his virtuous and exemplary life. These show how his ideas and vision remain valid for the Church and the world of today. These special moments create a space for praying through his intercession, as well as for sharing the joy and witness of being a Salvatorian with one another, with the members of our Salvatorian Family and with those among us whom we serve in mission.*

*However, these notable days also invite us not only for reflection on our personal life and testimony as religious and followers of Fr. Francis Jordan, but also on our ministry in light of our charism, spirituality and identity. The rich message of the last General Chapter is a valuable resource and guideline for this reflection, both on a personal and on a community level. Let us become familiar with this message and let us not hesitate to use it. Let us be motivated and courageous to undertake new challenges and when necessary to make changes, in order to grow in our missionary spirit and apostolic zeal so that all people everywhere may know and love the Saviour and have eternal life.*

Fr. Adam Teneta SDS



## Travel Calendar Generalate

The members of the Generalate will be away from the Motherhouse on the following dates in June and July:

Fr. Lukoa	4 – 10 June	Tanzania	Governing Board JUCo
Fr. Joe	19 June – 13 July	USA	Chapter, jubilees, ordinations
Fr. Agustín	4 – 10 June	Tanzania	Governing Board JUCo

## Generalate

### Official Picture



The official picture of the current Generalate was sent to all the Administrative Units and Missions. We kindly ask the secretaries of the units to distribute them among the houses. In case a unit would like to have more of them, please write to the General Secretary ([generalate-secretariat@mailsds.org](mailto:generalate-secretariat@mailsds.org)) in order to be able to provide them.

### Communication between the Units and the Generalate

As it was already mentioned in the previous edition of *Informationes*, the structure of communication between the Units and the Generalate has been

modified, due to the decisions made by the XIX General Chapter. According to the matters to be dealt with, we repeat the functions and the respective email addresses of confreres in charge:

#### - Administration/communication in general

General Secretary – Fr. Agustín Van Baelen:  
[generalate-secretariat@mailsds.org](mailto:generalate-secretariat@mailsds.org)

#### - Finances in general

General Treasurer – Fr. Scott Wallenfelsz:  
[generalate-finances@mailsds.org](mailto:generalate-finances@mailsds.org)

#### - Formation in general

General Formation Secretary – Fr. Krzysztof Gasperowicz:  
[generalate-formation@mailsds.org](mailto:generalate-formation@mailsds.org)

#### - General Archives

General Archivist – Fr. Michael Overmann:  
[generalate-archives@mailsds.org](mailto:generalate-archives@mailsds.org)

#### - General Postulation

Postulator General – Fr. Adam Teneta:  
[generalate-postulation@mailsds.org](mailto:generalate-postulation@mailsds.org)

#### - Legal matters + Procurator to the Holy See

General Legal Affairs Secretary – Fr. Laurent Madiba  
Procurator to the Holy See – Fr. Adam Teneta:  
[generalate-procurator@mailsds.org](mailto:generalate-procurator@mailsds.org)

**- Invitation letters and visa matters**

Legal Representative – Fr. Daniele Cicirella:  
*generalate-representative@mailsds.org*

**- Missions and Salvatorian Office for International Aid (SOFIA)**

General Mission Secretary – Br. Joby Philip:  
*generalate-missions@mailsds.org*

**- Motherhouse (room and boarding)**

Motherhouse Superior – Fr. Krzysztof Gasperowicz:  
*motherhouse@mailsds.org*

However, concerning confidential matters, any unit or member is free to contact personally the Superior General, writing to:

- Fr. Milton Zonta:

*superior-general@mailsds.org*

Maybe it will take some time until we get used to the new structure which was approved by the XIX General Chapter and for sure, periodically we will have to evaluate the implementation. Let us hope that it be for the good of communication and it will help to improve our service at all levels.

## Meetings

### Meeting of the Superiors of the European Units

The Superiors of the European units met for their annual gathering at the Motherhouse on 1-2 May 2019. This meeting was a bottom-up initiative and started around twenty years ago as a friendly, social meeting of the German-language Superiors. Then it developed to entail all the Superiors of the European units, and it took on a lightly organized structure, with an agenda and non-formal minutes. This meeting was attended by the Generalate members at hand in the Motherhouse

and collaborators of the General Administration as warranted.



As usual, a mutual information round on the developments in the units formed the start of the meeting. Among the dynamics mentioned, one stood out, namely the fact that in several of our units, individual members have been seduced into giving out money to what seem to be professional beggars, who seem to target especially priests and religious. The result is that all together a very large sum of money (adding up amounts from 3 West-European units concerned) was lost. It raises questions as to how individual members handle money and property of the community, as well as to the impact of our governing styles, as well as to the living of the vow of poverty and obedience.

Among other topics treated, the Mater Salvatoris International Formation House was a primordial one, since the meeting took place in Rome. So, the afternoon of the first meeting day was spent at Tor de' Cenci, the neighbourhood in the outskirts of Rome, where the formation house is located. The European Unit Superiors are concerned because of two reasons. Whereas the Generalate is responsible for the formation programme and the personnel decisions, the European units provide the funds to run the entire endeavour. And secondly, this formation house is supposed to prepare the young members, who in the future will keep up the presence of the Society and its mission in West-Europe. First the group engaged in an exchange of thoughts on the basis of a written report of the rector

and the vice-rector, touching many elements of the life of the community and the formation. Then the scholastics gave a tour of the premises, after which we had an exchange of thoughts and experiences with the group of scholastics. The meeting was concluded with sung vespers, a nice supper and a recreation. The Superiors were impressed with the progress made and the spirit in the community.



On the second meeting day, several other topics were discussed. The Superiors agreed with the proposal to send our scholastics to the Gregorian from the school year 2019-2020, instead of the Seraphicum. They decided the overall annual budget for the formation house, as well as the allocation of the contributions each single unit is supposed to make. They reflected on a possible symposium on “Europe as a mission territory”, on safeguarding and prevention issues, on exchanging the units’ newsletters. The Polish representative donated to all the new DVD on the life of Fr. Francis Jordan, produced by Studio Katolik in Poland. With thanks for the gift and to the Motherhouse for the hospitality, the meeting adjourned.

## Prayers

### Please pray ...

- for the meeting of the Governing Board of Jordan University College
- for the implementation chapters
- for the Salvatorians and our formandi who have lost relatives and friends because of the bomb attacks in Sri Lanka.

## Formation

### Inauguration of the Salvatorian School for Formators Fr. Francis Jordan

On Sunday, 24 March 2019 the so called Salvatorian School for Formators Fr. Francis Jordan was started officially. Straight after the XIX General Chapter the Generalate took initiative regarding the first concrete steps to be taken. With the help of the General Formation Secretary, Fr. Krzysztof Gasperowicz, assisted by Frs. Krzysztof Wons and Rafał Ziajka, both working in the Salvatorian Centre of Spiritual Formation at Cracow, as well as by the experts Bogusław Szpakowski SAC and Jacek Federowicz the School was able to welcome its 21 participants, all Salvatorian Formators, coming from Asia, Africa, Europe and the Americas. The spoken languages for this and all the other sessions are Spanish and English.

The first session lasted 12 days and was a very rich experience for the participants. The main topic of this session was the identity of a person with a vocation, enlightened by different specialists, as there are Amadeo Cencini FdCC, Marko Ivan Rupnik SJ, Bogusław Szpakowski SAC, Jacek Federowicz and Krzysztof Wons SDS.

During the opening Mass, the Superior General, Fr. Milton Zonta, invited the participants, based on the Gospel reading of the sterile figtree (Lc 13, 1–9), to consider three aspects of the service in the field of Salvatorian Formation. Firstly, let’s avoid stepping into the trap of a sterile life, without any creativity and dominated by comfort, routine or superficial activism. Secondly, the vineyard owner brings us to the task of the formator who dedicates his time to listen and to accompany the formandi. It is not enough to have a PhD to become a formator, because his task doesn’t consist in filling heads

with concepts, nor filling walls with diploma and titles. And thirdly he encouraged the formators to contemplate God's enormous patience and mercy: He sees much more and better our failures than we, but he also sees the potential in every person and looks forward with trust to make it grow. In the same homily, Fr. Milton expressed his wish to capture Salvatorian Formation like an itinerary of life which bears fruits because it is rooted in a vital union with the Person of Christ. Only if the Divine Saviour is the centre and source of our life, as our Founder said, we will be able to think like Him, to act like Him, to see the world and things with the eyes of Jesus.



During the two years of formation (2019-2020), the participants of the School, coming from all over the globe, will meet six times for common sessions, out of which four will take place at the Theresianum in Rome and two at the Salvatorian Spiritual Formation Centre in Cracow. These last two sessions are spiritual retreats of 8 days based on *Lectio Divina* and are open for all Salvatorians who would like to participate. If a confrere would be interested, he might contact the General Formation Secretary before 31 July 2019.

The entire programme of the Salvatorian School for Formators was prepared on the basis of the longstanding experience of the School for Educators of Diocesan Major Seminaries and Religious Formation Houses, which started in 2001 and takes place at and is organized by the

Salvatorian Spiritual Formation Centre in Cracow.

We thank heartily the organizers of and participants in this initiative which hopefully will bear a lot of fruits in the sense of Ordinance 10 of the XIX General Chapter: *“In order to stress Salvatorian Formation as a priority, the XIX General Chapter directs the Generalate to establish a formation programme for Salvatorian formators with the purpose of preparing members to work at various levels of initial formation. (...)”*.

## Chapters

### Implementation Chapter of the Italian Vicariate

On 30 March 2019, the confreres of the Italian Vicariate gathered together with the Superior General, Fr. Milton Zonta and one of the General Consultors, Fr. Joe Rodrigues, for the Chapter of Implementation of their Unit. This important event took place in Dragona in the outskirts of Rome, where the Salvatorians are serving since October 2018 at the Santa Maria Regina dei Martiri Parish.



The participants reviewed the decisions and recommendations of the XIX General Chapter and integrated them into their goals for the coming years. Their hope is to initiate, reorganize, and contribute their human and financial resources for the further development of SOFIA Onlus in Italy, Lay Salvatorians, vocation of priests and brothers, and lay spiritual formation. The Chapter also reflected on the need to be prepared for closer

collaboration with other European units in the future. The Chapter ended with a delicious dinner and convivial conversation.

## Implementation Chapter of the Colombian Province

The Colombian Province held its XXXII Extraordinary Provincial Chapter from 26-29 April 2019 at Copacabana, near to Medellín. The main goal of this event was the assimilation and implementation of the decisions taken by the XIX General Chapter of the Society.

The Chapter counted 31 capitulars. Present were also the Superior General, Fr. Milton Zonta, as well as one of his Consultors (Fr. Joe Rodrigues), the Provincial Superior of Brazil (Fr. Álvaro Macagnan), the Novice Master of the Latin-American novitiate (Fr. Nelson Barbieri) and the Vice Rector of the International Formation House at São Paulo (Fr. Edgar Casallas).



Already before the Chapter, the local communities studied the ordinances and recommendations of the XIX General Chapter, taking into account the apostolic and missionary mandate of our Founder: “go and proclaim to all the peoples Eternal Life...” The local communities answered the following questions: What does the Lord want from our Colombian Province in this very moment of history? Where does the Church need us more in our days? Which tools we will have

to use to be announcers of the Good News of Salvation in our reality? Based upon the answers of the local communities, concrete decisions for implementation were elaborated regarding the three priorities of the General Chapter: community life, initial and permanent formation and apostolic mission.

Among the main topics that were reflected, also a revision of the apostolic missionary Salvatorian presence in Ecuador was performed, focussing on empowering community life through a plan of revitalization and a financial report, medical insurance of the members and the search for resources for sustainability of the Province. One of the main ordinances highlighted the need for an evaluation of all the apostolic actions of the Province by the next Ordinary Provincial Chapter, which will take place at the end of 2020.

## Implementation Chapter of the Tanzanian Mission Pro-Province

With the advice of the Provincial of the Tanzania Missionary Pro-Province, our Superior General considered it advisable to send a member of the Generalate in the person of Fr. Ferdinand Lukoa, to Tanzania for the provincial implementation Chapter, which took place from 24-25 April 2019, to discuss with the Tanzanian confreres different matters, including the question regarding the legal status and ownership of Jordan University College (JUCo).

The Principal of JUCo, Professor Bertram Mapunda, and Mr. Millinga, an expert in financial matters, were invited as periti to shed light for the delegates on the question, how they can help JUCo move forward, especially making it a juridical entity and charitable organization. The advantage of this change being, one is exempted from taxes which is the big challenge for the time being. The issue was to be discussed in the Chapter because

the land on which JUCo stands is legally under the ownership of the Tanzanian Salvatorians' legal entity. The Tanzanian government recognizes SDS-Tanzania as the owner of JUCo, but under the country's laws and regulations a foreigner or a foreign entity can't own land in Tanzania, as is the case in many other countries. Therefore, in order for the Tanzanian government to grant a charitable status JUCo has to abide with the laws and regulations of the country under SDS-Tanzania. Our Chapter members, without discrepancy and unanimously accepted to grant the permission to make JUCo a juridical entity – which has to stand by itself before the law in case of anything lacks in its accountability or if any claim arises. In that situation the Tanzanian Pro-Province and the Society will be relieved from unnecessary responsibilities. For a couple of years now, JUCo is under the Generalate in collaboration with other units for its operation.



Apart from this ordinance, other ordinances and recommendations were discussed. All members were very impressed to contribute some ideas and put into practice our Salvatorian life. Our priorities: Community life, Formation and Apostolate challenged every member of the Chapter to evaluate his life and abide with our Constitutions. The Tanzania Missionary Pro-Province is one among our units which has a lot of young members who definitely should see the need of our Society and the Church at large for working hard, contributing to the Society and

being true apostles of our times. Our mission and vision would be described clearly and easier if we live our life fraternally, with commitment, with solidarity, with collaboration for the service of all by embracing Fr. Francis Jordan's spirituality.

Moreover, the Chapter had to elect another Vicar Provincial as Fr. Lazarus Msimbe, who was the Vicar, has been appointed by Pope Francis as Apostolic Administrator of Morogoro Diocese. As they are and always have been, Salvatorians in Tanzania are ready to collaborate with any individual member, unit and the Generalate for the progress of the Society.

### Ordinary and implementation Chapter of the Indian Mission Vicariate

The third Indian Mission Vicariate and the implementation Chapter was held in Bangalore from 30 March to 2 April 2019. 17 confreres participated in the Chapter: 13 from India, 2 from Sri Lanka. On behalf of the Generalate, Frs. Sunil Thomas and Agustín Van Baelen were present.

The theme of the Chapter was "*Belong to the Fundamentals for New Evangelization*". With a spirit of dialogue and sharing, and in an ambient discussion giving more thrust on implementing the vision and mission of the Society in the Church, the Chapter has deliberated and taken the foremost decisions, ordinances, and recommendations for the growth of the IMV reflecting and touching all the aspects of religious life, especially: vocation promotion, initial and continuing formation, spiritual and community life, pastoral thrust through apostolate and expansion. At the same time, a lot of formation took place during the Chapter, due to the fact that for most of the chapter members it was the first time they participated in such an important event for the Vicariate.

The past three years were evaluated and new projects for the future were proposed to the

Generalate for approval as well as adaptations of the Statutes and the Formation Programme.



The Chapter has also elected the Finance Commission Members for the next term of office, and these were approved by the Superior General and his Council.

### Ordinary and implementation Chapter of the Spanish Vicariate

The confreres of the Spanish Vicariate gathered at Logroño from 23-24 April 2019 for their ordinary Chapter, which was at the same time also their implementation Chapter. From the Generalate Frs. Sunil Thomas and Agustín Van Baelen assisted at this important event, where several topics concerning the unit were discussed. The reports of the 2 communities, the financial situation of the unit, the apostolates in the field of pastoral work and fundraising, formation, safeguarding, adaptation of the Statutes were the main ingredients of the lively and fraternal dialogues. In addition to that, a consultation regarding the members of the council as well as an election of the members of



the Finance Commission took place. The Chapter was presided by Fr. Hugo Antonio Jaramillo who already had been appointed by the Superior General as the Vicariate Superior for the next term of office, beginning 1 May 2019.

In this moment there are 9 Salvatorians working and living in Spain: 6 from Spain, 2 from the Democratic Republic of the Congo and 1 from Colombia. Our unit in Spain has always been very much characterized by its strong and very generous missionary spirit. We are grateful for their witness and enormous contribution at the level of finances and personnel.

## Visits

### The Superior General visits the International Novitiate of the Americas at Manizales

After having participated in the XXXII Chapter of the Colombian Province, our Superior General, Fr. Milton Zonta, honoured the international novitiate at Manizales with a visit from 30 April until 3 May 2019. He was accompanied by the major superiors of the Colombian and Brazilian Provinces, Frs. Alfredo Tinoco and Álvaro Macagnan, as well as by Fr. Joe Rodrigues of the Generalate.

At present there are 4 Salvatorians and 9 novices in the community of Manizales. The novice master is Fr. Nelson Barbieri and his assistant Fr. Mario Agudelo. They are helped by the confreres Wilson Yecid Ramírez and Agustín Adolfo Fernández. The group of novices consists of 4 Colombians, 3 Brazilians and 2 Venezuelans.

In addition to get familiar with one another and the formation programme, the novices had the

opportunity to talk with the Superior General and with the Provincial Superiors about the actual situation at all levels of the Salvatorians worldwide. At the same time, they were invited to ask their questions. It was nice to experience how much these young men are interested in and aware of the challenges of religious Salvatorian life nowadays and how we, as Salvatorians try to give answers to the needs and the evangelizing mission of the Latin-American Church in the frame of our charism.



Fr. Milton underlines in his report that the experience of an international novitiate helps the novices, coming from different Latin-American countries, sharing their vocation, their cultural backgrounds, talents as well as other qualities, thus enriching the universal identity and mission of the Society of the Divine Saviour.

## Appointments and new leaderships

### President of the International Finance Commission

In accordance with article GD 7.53, the Superior General, with the deliberative vote of his Council, has appointed **Fr. Erhard Rauch** from the Austrian Pro-Province as the Chairperson of the International Finance Commission. The IFC has

had its first meeting in Rome from 28-30 May. Therefore, also the other members elected by the General Chapter, Fr. Krzysztof Kowalczyk and Fr. José Luis Munilla Peña, came to the Eternal City as well as the General Treasurer, Fr. Scott Wallenfelsz, to fulfil the tasks of the Commission as described in GD 7.56.

### International History and Charism Commission

As requested by the XIX General Chapter following Ordinance 1, in which the Generalate is requested to establish the International History and Charism Commission, after consultation the following members have shown their availability to take on the task of this commission as described in the mentioned ordinance: Fr. Luis Alfredo Escalante (CO), **Mr. Johan Moris (BG) (President)**, Br. Leszek Szura (PL), Fr. Piotr Szyrszeń (PL), Fr. Adam Teneta (PL/Generalate) and Fr. Michael Tesha (TA). We wish the members a fruitful cooperation with the focus on deepening our knowledge of our Salvatorian historical roots in order to be more and more able to live our Charism in nowadays world.

### Director of Formation of the Indian Mission Vicariate and Rector of Scholastics at Shillong (India)

**Fr. Johnson Vinoth Kumar** has been appointed as the Director of Formation of the Indian Mission Vicariate by the Superior General. Fr. Johnson is 40 years old and a member of the Society since 12 years. He has worked in several ministries, mainly in the field of formation. At present, Fr. Johnson is preparing a PhD in Philosophy.

During the same meeting, the Superior General has appointed **Fr. Stephen Raj** as the Rector of Scholastics at the Fr. Otto Hopfenmüller Formation House at Shillong. Fr. Stephen Raj is 44 years

old and joined the Society of the Divine Saviour 19 years ago.

Both confreres started this three-year office on 1 May 2019. The Spirit of wisdom and patience may guide them in these important ministries.

### Rector of Scholastics of the East Asian Mission Vicariate at New Manila (Philippines)

Following the legal procedures as provided in our Rules, the Superior General has appointed for a second consecutive term of office **Fr. Vara Prasada Rao Gujjala Vyakula** as the Rector of Scholastics at the Mother of the Saviour House in Manila. Fr. Vara Prasada is 48 years old and a Salvatorian since 1997. He belongs to the Indian Mission Vicariate, but on the request of the Generalate and given the need for personnel in the East Asian Vicariate (EAMV), he is working in this unit under contract for three years. At present he is also making a PhD in Missiology. We wish him, together with his assistant, Fr. Wilson Catabay and all the other formators of the EAMV God's blessing and we express our gratefulness for being available for this important service in the Society.

### Co-formator for the Mater Salvatoris Formation House community in Morogoro (Tanzania)

With the deliberative vote of his Council, the Superior General has appointed **Br. Michael Mapunda** for a period of three years as the co-formator at Mater Salvatoris in Morogoro starting 1 May 2019. Br. Michael Mapunda will replace Fr. Lazarus Msimbe who recently was appointed as the Apostolic Administrator of the Diocese of Morogoro. Br. Michael is 43 years old and a Salvatorian since 2002.

### East Asian Mission Vicariate



After a first term of office, **Fr. Adam Janus** has been appointed for a second consecutive mandate as the Superior of the East Asian Mission Vicariate. Together with him, the Superior General with the consent of his Council and after having consulted the members of the unit, has appointed Frs. Hubert Kranz (Vicar Superior), Wilson Catabay, Vara Prasada Gujjala Vyakula and Fr. Josef Wilfing (Treasurer) as council members effective 1 May 2019. God's blessing may guide them in their service.

### Indian Mission Vicariate

The Superior General, after consulting the professed members of the Vicariate and with the deliberative vote of his Council, has appointed **Fr. Alex Aseervatham** as the Superior of the Vicariate for the next term of office, effective 15 April 2019. His Council members are Fr. Vinoy Joseph (Vicar and Secretary), Fr. Lalit Kerketta (Consultor) and Fr. Amal Vimal Raj (Consultor and Vicariate Treasurer).



We are very grateful that these confreres have agreed to take up this important task of service in the Vicariate and we wish them God's blessing in their ministry of leadership. We hope and pray that in the coming years the IMV may witness more and more steady and vibrant growth.

### Spanish Vicariate

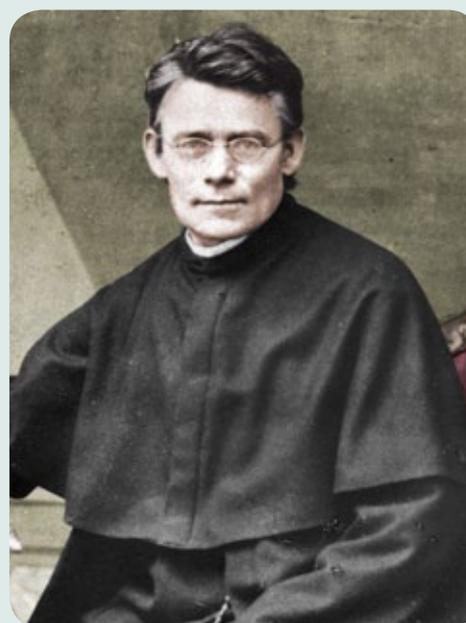


As the Major Superior of the Spanish Vicariate, our Superior General, Fr. Milton Zonta, consulted the members of the unit in order to get an impression of whom he could appoint as his delegate. With the consent of his Council and in agreement with the Provincial Superior of the Colombian Province, Fr. Milton appointed **Fr. Hugo Antonio Jaramillo Ospina**, who belongs *in radice* to the Colombian Province, as the Superior of the Spanish Vicariate for a three-year term of office, starting 1 May 2019. Fr. Hugo is 48 years old and a Salvatorian for 27 years. Before going to Spain, Fr. Hugo was involved in the administration and leadership team of the Salvatorian School at Cali and was a Provincial Consultor. We thank Fr. Hugo for his availability and wish him God's wisdom and patience for this important service. The other members of the Vicariate Council will be appointed in the near future.

### Swiss Vicariate

Fr. Milton Zonta has appointed the leadership of the Swiss Vicariate for a third consecutive term of office in the person of **Fr. Karl Meier** as the Superior, Fr. Wiesław Stempak as the Vicar Superior and Treasurer and Fr. Thomas Sackmann as the second Consultor. In the near future the leadership of the Swiss Vicariate and the Generalate will plan a meeting to study the challenges and perspectives in this unit, listening consciously and trying to find out what God's voice wants to tell us about the future of the Salvatorians in Switzerland.

### From Father Francis Jordan



*“Oh, for the sake of the Crucified Saviour, never let yourself be depressed by any circumstances, but work ceaselessly for your own sanctification and for that of others, trusting firmly in Him Who can do all things. Do not waste a minute.”*

Spiritual Diary II/50

## SDS Varia

### Good news from Spain

The Salvatorians in Madrid are working since several years in a newly created parish in the outskirts of Madrid. The patron of the Parish is “The Divine Saviour” himself. During the first years, our confreres put many efforts in building a living church community and now they have arrived at the point that also the brick made church is ready. The temple was consecrated on 19 May 2019 by the Archbishop of Madrid, His Eminence Carlos Cardinal Osoro in an overcrowded church. An interesting detail is that the church was decorated by several works of art created by the late Fr. Ivo Schaible SDS and granted to the parish by the German Province. The icing on the “Salvatorian cake”, is for sure that relics of Blessed Mary of the Apostles and Saint Bridget were put in the main altar during consecration, as a direct and visible sign of the Salvatorian character of the Parish. We congratulate our confreres for their apostolic zeal and wish them and the entire parish God’s blessing for the future!

### Sad news from Sri Lanka

In one of his emails, Fr. Prabu, the coordinator of the Salvatorians in Sri Lanka, wrote a few days after the bomb attacks the following about the situation in this beautiful island where in this moment 5 Salvatorian confreres are working, mainly in the field of formation:

*“Dear Father Agustín, greetings from Sri Lanka. I hope you are keeping well.*

*I just want to update about the situation in Sri Lanka: 370 people have been killed and 600 hurt in explosions at churches and hotels in Sri Lanka, police say. More than 10 blasts were reported, including at three churches in Negombo,*

*Batticaloa and Colombo’s Kochchikade area during Easter services. The Shangri-La, Kingsbury and Cinnamon Grand hotels, all in the capital, were also targeted.*

*One of our seminarians (Sulaxon) has relatives also killed in the bomb blast. Some relatives of our SDS sisters were injured and killed. We are still in a tense about what is next... There were many bombs found in different places in Sri Lanka. We are asked to stay inside the house & not to celebrate mass in the church. We are in a pathetic situation, especially our Catholic communities.*

*We hope and pray that all Sri Lankans will be safe and all kinds of evil acts will cease soon.*

*Please pray for the departed souls and injured people. Thank you.*

*Regards,*

*Fr. Prabu SDS”*

## † Our departed confreres

### Please pray for our departed confreres:

*Fr. Genifried David Nnai* was born on 23 October 1954. He came to the Society as a diocesan priest, belonging to the Diocese of Nachingwea, where he had been ordained on 10 November 1983. He professed first vows in the Society through the Tanzania Mission Pro-Province on 8 December 1986. He was mainly involved in the pastoral field in parishes as well as in initial formation. Since 2013 he was the Chaplain at Jordan University College. Fr. Genifried died in Dar es Salaam on 14 April 2019.

*Fr. John Pantuso* was born on 20 October 1939, in Brooklyn, New York. He became a Salvatorian in 1960 and was ordained a priest in the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC, on 9 September 1967. In 1968,

when the world was in turmoil and the Society in the US was in the midst of a financial crisis, Fr. John asked for a dispensation from vows and from priestly ministry, which was granted. He married Joanne America. They had two sons. John kept always into close contact with the Salvatorians and became a member of the Lay Salvatorians. After the death of his wife in 2002, he soon expressed the wish to return to active ministry. He renewed his vows on 14 August 2004 and on 29 February 2008 Pope Benedict XVI authorized a decree reinstating John to active ministry as a priest. He was mainly involved in pastoral care in parishes and in communication. Fr. John died on 26 April 2019.

*Fr. Marian Papiernik* was born on 2 January 1940 in Słotowa, near Pilzno. After having studied Philosophy and Theology at the diocesan seminary in Gdańsk Oliwa he joined the Society of the Divine Saviour and professed his first vows at Bagno on the feast of one of the Patrons of the Society, St. Michael, on 29 September 1964. Fr. Marian was ordained to the priesthood on 27 October 1967. At apostolic level he was mainly involved in parish work and retreats. He died in Wrocław on 11 May 2019.

*Fr. Thomas Bielawa* was born on 31 August 1942 in Milwaukee. He joined the Society of the Divine Saviour through the American Province professing his first religious vows in Colfax, IA on the day of our Founder's death, 8 September 1963. He was ordained to the priesthood on 1 September 1972. Fr. Thomas worked most of his apostolic life in parishes in the USA, but also a couple of years in Colombia. Apart from that he served also a few years as vocation director and novice master of the USA province. Fr. Thomas died in Florida on 22 May 2019.

## Travelling to Rome

Members who need a visa to enter Italy are asked to note the following:

- A member is required to provide the following information: First and last names 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 Fr. Daniele Cicirella ([daniele.cicirella@mailsds.org](mailto:daniele.cicirella@mailsds.org)). Since it takes some time to complete all the steps, please send this information well in advance of the planned visit.
- Members planning to visit the Motherhouse are also asked to directly contact the superior of the Motherhouse, in order to request guest rooms and make other arrangements. He can be reached at:

**E-mail**

**[motherhouse@mailsds.org](mailto:motherhouse@mailsds.org)**

**Fax**

**+39 (06) 68629.400**

- Please be advised that because of the planned papal celebrations and audiences, we might be unable to meet you at or take you to the airport. There are often obstacles placed, especially on Sunday and Wednesday. Thank you for your understanding.



# Informationes

**Society of the Divine Saviour**

The Generalate

Via della Conciliazione, 51

00193 Rome, Italy

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