

Communiqué of the General Definitory concerning the *Tempo Forte* of July 2024

Ordo Fratrum Minorum



Secretarius Generalis

The *Tempo Forte* of July took place from the 15th to 26th at the General Curia “*Santa Maria Mediatrice*”, in Rome, and was preceded by the meeting of the General Definitory with the new Visitors General, held from the 8th to 12th; An “extraordinary” session, the outcome of which is announced in this Communiqué, was held in Mexico on the 26th May, during the meeting of the General Definitory with the Conference of Mexico and Central America, on the occasion of the 500th anniversary of the evangelization of Mexico by the Friars Minor called “The Twelve Apostles.”

The General Definitory, in the first “ordinary” session of the work, experienced a time of personal narration, to deepen mutual relations and share the experiences of the period that had elapsed since the last *Tempo Forte*; it conducted the review of the personnel of the Offices of the General Curia and of the International College “St. Anthony”; it planned the Meeting with the Presidents of the Conferences (19-23 November); with the friars who carry out various ministries at the Holy See (23rd September) and with the Roman Fraternities dependent on the Minister General (20th September), and the Verification of the General Definitory itself (29th -31st July); it verified the meeting with the New Provincial Ministers and Custodes (10th-18th May), the meeting with the New Visitors (8th-12th July) and the one with the OFM Partners for *fundraising*; the members participated in the meeting of the Temporary Professed of Europe (Assisi, 17th -19th July); it also conducted discernment on some situations concerning the Foundations dependent on the Minister General of Sudan and South Sudan and of Russia and on the Fraternity of London; it continued to reflect on the Chapter of Mats and the PCO 2025, on the revision of the Conferences of the Order; chose the Society to conduct the *economic audit* of the General Curia and related bodies; approved the Draft of the General Guidelines for the Animation of the Accompaniment of New Missionaries, presented by the Animator for the *Missio ad gentes*; updated the Agenda of visits to the Conferences (Bolivarian, ESC and SLAN); met with the Bursar General for economic updates; the DEVEL-FF Commission for the integration of the Development Office of the General Curia into the *OFM Fraternitas Foundation* and the Director of the Office for the Protection of minors and vulnerable adults for updates in the sector; revised the draft of the Economic and Administrative Regulations, valid for all Roman Entities dependent on the Minister General; the definitory greeted the outgoing Bursar General Fr. John PUODZIUNAS.

The General Definitory:

Has appointed:

- Br. Juan Carlos MOYA OVEJERO, Visitor General of the Prov. “St James of Compostela”, in Spain (St James of Compostela’).
- Br. Stéphane DELAVELLE, Visitor General of the Guardianate of “St. Mary Draperis”, in Istanbul.
- Br. Flavio GUERRA, Visitor General of the Prov. “St. Francis Solano”, in Argentina (Río Cuarto).
- Br. Fausto Hermigio SUAREZ SALAZAR, Assistant Visitor General of the Cust. Dip. “Immaculate Conception”, in Venezuela (Caracas).
- Br. Darko TEPERT, Visitor General of the *Studium Biblicum*, in Hong Kong.
- Br. Juan Isidro ALDANA MALDONADO, Secretary of the Chapter of Mats 2025.
- Br. Sergiusz BAŁDYGA, Secretary of the CPO 2025.
- Br. John CELLA, member of the Council for Economic Affairs CAE.
- Br. Eunan McMULLAN, member of the Coordinating Committee for the Franciscan Network of the Mediterranean.
- Br. Joel ESPLANA SULSE, member of the Board of Directors of FOA.
- Br. Narcyz KLYMAS, collaborator for the OFM General Archive, from the 1st February, 2025.
- Br. Daniel Alejandro REYNEL BETANZOS, Assistant to the General Secretariat.

It approved the shortlist of candidates for Minister Provincial of:

- Prov. “Holy Cross”, in Brazil (Belo Horizonte).

It proposed:

- Br. Simon Pierre KONÉ, for the Minor Penitentiary for the Basilica of St. John Lateran, in Rome.

Of the following Entities, it ratified the Acts of the elections that took place:

- In Chapter: Prov. “St. Leopold”, in Austria and Italy (Salzburg); Prov. “Holy Faith”, in Colombia (Bogotá); Franciscan Prov. of Arantzazu, in Spain (Donostia - San Sebastián).
- In the Chapter Congress: Prov. “St. Leopold”, in Austria and Italy (Salzburg); Prov. “Holy Faith”, in Colombia (Bogotá); Prov. “Our Lady Queen of Peace”, in South Africa (Vanderbijlpark); Cust. Aut. “Our Lady of the Seven Joys”, in Brazil (Campo Grande).
- Outside the Chapter, of the Provincial Secretary: Prov. “Sts. Peter and Paul”, in Mexico (Michoacan); Prov. “The Holy Gospel”, in Mexico (Coyoacán); of Guardians: The Seraphic Prov. “St. Francis of Assisi”, in Italy (Our Lady of the Angels), 2; Prov. “St. Anthony of the Friars Minor”, in Italy (Milan), 2.

It approved, subject to condition:

- The SSPP of: Prov. “Holy. Martyrs of Korea”, in South Korea (Seoul); Cust. “Annunciation B.V.M.” in Albania and Montenegro (Shkodër); Southern European Conference (CEM, by COMPI and CONFRES).
- The Transitional Rules of the Cust. Aut. “Our Lady of Kibeho”, in Rwanda and Burundi (Gitamara Kivumu).

It dealt with the following cases of separation from the Order:

- Indult of dispensation from temporary vows: 3.
- Indult of exlaustration: 1.
- Extension of exlaustration pardon: 1.

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- Indult of secularization *pure et simpliciter*: 1.
 - Indult of secularization *ad experimentum*: 3.
 - Indult of dispensation from solemn vows: 4.
 - Indult of dispensation from the obligations of the clerical state and from solemn vows: 2.
- It examined, amongst practices already in progress and new:*
- Cases of dismissal from the Order: 2.
 - Cases of *Graviora delicta*: 2.
- It dealt with other practices of various kinds:*
- Readmissions to the Order: 2.
 - Dispensation from Postulancy: 1.
 - Dispensation from the Novitiate: 2.
 - Admission to the Novitiate (Entities dependent on the Minister General): 1.
 - Admission to Profession/Renewal (Entities dependent on the Minister General): 1.
 - Suppression of Houses: 28.
 - Disposal of real estate: 4.
 - Granting and/or renewal of obedience and/or scholarships: 81.
 - Obediences for other Entities: 2.
 - Practices relating to the Offices of the General Curia: 1.
 - Anticipation/postponement Chapter and/or Chapter Congress: 1.
 - Economic practices: 6.

The General Definitory reminds that anyone who encounters problems accessing the system (Mailbox and Database) through the official credentials, is requested to contact the General Secretariat (secgen@ofm.org).

The next *Tempo Forte* is scheduled from the 9th to 20th September; all the Entities of the Order are reminded to send any requests to be submitted to the General Definitory within one week of the beginning of the work of the *Tempo Forte* (by Friday 30th August); applications received at another time will be postponed to the next *Tempo Forte*.

To the praise of Christ and the *poverello*-Poor man of Assisi. Amen!
Rome, 28th July 2024

Fr. Antonio M. IACONA, OFM
Secretary-general