



# Viator Web

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## NEWSBRIEF OF THE GENERAL DIRECTION

Number 50

July, 2012

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### The New General Council

Fr. Alain AMBEAULT was elected Superior General on July 14, 2012 during the 15<sup>th</sup> plenary session of the General Chapter held in Ariccia.

On July 17, Fr. Ambeault announced the names of the General Councilors to the Chapter:

- Fr. Harry CÉLESTIN, of the Province of Canada, (Haiti): Vicar general.
- Br. Luis ÁLVAREZ TORRES, of the Province of Spain: General Treasurer
- Br. Carlos Ernesto FLÓREZ, of the Province of the United States (Colombian) General Councilor
- Fr. André CROZIER, of the Delegation of France: General Secretary.

### Installation of the General Council – Information from Fr. Alain Ambeault

“Fr. Mark Francis has agreed to receive the profession of faith that Fr. Harry Célestin, Vicar General and the newly elected Superior General will make, according to canon law. In agreement with the Provincials, representatives from each province will be present and we will celebrate with the community of France this new stage in our history. Its first words will speak of the grace of the future, welcoming with an open heart the inestimable gift of God.”

Fr. Ambeault thanks the Delegation of France for again offering the possibility of celebrating this event in Vourles, benefiting from the refined French hospitality. This will take place Saturday, September 1, 2012 at 10:30 in the Church of Vourles.



From the Vatican, July 9, 2012

**SECRETARY OF STATE**

First Section – General Affairs

Reverend Father,

On July 4 you addressed a message to His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI in your name and in the name of the delegates at the General Chapter of the Congregation of the Clerics of St. Viator in which you informed him of your work and assured him of your filial attachment to his person and to his ministry as Successor of Peter.

The Holy Father, who read this message, warmly thanks you. He invokes the Holy Spirit upon you so that this same Spirit will guide you during the Chapter and encourage you to pursue the mission with constancy and generosity that your founder considered urgent and which still remains today: “Go among all of the peoples and make them disciples” (Mt. 28:19), while cooperating with the clergy particularly in the Christian education of children.

With affection, he confides you to the intercession of the Virgin Mary and St. Viator and extends to you and to all the members of the Viatorian Community his Blessing.

Yours sincerely in the Lord,

+ Angelo Becciu

Reverend Fr. Mark R. FRANCIS, C.S.V.  
Superior General  
Clerics of St-Viator  
ROME

## **Message of the Twenty-Ninth General Chapter to the Entire Viatorian Community**

To All Viatorians:

Meeting in Ariccia on the occasion of the Twenty-Ninth General Chapter of the Congregation, we have experienced two stimulating weeks that have helped us renew our enthusiasm and our joy as members of the Viatorian Family. The discussions and interaction have made us all aware of our mission in the light of the Gospel of Christ, the Risen One, who now transcends time and space.

Over these past years, our Community has grown and developed, which in turn has given us new enthusiasm for our common activity. The General Assembly of the Viatorian Community, held in Bogotá in 2011, proved to be an occasion for making new strides in strengthening our community.

The General Chapter helped us to discover the diversity of our experience of community, enriched as it is by the different cultures of the places where the Viatorian charism has taken root. Thanks to that intercultural dimension, we feel called to form community and to proclaim to the world—to the poor, to the marginalized, and especially to the young—the richness of the Gospel of Christ. We have woven bonds of *koinonia* brought us closer to one another. We have prayed together. We have taken time to listen to one another.

We thank Christ, who called us together, who inspired us, and who was at the heart of our discussions throughout the General Chapter. We have felt his presence during our deliberations because of your prayers have been with us. Today, we are proud to re-affirm our faith in our common mission and our devotion to the Viatorian charism, which is both enriching and relevant in the Church as the People of God, and in a world experiencing profound changes.

Over the course of these past years, in countries experiencing both armed conflicts and natural catastrophes, the entire community has demonstrated its solidarity with Viatorians and with those towards whom their mission is directed. The Chapter has been an occasion for us to feel even more united and ready to move forward together toward a strengthening of our bonds as brothers and sisters.

Our thoughts turn towards you Viatorians who are facing the challenges of growing older and who are experiencing illness. We wish to reassure you of our recognition for the witness of your lives devoted to the Lord and to your sisters and brothers. Neither your age nor your state of health imprisons you in the past nor prevents you from continuing that witness. Like all Viatorians and regardless of what your present status might be, you are bearers of the Gospel mission. You have the strength that serves—and that will continue to serve—our Viatorian mission. Your example of faithfulness inspires us to give witness in a world that at times is disenchanted and cynical. You take part in the mission through your prayers, your self-giving, and your wisdom. You contribute to the building up of our communion one with another.

To younger Viatorians, we wish to say that your presence represents a source of enrichment for the entire Viatorian Community. Thanks to your enthusiasm and your energy, we will maintain our Community dynamic and rooted in Christ, so that, in creative and bold ways, we might be present to the poor and to the emarginated. Thus, the Viatorian charism will remain more alive than ever. We encourage you to be the living flame that enlightens and gives warmth to the entire Community.

At this time when a new General Council is beginning its term, we express the hope that our vocation will be renewed by a new form of community life attentive to the signs of the times and to the urgent needs of the mission; one that will lead us forward on as yet unexplored paths as we search for a better way of being community. We wish to imitate Jesus, who, when he saw the crowd, was moved with compassion and reached out to liberate them (Matthew 9:36).

We encourage all Viatorians to put into practice the General Chapter's decisions and texts, especially the two priorities that have been chosen for the next six years: vocation ministry and social justice. Following in the footsteps of Father Louis Querbes, our Founder, let us work together so that Jesus may be adored and loved always and everywhere.

### **Deceased Viatorian**

- Br. Emiliano PAÚL CORRALES (S), July 19, 2012 at the age of 89, in his 73<sup>rd</sup> year of religious profession.



XXIX General Chapter