

International Bulletin

Fraternitas

Ordo Fratrum Minorum

383

Edition

Volume LIX | 3rd July 2026



INDEX

Africa continues to call us	1
For the love of Zion, I will not be silent	3
General Curia Agenda	3
St Francis Solano, Brother and Missionary	4
Visit of the Minister General to the “Our Lady of Africa” Foundation.....	4
Reflections by... Br Massimo – June 2026	5
The 6th JPIC Asia-Oceania Continental Meeting Opens in Jakarta	6
IMCA 2026: the Inter-Franciscan Missionary Course in Asia opens in Cebu.....	8
Thanks to Br. Bill Short at the end of his service.....	9
Under Ten Conference of the Province of the Holy Family in Egypt	9
Interprovincial Formation in Poland...	10
Life in the Order.....	11
OFS, National Elective Chapter in Madagascar	12
Franciscan Bookmark	12

Africa continues to call us

*The Minister General visits
the Order’s fraternities in the Central
African Republic and Cameroon*

From 7 to the morning of 15 June 2026, the Minister General, Br Massimo Fusarelli, accompanied by the General Definitor for Africa, Br Siphelele Gwanishe-ni, and by the General Definitor for the Slavic Confer-ences, Br Konrad Cholewa, visited two of the Order’s young communities in the Central African Republic and in Cameroon.

Central African Republic

Bangui, CAR capital city, is home to the “St Mary of the Angels” Foundation, together with its formation House for postulants. The friars’ presence in this country began in a more structured way in 1991, with the arrival of friars from the Province of the Assump-tion (Poland); today the Foundation depends on the Province of St Benedict the African, in the Democrat-ic Republic of Congo. It numbers twelve solemnly professed friars, seven in temporary profession, six postulants and at least seventeen aspirants prepar-ing to begin the path of formation. The friars live and work in four fraternities around the capital, devoted above all to



pastoral care and to works of social development, in a very poor country that has no road network and is scarred by the violence of armed rebel groups. During a day of assembly, the Minister General and the brothers accompanying him were able to meet all the solemnly professed friars, to look together at the present and the prospects of the Foundation. This is the desire of this small community: to share ever more fully in the life of the Order and in its presence in Africa. The meeting with the postulants made it possible to take the pulse of the young Africans who are drawn to our way of life today. He received the renewal of temporary vows of one of the brothers. The meeting with the Archbishop of Bangui, Cardinal Dieudonne, opened for the friars the horizons of the country and of the local Church, in which they are well integrated.

A long journey by car brought the delegation to Bouar, where for sixty-five years a monastery of Poor Clares has kept watch – a small sign of contemplative life in a land that has great need of it. While male vocations are not lacking, female ones are far rarer; and yet the sisters hold fast to a steadfast hope and seek out new forms of collaboration. This small but growing community in the

CAR lets one sense all the beauty – and the struggle – of the passage from the work of missionaries to that of local friars: the roots that the Franciscan charism is called to put down in new cultures, and the relationships with society and with the local Churches, which always call for great care if the presence is to be prophetic and a sign of communion.

Cameroon

Since 2013, a few missionaries from the Province of St Mary of the Angels (Kraków, Poland), on which the House depends, have been present in Cameroon. Having arrived in Yaoundé, the delegation travelled on by car to Abong-Mbang, where the small fraternity is found: three solemnly professed friars, two in temporary profession and two aspirants preparing for the postulancy; two further temporarily professed friars reside in Kolwesi (RDC) for their studies in philosophy. The friars care for a parish and a small shrine dedicated to Our Lady of Fatima; they are part of the life of the diocese and of the coordination of religious, and they also serve four very simple and poor villages, which the delegation was able to visit, savoring the truly generous welcome and hospitality of these people. A

Marian celebration of the Sunday Eucharist with the parish community drew everyone into the joyful and communal experience of faith that marks these Churches of Africa. The Provincial Minister of Kraków, Br Krzysztof Bobak, and the Secretary for the mission of evangelization, Br. Nikodem Gdyk, also took part in the visit: together it was possible to look ahead to the prospects of this community, which promises healthy growth. Opening to the Order and to the Franciscan Conference of French-speaking Africa is an important step in clarifying the nature of this presence and its relationship with the local Church, beyond the immediate service of parish ministry.

A frontier for the whole Order

Between the larger and growing Provinces and Custodies and these small communities, which are beginning the *implantatio Ordinis*, our presence in Africa is growing and calls for the attention and care of the whole Order, including the sending of new personnel. It stands out as one of the principal frontiers where the Order is and will be present, and where it will continue to grow. For this reason, Africa keeps calling us and challenges us to respond.



Government of the Order



For the love of Zion, I will not be silent *Message of the Minister General of the Friars Minor on the war in the Middle East*



WWW.OFM.ORG

***For the sake of Zion, I will not be silent,
for the sake of Jerusalem
I will not give myself peace (Is 62:1).***

For a long time, I have been accompanied by a question: how long is it possible to remain silent in the face of the evil that wounds the world?

As a believer, as a Friar Minor and as Minister General of a fraternity that has been present in the Holy Land for centuries, I feel that the time has come to speak out. In this reflection, on the one hand, the fear of taking a position and doubt emerges; on the other, the evangelical imperative to speak in the name of my brothers and sisters scattered throughout the world, especially for the situations that have been agitating the Middle East for years now, where we Friars Minor are present: from Israel to Palestine, from Jordan and from Lebanon to Syria. I have been to these countries several times, even in recent years. I have met mothers who mourn their children, families forced to abandon their homes, and people who continue to hope despite everything. I was particularly touched by the situation of young people, who see no future and often just want to escape. Who can blame them?

Recent scenes have filled the gap: in Israel and Gaza, in southern Lebanon as far as Beirut, in the last hours in Taybeh, traditionally identified with the biblical Ephraim to which Jesus withdrew before his passion. In the face of the thousands upon thousands of children who have died, of the victims of violence that spares no age or condition, of the indiscriminate destruction that lays waste to the land, and of the dispossession of peoples from their lands and their rights, I feel bound to repeat, together with the prophet, that it is precisely because I love – because we love – Jerusalem and all that land, the cradle of many peoples since the earliest of times, that we can no longer remain silent.

Read the full text of the Letter:

[Italiano](#) - [English](#) - [Español](#)



General Curia Agenda



- ☑ Until the 4th July 2026, the Minister General, Br. Massimo Fusarelli, will be in Ukraine to visit the Province of St. Michael the Archangel.
- ☑ From the 4th to 12th July, the General Definitory and the JPIC General Office will be in Assisi for the Chapter of Under Ten Mats.
- ☑ From the 14th to 18th July the International Council for Formation and Studies will be held

in the General Curia, with the participation of Br. Darko Tepert and Br. Edson Augusto Nhatuve, respectively Secretary and Vice-Secretary General for Formation and Studies, the Secretaries for Formation and Studies of all the Conferences of the Order, the Members of the Executive Committee for Formation and Studies.

- ☑ From the 13th to 24th July in the General Curia there will be a Tempo Forte.

St Francis Solano, Brother and Missionary

Letter of the Minister General on the three hundredth anniversary of his canonisation (1726–2026)



WWW.OFM.ORG



To all the Friars Minor of the Order, and in a particular way to the brothers and the fraternities

of the Provinces of Spain, Peru, Argentina, and of all the lands where the Apostle of South America passed, prayed, wept, and sowed the Gospel:

May the Lord give you peace!

On the 27th December 2026 we will recall the three hundredth anniversary of the canonisation of St Francis Solano, proclaimed a saint by Pope Benedict XIII in 1726, more than a century after his death in Lima on 14 July 1610. It is a memory that, in some Churches of Peru, Argentina,

Bolivia, Paraguay and Chile, remains alive and popular; while in other parts of the Order it seems to me a memory grown faint, which few among us would still know how to recount. With this letter, I would like to help us reclaim it. Not as a devotional debt, but as a gift that reaches us precisely in the year in which we celebrate the Eighth Centenary of the Pasch of Saint Francis of Assisi.

Read the full text of the Letter: [Italiano](#) - [English](#) - [Español](#)

Visit of the Minister General to the “Our Lady of Africa” Foundation

Congo Brazzaville, 15-21 June 2026



WWW.OFM.ORG



The Minister General of the OFM, Br. Massimo Fusarelli, accompanied by the Defnitor General for Africa, Br. Siphelele Gwanisheni, made a canonical visit to the Franciscan Foundation Our Lady of Africa of Congo Brazzaville. Their arrival at the Maya-Maya International Airport in the Congolese capital was warmly welcomed by a delegation from the Franciscan Family of Congo, led by Br. Kevin Assasa, President of the Foundation. The

welcome, characterised by hymns of thanksgiving and words of welcome, gave the spiritual tone to this visit.

Afterwards, the two friars participated in a solemn welcome ceremony that included the celebration of Vespers. It was during this prayer that the Minister General expressed the meaning of his visit: “I come to you as a brother, to listen to

you and pray with you. To remind you of the essence of charisma; to help you name, sincerely and without fear, the difficulties you face; and to look together to the future, to the Assembly, as a transition”.

On Saturday, the 20th June, a solemn Mass brought together the entire Franciscan Family at the convent of the Poor Clares of Djiri. On this occasion, three friars renewed their temporary vows: Br. Charlemagne Iboda, Br. Sivhy Lilyan Maloumbi and Br. Dolsiga Surprise Nkounkou. In his homily,

Br. Massimo reminded the Franciscan Family of Brazzaville of the fundamental values of minority, humility, and fidelity to the spirit of the Order founded by St. Francis of Assisi. On Sunday, the 21st June, the Minister General presided over the Mass of thanksgiving, which was attended by

the parish community of Djiri. The celebration marked the conclusion of his canonical visitation. In his closing message, he shared these touching words: *“The seed of Francis continues to sprout. It is up to you to make it bear fruit. I leave you with gratitude, and I remember you, together with this Our Lady of Africa Foundation, in my prayers. May the Lord give you peace.”*

The visit is part of a dynamic of fraternal accompaniment and discernment for the future of the Franciscan mission in Congo Brazzaville. These days have been an intense time of communion, joy and fraternal encounter for all the friars and for the entire Franciscan and Christian community of Djiri.

May Our Lady of Africa Foundation entrust the preparation and celebration of its next Assembly to the Holy Spirit, scheduled for August.

Reflections by... Br Massimo – June 2026

When the Pope talks about algorithms



WWW.OFM.ORG



I must admit I was surprised, as I awaited *Magnifica humanitas*, the first encyclical of Pope Leo XIV, published on the 25th May 2026, I was not quite sure what to expect or why he had chosen to focus specifically on artificial intelligence. As I read through the courageous and lucid pages of the document, I realised that Leo opens up a much broader horizon than AI alone. He neither demonises technology nor celebrates it naively; rather, he reminds us that it is never neutral, because it bears the imprint of those who design it, fund it, and use it. And he issues an invitation that has stayed with me: to “disarm” AI and place the hu-

man person back at the centre. The greatest surprise, however, came afterwards. I followed the reactions—not only from theologians and pastors, but especially from many lay people: researchers, entrepreneurs, leaders in the technological world, including non-believers, all willing to engage seriously with the text. At the Vatican presentation, several of them were seated alongside the Pope.

It was a powerful image: when the Gospel addresses the deepest human questions, it draws attention far beyond our usual boundaries. One hundred and thirty-five years after *Rerum novarum*, Pope Leo brings the Church once again to the crossroads of a new revolution, just as his predecessor did in the face of the Industrial Revolution. What is at stake is not merely a technology, but the meaning of work, the quality of human relationships, and the dignity of the person. Before us, he writes,

lies a choice: to build another Babel or to build a city where God and humanity dwell together. We are called to remain critical of a technocratic paradigm concentrated in the hands of a few and seemingly destined to prevail, while seeking the common good and promoting integral human development. I find myself asking: how does all of this speak to us, Franciscans of the twenty-first century? We can no longer think of AI, and everything that comes with it, as someone else’s concern.

We are already immersed in it. We use it to write, translate, study, and communicate. But are we certain that, while our machines become more intelligent, our ability to listen to ourselves and to others is growing at the same pace? What about our capacity to perceive reality and all that is truly human? I now understand even more clearly the significance of choosing AI as one of the themes of the

2027 General Chapter. We do not want to remain standing at the threshold, either frightened or fascinated. We want to enter this new frontier with the Gospel in our hands. We want to allow ourselves to be challenged by what it can preserve of our humanity and by what it may place at risk—beginning with its use in warfare, which Leo denounces in unmis-

takable terms. St Francis was not afraid of the challenges of his age. He crossed boundaries that seemed insurmountable and approached others without weapons or defences. Today, we are asked to show a similar courage—not to reject what is new, but to guide it toward the good, toward communion, and toward peace. My mind keeps returning to that

room in the Vatican, filled with men and women from the worlds of science and digital technology, listening attentively. If they are willing to let themselves be challenged by an encyclical, why shouldn't we be? To live through this moment as believers, with our eyes open and our hearts free: that is the boldness that the Year of St Francis asks of us.



Animation of the Order

The 6th JPIC Asia-Oceania Continental Meeting Opens in Jakarta

“For Saint Francis, JPIC was not a program. It was a way of living the Gospel.”



WWW.OFM.ORG

With the participation of animators of Justice, Peace, and Integrity of Creation (JPIC) from Franciscan Provinces and Custodies across Asia and Oceania, the 6th JPIC Asia-Oceania Continental Meeting officially opened in Jakarta. The gathering is being held from June 22 to 27 under the theme “Caring for People, Caring for Creation.”

The meeting brings together Friars Minor from more than a dozen Franciscan Entities across the continent with the aim of strengthening reflection, formation, and collaboration in addressing the challenges of human dignity, peace-building, and care for our common home.

The opening day began with the celebration of the Eucharist, presided over by Br. Agustinus Lorensius Nggame, OFM, Minister of the Province of St. Michael the Archangel of Indonesia. In his homily, he emphasized that justice, peace, and the integrity of creation are not merely programs or activities, but a way of life that flows from an encounter with God. “For Saint Francis, JPIC was not a program. It was a way of living the Gospel,” he reminded the participants. During the opening ceremony, Br. Agustinus also extended an offi-

cial welcome on behalf of the host Province. “The gathering of brothers from different countries, cultures, and languages is a sign of fraternity that transcends borders,” he said, expressing his hope that these days would not only provide an opportunity to share experiences and projects but also deepen Franciscan identity and strengthen the common commitment to justice, peace, and care for creation.



Participants then received a message from Br. Ignacio Ceja, OFM, Vicar General of the Order, who recalled that the promotion of justice, peace, and care for creation is not a secondary activity but an essential dimension of Franciscan evangelical life.

In his address, the Vicar General highlighted that this meeting takes place during a particularly significant moment for the Franciscan Family as it commemorates the eighth centenary of the Transitus of Saint Francis of Assisi. Inspired by the witness of the Poverello of Assisi, he encouraged participants to cultivate a spirituality of contemplation, solidarity with the poor, simplicity of life, and collaboration in response to the challenges faced by the peoples of Asia and Oceania. During the opening session, Br. Daniel R. Blanco, OFM, Director of the General JPIC Office, presented the

objectives of the meeting and offered a historical overview of the continental gatherings held since 2008. In his presentation, he recalled that, for nearly two decades, JPIC animators in the region have sought to answer a common question: “What does it mean to be Franciscans in Asia and Oceania in the face of the challenges of justice, peace, and creation?”

In the afternoon session, Br. Taucen Girsang, OFM, Vice Director of the General JPIC Office, presented a synthesis of the journey undertaken by the Order in the field of Justice, Peace, and Integrity of Creation. Drawing on the declarations of the International JPIC Councils held in Petropolis (2022) and Assisi (2025), he invited participants to strengthen continental cooperation and renew the Franciscan commitment to vulnerable peoples and to the care of creation. His presentation served as a bridge between the global experiences of the Order and the concrete challenges facing the Asia-Oceania region today.

The first day was also marked by the presentation of reports from the various Franciscan Entities of Asia and Oceania. These reports highlighted the richness and diversity of JPIC ministries and initiatives throughout the region. From the defense of Indigenous peoples’ rights and accompaniment of displaced communities in Papua, to initiatives promoting interreligious dialogue, migrant outreach, peacebuilding, and environmental protection in countries such as Myanmar, Malaysia, Singapore, Brunei, Sri Lanka, India, Japan, Vietnam, South Korea, Taiwan, Hong Kong, the Philippines, Australia, New Zealand, Timor-Leste, and Indonesia, participants shared experiences that demonstrate

a Franciscan presence deeply rooted in the realities of local communities. Among the experiences presented, particular attention was given to the eco-pastoral initiatives developed in Timor-Leste and Indonesia, where Franciscan fraternities accompany rural communities through programs in organic agriculture, sustainable livestock farming, and ecological education. These initiatives seek to strengthen local economies, reduce dependence on chemical fertilizers, and promote a more harmonious relationship with creation, integrating environmental stewardship with the human development of vulnerable communities.

The reports also revealed a number of common challenges across the region. The defense of human rights and Indigenous peoples, the accompaniment of migrants and refugees, the consequences of armed conflicts, environmental degradation caused by extractive industries, and the effects of climate change emerged as recurring concerns. At the same time, participants shared signs of hope arising from collaboration with civil society organizations, local communities, other religious traditions, and various sectors of society.

The 6th JPIC Asia-Oceania Continental Meeting will conclude with the approval of a final document outlining the principal challenges, commitments, and orientations for JPIC animation in the region over the coming years.

As the continent faces increasingly complex challenges—from poverty, migration, and social conflict to the ecological crisis—participants seek to renew the Franciscan commitment to be signs of hope, reconciliation, and care for creation.



IMCA 2026: the Inter-Franciscan Missionary Course in Asia opens in Cebu

Franciscan missionaries gathered as Pilgrims of Hope



WWW.OFM.ORG



The Inter-Franciscan Missionary Course in Asia (IMCA) 2026 officially opened in Cebu City, Philippines, bringing together Franciscan missionaries from the three branches of the First Order for a shared journey of formation, fraternity, and missionary renewal.

Inspired by the Jubilee spirit and the upcoming 800th anniversary of the Transitus of St. Francis, the course is centered on the theme: “*Sent as Pilgrims of Hope in Asia: Living the Franciscan Jubilee in Mission and Fraternity.*” The initiative seeks to deepen Franciscan missionary identity and strengthen the commitment of the Friars Minor to Gospel witness in service to the peoples of Asia.

The program is being held from May 30 to July 26, 2026, at the Redemptorists’ Holy Family Retreat House in Lahug, Cebu City. Eighteen friars are participating: five from the Order of Friars Minor (OFM), five from the Order of Friars Minor Capuchin (OFMCap), and five from the Order of Friars Minor Conventual (OFMConv), accompanied by one coordinator from each Order. Throughout the program, the group is accompanied by Br. Dennis Tayo, OFM, General Animator for Missions of the OFM.

The opening celebration was attended by the three General Secretaries for Missions and Evangelization, including Br. Francisco Gómez Vargas, OFM, who presided over the Eucharistic celebration on

the Feast of the Holy Trinity, followed by the opening liturgy of the course.

The first module, entitled *Dynamics of IMCA Integration*, offered participants the opportunity to share their personal and vocational journeys, reflect on the objectives and expectations of the program, and deepen their awareness of the missionary realities and Franciscan presence throughout Asia through the contributions of the General Secretaries and Animators of the three Orders.

Throughout its eight-week journey, IMCA 2026 is guided by three principal objectives: to understand the anthropological, social, cultural, and ecclesial realities of Asia; to provide an integral missionary formation fostering spiritual, pastoral, intellectual, and intercultural growth; and to strengthen inter-obediential collaboration and fraternity among the three Franciscan Orders.

Through study, prayer, reflection, and intercultural encounter, participants are invited to deepen their understanding of Asian realities, grow in their Franciscan missionary vocation, and strengthen fraternal collaboration in service of the mission.

As IMCA 2026 continues in the coming weeks, the participants journey together as pilgrims of hope, preparing themselves to serve the peoples and cultures of Asia with renewed enthusiasm, fraternal spirit, and Gospel witness.

Thanks to Br. Bill Short at the end of his service

College of St. Bonaventure of the Friars Publishers of Quaracchi



WWW.OFM.ORG

On Tuesday, the 9th June, the fraternity of St. Isidore in Rome greeted with affection Br. Bill Short, at the end of his service as Director of the College of St. Bonaventure of the Friars Publishers of Quaracchi. Brother Bill directed the College for nine years, putting his skills and generosity to good use, and now returns to the United States.

The Guardian, Br. Míchéal MacCraith, delivered a moving speech, in which he highlighted the human and intellectual characteristics of Br. Bill. On this occasion, the new Director of Quaracchi, Br. Marco Guida, Full Professor of Franciscan Hagiography at the Pontifical University Antonianum, was welcomed and wished good work. Br. Marco and Prof. Daniele Solvi, President of Quaracchi, presented Br. Bill with the parchment expressing the gratitude of



the College for the valuable service carried out. Present were the Vicar General, Br. Ignacio Ceja Jiménez, who offered greetings and thanks on behalf of the Minister General, the Definitor General Br. Jimmy Zammit, the Secretary General for Formation and Studies Br. Darko Tepert, the General Bursar Br. Joel Esplana Sulse.

Together with the friars of the General Curia, some of the lay collaborators of the College took part in the moment of celebration and thanksgiving.

Thanks again to Br. Bill and best wishes for good work to Br. Marco!

For the activities and publications of the Friars Publishers of Quaracchi visit the website www.quaracchi.org

News from the Entities



Under Ten Conference of the Province of the Holy Family in Egypt

Luxor, 15th-16th June, 2026



WWW.OFM.ORG

On the 15th and 16th June 2026, the Under Ten Conference for the friars of the Province of the Holy Family of Egypt was held in Luxor, organised by Br. Milad Gouda, head of Under Ten, and Br. Milad Shehata, Secretary for Formation and Studies. The meeting, which was also attended by Br. Francisco Gómez Vargas, OFM, Secretary General for the Missions and Evangelisation, addressed the theme of Franciscan identity and the renewal of the religious vocation.

The difference between the “mystery of vocation”, which leads to mission, renewal, and spiritual growth, and the “mystery of survival”, which risks being transformed into the simple search for security, stability, and conservation, was explored. St. Francis, in fact, chose fidelity to the Gospel above all else, without limiting himself to preserving the institution or guaranteeing its continuity. The participants reflected on the risk that exces-

sive concern for survival can generate immobility, fear of change and loss of missionary momentum.

The conference invited the friars to re-examine the original motivations for their call and to verify how much they continue to be alive in the present. Questions were also asked regarding the forms of attachment to security, roles, positions, or traditions, which could hinder spiritual renewal.



Ample space was dedicated to contemporary challenges, including the digital world, artificial intelligence and consumer culture, and their impact on religious life. The friars also wondered about the permanence of authentic Franciscan joy and the risk that it will be replaced by simple administrative tasks.

Finally, the conference encouraged the renewal of religious formation and the recovery of St. Francis' courage in living the Gospel today. It was reiterated that religious life is renewed through a constant return to the Gospel and that living communities grow thanks to meaning, mission and witness, not simply through their preservation.

During the conference, Br. Francisco presented the new document issued by the General Curia concerning missions and evangelisation, the *Ratio Evangelizationis "Ite In Mundum"*, illustrating the main orientations and pastoral perspectives for Franciscan life and missionary commitment in the contemporary world.

Interprovincial Formation in Poland *Kraków-Bronowice, 22 June 2026*



WWW.OFM.ORG

On 22 June 2026, a meeting of the Provincial Ministers of the five Polish Provinces of the Order of Friars Minor and the formators involved in initial formation took place at the Interprovincial House of Temporary Professed Friars in Kraków-Bronowice.

The meeting was attended by Br. Leonard Bielecki, OFM, Provincial Minister of the Province of St. Francis of Assisi in Poznań; Br. Egidiusz Włodarczyk, OFM, Provincial Minister of the Province of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary; Br. Krzysztof Bobak, OFM, Provincial Minister of the Province of Our Lady of the Angels

in Kraków; Br. Witosław Sztyk, OFM, Provincial Minister of the Province of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Katowice and President of the North Slavic Conference (SLAN); and Br. Alard Maliszewski, OFM, Provincial Minister of the Province of St. Hedwig in Wrocław.

The gathering began with the celebration of the Eucharist. Afterwards, participants reflected on the current challenges of initial formation, cooperation among formation houses, and the further development of interprovincial structures dedicated to preparing young friars for Franciscan life. During the meeting, Br. Sergiusz Baldyga,

OFM, Secretary for Formation and Studies of the SLAN, presented a report on his activities and outlined the progress made in drafting the statutes for the various stages of initial formation as well as the new Franciscan Formation Guidelines (RFF) currently being developed. He also proposed new formation initiatives for the future, including evangelization projects through the participation of friars in pilgrimages and on the *Camino de Santiago* in preparation for the Holy Year of St. James in 2027. The upcoming probation period for friars preparing for Solemn Profession was also discussed. In his capacity as Secretary of the Or-

der's General Chapter, Br. Sergiusz also presented the process and methodology used in preparing the *Instrumentum laboris* for the General Chapter, which will be held in 2027 at the Nui Cui Shrine in Vietnam.

An important part of the programme consisted of meetings between the Provincial Ministers, the formation teams, and the temporarily professed friars. Discussions focused on the experiences gained during the first year of operation of the Interprovincial House of Temporary Professed Friars in Kraków-Bronowice, as well as on prospects for the further development of this form of cooperation among the Provinces.



LIFE in the Order



Deceased Brothers

- † 23rd June: Br. Paul Gallagher, Prov. Our Lady of Guadalupe (USA)
- † 17th June: Br. Stephen Barnufsky and Br. Kenneth Rosswog, Prov. Our Lady of Guadalupe (USA)
- † 14th June: Br. Eliseu (Antonius Johannes Henricus) Tjiddink, Prov. of the Holy Cross (Brazil)
- † 13th June: Antonio (Antonio Otávio) Ferreira, Prov. Immaculate Conception (Brazil)
- † 2nd June: Br. Francisco Anzaldo García, Prov. Sts. Peter and Paul (Mexico)
- † 5th May: Br. Carlos (Jorge) Ríos Picazo, Prov. Sts. Pietro e Paolo (Messico)

Information received from the General Secretariat



OFS, National Elective Chapter in Madagascar Majunga, June 19-21, 2026



WWW.OFM.ORG

The National Elective Chapter of the OFS of Madagascar, under the patronage of Blessed Lucien Botovasoa, was held from 19 to 21 June 2026 in Majunga, a city located over 570 km from the capital Antananarivo.



In a fraternal climate, the 52 members of the Chapter present elected a new National Council of 11 members, including regional leaders. Mr. Pascal Jean Elson Andrianomenjanahary, former Treasurer, was elected National Minister of Madagascar for his first three-year term.

The Chapter was chaired by Adolph Atsu Assagba, Advisor to the President of the CIOFS (International Council of the OFS), assisted by Fr. Jean Pierre Rasolonjanahary, OFM, Minister of the Province of the Immaculate Conception of Madagascar and Mauritius, representing the CAS (Conference of Spiritual Assistants).

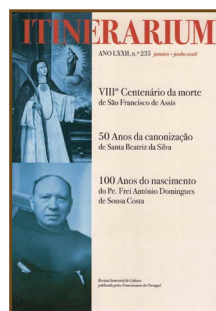
In the cathedral of Majunga, the Vicar of the Bishop of the Diocese presided over the mass of thanksgiving and investiture of the new Council, in the presence of the entire Franciscan Family of the area.

Franciscan Bookmark



Alexandri de Hales
Quaestiones
Disputatae de
Angelis

A cura di
Fr. Juri Leoni, OFM
Fratr Editori di Quaracchi
quaracchi@ofm.org



Itinerarium
Ano LXXII, n. 235
janeiro - junho 2026

Editorial Franciscana
da Província Portuguesa
da Ordem Franciscana

Subscribe

Write us

Web

Follow us



Newsletter



comgen@ofm.org



www.ofm.org



[@ofmorg](https://www.youtube.com/@ofmorg)



[@fratrumminorum](https://www.instagram.com/@fratrumminorum)



[@ofm.org](https://www.facebook.com/@ofm.org)



[flickr](https://www.flickr.com/photos/ofm/)

Curia Generale dei Frati Minori
Via di S. Maria Mediatrix, 25
Roma, Italia

Director: Br. Byron A. Chamann Anléu OFM
Translators: Br. John Luke OFM, Br. Arthur Andersen OFM

OFM
Ordo Fratrum Minorum
© 2026 All rights reserved