

Meeting of the US Region 20-27 February 2019



Our Lady of Mepkin Abbey Moncks Corner, South Carolina



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Participants	3
Votes	4
Full Minutes	
Introduction.....	11
Evaluation of General Chapter 2017.....	12
Preparation for the Election of the Abbot General.....	12
<i>Cor Orans</i>	13
Law Commission Work on CST 67.....	14
Suppression Process and Related Issues.....	15
Delegates to Regional Meetings and General Chapters.....	15
Proposal for a Common Fund for the Order.....	16
Response to Vote 64 of the 2017 General Chapter.....	17
Regional Matters.....	17
Evaluation.....	21
Appendices	
I. Delegate Report on Digital Communications.....	23
II. US Regional Statute.....	25
III. Working Grid.....	27

REGIONAL MEETING PARTICIPANTS

Mepkin Abbey

Moncks Corner, South Carolina

MONASTERY

Berryville
Crozet
Genesee
Gethsemani
Guadalupe
Holy Spirit
Mepkin
Mississippi
New Clairvaux
New Melleray
Redwoods
Santa Rita
Snowmass
Spencer
Wrentham

SUPERIOR

Fr Joseph Wittstock
M Kathy Ullrich
Fr Gerard D’Souza
Fr Elias Dietz
Fr Peter McCarthy
Fr Augustine Myslinski
Fr Joseph Tedesco
M Rebecca Stramoski
Fr Paul Mark Schwan
Fr Mark Scott
M Kathy De Vico
M Victoria Murray
Fr Charles Albanese
Fr Damian Carr
M Sofia Millican

DELEGATES

Sr Maria Gonzalo

Br Thomas Richards

Sr Myra Hill

Br Juan Diego Levado

Br Adam Zielonka
Sr Karen Myers

INVITED GUESTS

Fr Timothy Kelly, Generalate, Abbot General’s Council
Dom Clément Charbonneau, Abbaye Notre-Dame de Mistassini
Dom Peter Verhalen, O Cist – Our Lady of Dallas Abbey
Br Cassian Russell, Holy Spirit Abbey – Regional Secretary of Formation
Sue Schuttinger, Regional Digital Communications Director

SECRETARIES

Sr Barbara Smickel, Crozet
Sr Anna O’Meara, Mississippi
Br Christopher Cheney, Vina

President of the Region: Fr Elias Dietz
Assistant Moderators: M Victoria Murray, Fr Gerard D’Souza
Vote formulation: M Kathy De Vico and Fr Mark Scott
Readers for the Minutes: Fr Joseph Wittstock and M Kathy Ullrich
Finances: Secretaries

VOTES

(There were 15 Superiors voting except for Vote 1, for which only 14 were present.)

I. Evaluation of the 2017 General Chapter

1. We are grateful for the work of the *ad hoc* commission on Fathers Immediate. We request the General Chapter to appoint once again an *ad hoc* commission to continue the work done by the 2017 *ad hoc* commission on Fathers Immediate.

YES 13 NO 0 ABSTAIN 1

2. We appreciate the reduced number of guest speakers at the 2017 General Chapter.

YES 11 NO 0 ABSTAIN 4

3. We affirm having speakers from within our own Order as at the 2017 General Chapter.

YES 13 NO 0 ABSTAIN 2

4. We appreciated the free Sunday afternoons, the one free day, and the number of days allowed to complete the work of the Chapter with peace and efficiency.

YES 13 NO 0 ABSTAIN 2

5. We appreciated the scheduling of work in Commissions and work in the Aula which reduced unnecessary loss of time in going from one place to another.

YES 12 NO 0 ABSTAIN 3

6. We ask the Central Commission to consider if the Synthesis of Chapter has produced sufficient benefit to continue this practice.

YES 12 NO 0 ABSTAIN 3

7. We request a theme for the next General Chapter.

YES 0 NO 13 ABSTAIN 2

8. We wish the House Reports to describe the life of the community since the last General Chapter.

YES 15 NO 0 ABSTAIN 0

9. We request that Dom Mauro Lepori give a conference on *Vultum Dei Quaerere* and *Cor Orans*.

YES 5 NO 7 ABSTAIN 3

10. We ask that the new Abbot General and his council work towards a paperless General Chapter in 2023.

YES 12 NO 0 ABSTAIN 3

II. Preparation for Election of the Abbot General

11. We ask Dom Eamon, in preparation for the election of a new Abbot General, to write a reflection for the Chapter on what he sees as the role of the Abbot General in the face of our present realities and future hopes for the Order.

YES 15 NO 0 ABSTAIN 0

12. We request that the Regions, in view of the election of a new Abbot General, submit a text, not more than a page in length, identifying the needs of the Order at this time. For instance, suggest new directions that are needed, areas for revitalization.

YES 15 NO 0 ABSTAIN 0

13. We desire a working paper on the exercise of the role of the Abbot General and his Council in light of the present realities and needs of our Order.

YES 15 NO 0 ABSTAIN 0

14. We would like the spiritual preparation for the coming election of the Abbot General to follow the process that was used at the 2008 Mixed General Meeting.

YES 14 NO 0 ABSTAIN 1

15. We wish to maintain the practice of the commissions at the Chapter nominating candidates for the election of the Abbot General.

YES 14 NO 0 ABSTAIN 1

16. We desire that time be allowed for capitulants to ask questions of these nominees in plenary session.

YES 5 NO 8 ABSTAIN 2

III. CST 67 and the Statute on Accompanying Fragile Communities

17. We accept the proposed new text of CST 67 redacted by the Law Commission.

YES 15 NO 0 ABSTAIN 0

18. We propose changing C.34bis.1 to the following: When a community is experiencing an especially grave situation, the General Chapter may suspend the exercise of its autonomy and authorize the Father Immediate to appoint a ‘monastic commissary.’

YES 14 NO 0 ABSTAIN 1

19. We propose changing the second sentence in #10 of the Statute to the following: The General Chapter a uthorizes the Father Immediate to appoint a ‘monastic commissary’ to oversee the care of the members of the community so that they can continue to live together in the fullest way possible.

YES 13 NO 0 ABSTAIN 2

20. We request clarity on the following:

- + Could a non-priest monk be appointed ‘monastic commissary’?
- + Could a nun be appointed a ‘commissary’ of a monks’ monastery?
- + Could a monk be appointed a ‘commissary’ of a nuns’ monastery?
- + Must the ‘commissary’ be a member of a religious institute?
- + With reference to #11, who are the advisors, how are they selected?

YES 15 NO 0 ABSTAIN 0

21. We request a working paper on numbers 22, 23, 24 in the proposed Statute, taking into account such situations as a suppressed motherhouse, a motherhouse of another culture and language, and the legal and financial implications for the receiving community. The study would evaluate also if Statute 67.2.a meets the realities of the individuals and communities involved.

YES 15 NO 0 ABSTAIN 0

22. We ask the Law Commission to examine the issue of the disposition of the patrimony of a suppressed community.

YES 15 NO 0 ABSTAIN 0

23. We propose replacing the term ‘monastic commissary’ with a title more in line with the present structures of our Order.

YES 4 NO 8 ABSTAIN 3

IV. Cor Orans

24. We request, for the nuns of our Order, Monastic Cloister as defined in *Cor Orans* (#208-#211).

YES 15 NO 0 ABSTAIN 0

25. We request that the Law Commission revise CST 29 for the nuns in terms of Monastic Cloister as described by *Cor Orans*.

YES 15 NO 0 ABSTAIN 0

26. We suggest for this revision that the Law Commission refer to the work on CST 29 done at the 2005 Mixed General Meeting.

YES 15 NO 0 ABSTAIN 0

27. We request a dispensation from the requirement of *Cor Orans* (#250-#289) regarding the minimum of nine years required for initial formation, from aspirancy through the juniorate.

YES 11 NO 1 ABSTAIN 3

28. We request that the Law Commission revise CST 13.3 of the nuns Constitutions (on leave of absence) to incorporate *Cor Orans* #176.

YES 14 NO 0 ABSTAIN 1

29. We request the Law Commission to revise CST 62 of the nuns on ‘exclaustration’ as defined in *Cor Orans* #177-#178.

YES 15 NO 0 ABSTAIN 0

V. Common Fund

30. We support the proposal of a Common Fund for the Order.

YES 3 NO 11 ABSTAIN 1

REGIONAL ISSUES

(Both Superiors and delegates voted on the following votes, 21 persons in all.)

I. Delegates

31. We wish to continue the practice of the communities sending delegates to the Regional Meeting.

YES 21 NO 0 ABSTAIN 0

32. If yes, the delegates would attend the Regional Meeting immediately before the General Chapter.

YES 12 NO 3 ABSTAIN 6

33. We wish to continue the practice of sending delegates to the General Chapter.

YES 18 NO 2 ABSTAIN 1

34. We wish to maintain the present practice of sending one monk delegate and one nun delegate to the General Chapter.

YES 7 NO 12 ABSTAIN 2

(If vote #34 is no, we will send one monk or one nun delegate to the General Chapter.)

35. We wish to maintain our Regional Statute 4.b as it is.

YES 2 NO 19 ABSTAIN 0

(Because of the result of this vote, our Regional Statute will be revised to incorporate the results of the following votes.)

36. Electors of the Regional delegate to the General Chapter are the Superiors and delegates present at the Regional Meeting with delegates (the meeting in the year of the General Chapter).

YES 16 NO 5 ABSTAIN 0

37. Those eligible to be elected delegate to the General Chapter are all the monks and nuns of the Region.

YES 1 NO 18 ABSTAIN 2

38. Those eligible to be elected delegate to the General Chapter are those delegates present at the Regional Meeting.

YES 21 NO 0 ABSTAIN 0

39. We desire the alternation of monk and nun delegates, Chapter to Chapter.

YES 1 NO 18 ABSTAIN 2

40. We desire the Region to provide delegates with guidelines and an orientation concerning their role at the Regional Meeting.

YES 15 NO 5 ABSTAIN 1

41. We desire that the delegates compose a one page report of the Regional Meeting for the communities of our Region.

YES 8 NO 12 ABSTAIN 1

42. We encourage all the communities to send delegates to the Regional Meeting.

YES 14 NO 3 ABSTAIN 4

III. Monastic Business Association (Only Superiors voting, 15 total)

43. We ask the Monastic Business Association to investigate the possibility of a certification mark for products of our Region, and to present the results of their investigation at the next Regional Meeting.

YES 14 NO 0 ABSTAIN 1

IV. Cistercian Publications

44. We elect the three new Superiors in our Region to the Cistercian Publications Corporation:
Fr Joseph Tedesco of Mepkin, Fr Charles Albanese of Snowmass, M Sofia Millican of Wrentham.

YES 15 NO 0 ABSTAIN 0

45. We remove Holy Trinity Abbey and Assumption Abbey from the list of members of the Cistercian Publications Corporation.

YES 15 NO 0 ABSTAIN 0

46. We wish the Cistercian Publications bylaws to maintain the current requirement of four (4) Superiors (*i.e.*, members of the Corporation) as members of the Cistercian Publications Board with voting rights.

YES 0 NO 15 ABSTAIN 0

47. We wish to modify section 4.02.A of the Cistercian Publications bylaws to read:

Voting Members The voting members of the Board of Directors shall consist of seven (7) people elected by the Members of the Corporation: four (4) Cistercian Directors, at least two of whom are Superiors (*i.e.*, Members of the Corporation), two (2) at-large members who possess experience, training, or special skills in medieval scholarship and/or publishing, and one (1) Executive Editor of Cistercian Publications. At least a majority of the voting members of the Board shall be citizens of the United States.

YES 15 NO 0 ABSTAIN 0

48. We wish the Cistercian Publications bylaws to require that the President of the Board be a Superior (*i.e.*, member of the Corporation).

YES 15 NO 0 ABSTAIN 0

49. We wish the non-voting members of the Cistercian Publications Board to include at least one (1) representative of Liturgical Press.

YES 15 NO 0 ABSTAIN 0

50. We wish the term in office of all elected members of the Cistercian Publications Board to be three (3) years.

YES 15 NO 0 ABSTAIN 0

51. In the light of these changes to the Cistercian Publications bylaws, we wish to dissolve the current Cistercian Publications Board, and to proceed to new elections (or re-elections) at the current meeting.

YES 15 NO 0 ABSTAIN 0

INTRODUCTION

Since many members of the US Regional Conference come from areas of colder winter weather, all happily anticipated Mepkin's warm welcome – and we were not disappointed! After a day of rain and lower temperatures, the sun came out – and we could admire all the evidences of early spring on the Abbey's beautiful grounds. The rains also came – but the milder temperatures were much appreciated.

The brothers here have a well-deserved reputation for southern hospitality, and it was extended very graciously to the total of 26 persons in our group of superiors, delegates and invited guests gathered February 20-27 for our 2019 Regional Meeting. Fr Timothy Kelly, Procurator General, represented the Generalate, and Fr Clément of Mistassini came from the Canadian Region. Fr Peter Verhalen, O Cist, was with us from Our Lady of Dallas, and Br Cassian Russell was also present to give his Regional Secretary of Formation report. We were also joined for a day by Sue Schuttinger, our Regional Digital Communications Director, who gave a thorough overview of her work with and for our Regional website and various social media platforms.

At this meeting we welcomed three new superiors in our Region – M Sofia of Wrentham, Fr Joseph of Mepkin and Fr Charles of Snowmass. We also remembered in prayer three former superiors whom the Lord has called home during the past year – Fr Malachy of Holy Trinity and Fr Thomas Keating and Fr Joseph Boyle of Snowmass.

Among the many topics treated were the document *Cor Orans*, the evaluation of the last General Chapter, and preparation for the election of the Abbot General at the next Chapter, as well as the work done since the last Chapter on CST 67. Full Minutes of the meeting in English, and a summary version in English as well as the Summaries in French and Spanish will be posted on the Order's website. A copy of the Full Minutes will also be sent by email to the Generalate and to all the US monasteries.

The report which follows tells of the discussion and decisions during the meeting, but can only partially convey the spirit of mutual respect and openness and friendship which characterized our gathering – and made of this meeting a concrete expression of the Charter of Charity in our time.

* * * * *

Elections:

Regional President: Fr Gerard D'Souza

Coordinating Committee and Co-Moderators: Fr Paul Mark Schwan and M Kathy Ullrich and Fr Paul Mark Schwan

Regional Secretary of Formation: Sr Pamela Clinton of Wrentham

Regional Delegate to the General Chapter: Sr Myra Hill of Our Lady of the Mississippi

Substitute for the Regional Delegate: Br Juan Diego Levado of New Melleray

Regional Health Plan/Catastrophe Fund Administrator: Holy Spirit Abbey, Conyers

Cistercian Publications Board: President: Fr Elias Dietz; Treasurer: Fr Gerard D'Souza

The two other Cistercian members of this Board: Fr Brendan Freeman and Fr Lawrence Morey

Next Regional Meeting: June 3-10, 2020 at Our Lady of the Genesee Abbey

EVALUATION OF GENERAL CHAPTER 2017

Fr. Gerard shared with us some of the evaluations from the other regions. The general impression was of a very pastoral Chapter. The theme of revitalization was well appreciated, although some expressed that it was perhaps a bit overly optimistic. Regarding a program for the upcoming 2020 General Chapter, several suggestions were made:

- Revisiting the existing structures to better serve the needs of a modern global Order.
- Continuing the last Chapter's theme of revitalization, especially drawing on the spirit of the documents on Unity and Pluralism and the Decree on Cistercian Life.
- Asking how we can inject new life into the Order, valuing the past while creating something new.
- Focusing on monasteries that are doing well and what we can learn from them rather than focusing primarily on those that need help.

While the Conferences and invited guests were much valued, particularly the address by Dom Mauro Lepori of the Order of Cistercians, it was suggested that given the demanding nature of the Chapter's workload, there might be more moderation in the number of guest speakers scheduled, and in the time allotted them.

The daily schedule was good, and the free Sunday afternoons and the free day were much appreciated. In the interest of ecology and stewardship, we are in favor of the use of more technology and would ask the new Abbot General and his Council to work toward a 'paperless' General Chapter.

The celebration of the Liturgy occasioned some suggestions:

- That the practice of sharing the Chalice at every Eucharist be examined.
- Could the use of the local parish or Our Lady of the Angels Basilica be explored for Mass space rather than Domus Pacis?

Instead of the Central Commission preparing questions to respond to, the House Reports could focus more about the major trajectory and events in the life of each community since the last Chapter. The manner in which the Regional Report is drawn up was also discussed. One proposal suggested soliciting the input of the Generalate, drawing upon the experience of the Abbot General and his council. Others prefer the current practice of keeping to the local level of utilizing the information given in all the House Reports when gathered at the Regional Meeting.

It appears that the number of matters requiring the attention of the Abbot General is increasing, and can be expected to continue to do so - given the pressing situation of many fragile communities. What can be done creatively to provide pastoral action before a critical stage requires the intervention on the level of the Generalate? Are there other options for shared responsibility? Could there be more responsibility given to the Regions? Concerning personnel: would there be a way for the Abbot General's Councilors not to have to reside at the Generalate, because their services are not constantly required? This would allow a larger pool of potential candidates.

PREPARATION FOR THE ELECTION OF THE ABBOT GENERAL

Fr Damian reviewed the preparation and process for the election of the Abbot General in 2008 as a possible model for the 2020 election. The work was done at the level of regions and the commissions.

Constituents received 3 documents to study that delineate the history and ministry of the Abbot General of our Order:

- Role of the Abbot General: Document of the General Chapter of 1974 (Minutes, Appendix VII, p. 55-56),
- the 26 January 2007 Letter of Dom Bernardo Olivera to the Superiors of the Order, and
- Constitutions 82, 83 and 85.

The commissions surfaced the names of nominees with reasons for the nominations and presented the lists in the aula. These reports provided a good description of the nominees.

Adapting the 2008 model to the current fragility within the Order, the superiors of our region recommend that every region be asked to articulate the realities of its particular situation. It is within this context that the discernment of appropriate candidates for the office of Abbot General could be made. Given the present reality, some superiors support having the opportunity to dialog with nominees. It would be helpful to have a letter, describing the service of the Abbot General, from Dom Eamon.

COR ORANS

Mother Kathy of Redwoods and Mother Rebecca presented a synopsis of the work of the Law Commission on the consequences for our Order of this recent document from the Holy See. Its provisions are now considered as binding on all communities of cloistered contemplative nuns – and it is essentially a very good document. It does raise some questions for our Order. The main areas for us to consider are: the question of Federations, enclosure, the required length of time before final profession and the issue of autonomy.

On the question of Federations, *Cor Orans* requires that all monasteries of contemplative nuns enter a Federation of monasteries within a year of its publication “unless they have been legitimately dispensed.” It seems obvious to us that this should not apply to us because of our nuns forming one Order with our monks and having a single General Chapter for oversight, assistance, etc. But it needs to be the object of a request to the Holy See by the Abbot General and his Council, acting in the name of the General Chapter.

On the matter of enclosure, *Cor Orans* provides various types of enclosure and requests all monasteries of nuns to choose the type of enclosure which best supports their charism. Monastic Cloister is one option. This corresponds best to the general practice of most of the houses of nuns in our Order. If the General Chapter approves this, the US Region supports the revision of CST 29 accordingly.

Regarding the new requirements on foundations in *Cor Orans*, a possible way of proceeding would be to ask the Holy See to continue to use our Statute on Foundations as it is – since it is a Statute we have been continually adapting to new situations and new means over the past 50 years.

The newly-defined required length of time before final profession occasioned much discussion. The document specifies a total of nine years of formation before final vows. Typically this would be one year of aspirancy (visits, interviews, etc, by an applicant preceding entry as a postulant), one year of postulancy, two years of novitiate, and five years of temporary vows. The impetus for this requirement seems to be the number of departures after final profession – and the recognition that in many cases persons from the world of today simply need more time to be formed and make a free, responsible

final commitment. The number of candidates coming from broken families, betrayals, abuse situations, and lack of firm Christian foundation all militate against the maturity and stability needed for perseverance in monastic life.

One other area to be noted was the provision in *Cor Orans* that a community loses the right of election when the Conventual Chapter is reduced to five solemnly professed or less.

Our discussion was far-ranging, but focused mainly on #287-#288 concerning temporary profession. The final results are in the Votes taken later in the meeting. But it seems worthwhile to list some of the considerations that were offered on this point.

- On the matter of a longer time now prescribed for formation, the reasons advanced are solid, but it was pointed out that we already have this option in our Constitutions.
- The ‘drawback’ to the current flexibility is the expectation raised when 3 years is the norm, and a longer time the exception – a certain inequality can be experienced among the junior professed, especially now that they are sharing experiences at Junior Seminars, etc.
- Some communities need the newer members to take on some of the major responsibilities in the monastery (such as cellarer, novice director) which is not possible until final profession, hence a substantial delay of the latter can be a difficulty. But it was also pointed out that a more creative approach to this situation could be to look at those roles which we are able to give to juniors who are competent and further along in their formation.
- The whole thrust of the document *Vultum Dei Quaerere* and its application spelled out in *Cor Orans* is adequate formation of persons for the life they are undertaking – an attitude of efficiency and expediency can militate against this.
- The rising number of requests for dispensation after final profession is seen as a result of inadequate formation.
- This raises the whole question of the full affective maturity necessary for full commitment to monastic contemplative life; perhaps this is not being sufficiently addressed in our formation programs. Real tools of discernment are also necessary for the time of formation to be a time of grace and growth.
- What are the ramifications of asking someone in formation, who is strong and solid in his/her desire and commitment, to wait an extra 24 months before final profession?
- The personal experience of some communities has been the painful situations caused by final profession before the person is truly ready to make this commitment.

After consideration of the above and further discussion, the conclusions agreed upon by our Region are expressed in our Votes.

LAW COMMISSION WORK ON CST 67

M Kathy of Redwoods had attended the meetings of the Law Commission which had prepared this material and was able to provide valuable background. Our Order’s attention to this spans many years, beginning with Dom Bernardo Olivera’s conferences on the increasing fragility within the Order, and the subsequent attention given to this over many General Chapters. More recently, the documents *Vultum Dei Quaerere* and *Cor Orans* stress that juridical autonomy needs to be matched by autonomy of life.

It is helpful to recall the many initiatives already taken in our Order in response to this situation – mergers of communities that have already occurred and others being considered, downsizing in many monasteries, smaller buildings being utilized, lay employees taking on more responsibilities, *etc.* So there is awareness of the seriousness of the situation – which was certainly underlined by a total of six houses suppressed since the 2017 Chapter.

We examined in detail and with gratitude the excellent work done by the Law Commission, and we went through the proposed changes for CST 67 as well as the new *Statute on Accompaniment of Fragile Communities*. The final result of our discussion is reflected in the Votes we are proposing for the Central Commission Meeting in June.

A point often mentioned in our consideration of the new Statute is that of the Father Immediate retaining his authority – in particular the desire was expressed that he be the one to choose and appoint the Monastic Commissary rather than the General Chapter doing so. In this case the person would report to the Fr Immediate rather than to the Chapter – a more effective arrangement. It is necessary that the Chapter decide on the suspension of autonomy for a community, but the Fr Immediate should then be the one to handle what follows from this.

SUPPRESSION PROCESS AND RELATED ISSUES

Related to the suppression process is the question of the new stability for the members of the suppressed community. Fr Paul Mark brought this to our attention. Our present CST provide an automatic “right of return” to the motherhouse without any probation nor requiring any approval of the motherhouse community. It seems to us that this is unrealistic in our present circumstances, where a number of motherhouses have been suppressed or are in a condition where they could not accept additional members. Also, the present legal climate is such that it would be very imprudent to accept someone into a community who may be virtually unknown. The important issue is to provide a living community for each monk or nun where they can live their monastic vocation and be assured of permanent care. Our concern about this is reflected in our Votes.

DELEGATES TO REGIONAL MEETINGS AND GENERAL CHAPTERS

M Kathy of Crozet made a presentation on this topic, citing our Regional Statute and CST 81, for the purpose of looking at the historical background of this practice and the current day situation. It is a relatively new practice in the Order, originating around the time of Vatican II, in the climate of representation which prevailed especially at that time. Some of the benefits of this have certainly been more involvement in the affairs of the Order for non-superiors, the benefit of “the grass-roots view,” and a further impetus to understanding and living out our charism day to day. Our communities surely are more interested and involved now in the affairs of the whole Order.

The presence of delegates at Regional Meetings has generally been a very positive experience. Yet there have been some drawbacks to the practice of delegates to the General Chapters.

- Given our present moment in history, there are difficult topics to discuss in the commissions at the Chapter (particular discussions on leadership, sexual abuse, fragile communities, etc). It can be a very negative experience and not beneficial nor necessary.

- The number of persons at the Chapter is already very large, and it is very expensive.
- The ‘Delegates blog’ has been good – on occasion it has been a source of untimely information.

Perhaps it is time to open a discussion on the presence of delegates at the General Chapter?

On the regional level, it was suggested that it could be more beneficial for delegates to attend the 2nd Regional Meeting after the General Chapter, rather than the 1st – since the latter discusses topics from the previous Chapter at which the delegates were not present. The 2nd meeting is concerned with preparing for the coming Chapter, thus issues are better developed, House Reports are read, a Regional Report is drawn up, and those present are prepared for the Chapter. Something else could also be done, such as a conference and dialog similar to what is done in the ReM Regional Meeting.

It is noteworthy that at this present Regional Meeting, only 6 communities (out of the total of 15 houses in the Region) actually sent delegates. This is the lowest number in our region’s history. Most of the reasons given for this were related to the difficulty of having a brother or sister out of the monastery for a week – the impact this has on choir, on the work front and other community activities – and we realize that this difficulty is probably going to continue. But the delegates actually present all spoke of the very positive experience it has been for them. Some of the gains they mentioned were:

- Better awareness of the Region, of the Order – the bigger picture
- Learning the dynamics of how Regional Meetings and the General Chapter work
- The valuable preparation this could be for future leadership
- Monks and nuns working together
- The delegates contributing a perspective the superiors may not have
- Some new creative ways of thinking
- A broadening experience that can be brought back to the community

Our discussion of this matter also included the question of how the delegates to the General Chapter are chosen. The final result is seen in the Votes.

PROPOSAL FOR A COMMON FUND FOR THE ORDER

At the General Chapter of 2017 a Common Fund for the Order was proposed. In keeping with vote 65 of the General Chapter, the Finance Committee of the Order studied the possibility and submitted their reflections to the Regions for their review and input.

In his presentation on the topic Fr Gerard of Genesee reminded us that it was the US Region at its 2013 Meeting at New Melleray that first asked the Central Commission that such a fund be considered. The Region noted that the contributions to the Commission of Aid were not sufficient for the needs presented to it, and requested the Chapter to look at other financial options.

The General Chapter of 2013 looked briefly at the idea but it was not a serious topic until the 2017 General Chapter. Then the issue came to the center because some communities were reluctant to take on the role of Father Immediate, due to challenging financial needs of daughter houses.

The Common Fund would be an investment fund, which could be financed in a number of ways:

- By voluntary contributions and free will offerings
- Through a special tax

- From the proceeds of the sale of lands from closing houses

It was noted that the proceeds from the patrimony of closing houses properly belongs to the members of that house to distribute as they feel best rather than necessarily going to a Common Fund.

Most Regions have not supported the creation of a Common Fund. Some in the Order see having a large amount in an investment fund administered by experts, rather than helping through contributions, a rather capitalistic approach. The traditional manner of help for communities in need of financial assistance was laid out in the Charter of Charity, that when the Superiors met together they would see to providing assistance as needed. This corresponds well to the modern Commission of Aid contributive model. Also, there is concern about how large a Common Fund would have to be in order to be practical in addressing the real needs within the Order.

RESPONSE TO VOTE 64 OF THE 2017 GENERAL CHAPTER

The Regional meeting discussed its response to vote 64 of the 2017 General Chapter: “We ask the regions to establish a list of persons competent in economy, finance and administration who could offer their services in our regions.” The purpose of this list would be to aid communities in finding resources in the areas mentioned. Some question the value of compiling such a list since those within a given region are commonly most aware of resources available in their area; however it was pointed out that the list could be of benefit to other regions with less access to personnel resources. At present we felt we could not offer anyone from our region to serve elsewhere.

REGIONAL MATTERS

Report from Regional Secretary for Formation

Br Cassian of Holy Spirit Abbey, Conyers, gave an informative report on his work as Regional Secretary for Formation from the time of his election to the position in 2013 to the present. From the evaluations by the juniors of each of the seminars, it is evident that they are a valuable component of their initial formation, particularly in developing a sense of being an Order and in building relationships with other juniors.

In his presentation Br Cassian explained that at the time he became Regional Secretary his predecessor, Fr. Alberic Farbolin of New Melleray Abbey, bequeathed to him an interest in developing a relationship among regional vocation directors. From a meeting of superiors and vocation directors at Holy Spirit Abbey, Conyers, in 2015, came the proposal to explore the possibility of developing some kind of social media to promote vocations. This in turn led to the engagement of the communications company, the Williams Group of Grand Rapids, Michigan, and the decision to revitalize our regional website. At Br Cassian’s request, the management of the regional website was separated from the responsibilities of the Formation Secretary at the 2017 Regional Meeting.

Having faithfully served as Formation Secretary for the past six years, Br Cassian has resigned his position. Gratitude and appreciation were expressed to him for his tireless work and dedication.

Report on the Regional Website

Br Christopher Cheney of New Clairvaux Abbey, Administrator of the Regional Website, updated the superiors on what has transpired since the last Regional Meeting. At the February 2018 meeting of Superiors and the Williams Group at Holy Cross Abbey, Berryville, it was decided to revitalize the regional website primarily as a vocations portal. It would serve as an introduction to and repository of information about our way of life and a channel to individual houses for potential candidates to contact the vocation director. As a result, a website *ad hoc* committee was formed consisting of the Regional Secretary of Formation, Br Cassian Russell, Fr Elias, M Vicki, Sr Suzanne of Redwoods and Br Christopher Cheney of Vina. In April 2018 Br Christopher became the website administrator. In this position he works with TM Camp, of the Williams Group, and Sue Schuttinger, Regional Digital Communications Director.

Br Christopher reported that, all in all, the website is doing what it was designed to do. He encouraged houses to support the website and made some suggestions as how to do this, for example, creating a link to Trappist.org on their own websites and by promoting the regional website on their own social media platforms.

Presentation on Social Media

Sue Schuttinger, Digital Communications Director for the Region, gave the superiors a helpful overview of the purpose and function of the Region's social media which she is overseeing. A major ingredient of her responsibilities is to draw viewers to the regional website. To accomplish this she utilizes various social media - Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn, Pinterest. Postings include series such as *Work of Our Hands*, focusing on our industries; *Vocation Stories*, monks and nuns sharing their stories; *Words to Live By*, quotes from monastic authors. An analysis of activity on indicates an encouraging increase in viewership.

Carta Caritatis Program at Our Lady of Dallas

Sr Maria of Crozet spoke enthusiastically to the superiors about the Colloquium on the *Charter of Charity* to be held at Our Lady of Dallas, 16-19 July 2019. The observance of the 900th Anniversary of the *Carta Caritatis* is not only a celebration but also a commemoration that opens a path to a future that depends on how we live the present. The colloquium will explore the historical origins and intentions of the *Carta Caritatis* and its integration in the life of Cistercians of both Orders in the challenges of the 21st century. Participation offers the opportunity for Cistercians to pray, confer and to celebrate our heritage together.

Lumen Christi Institute

Founded in 1997 by Catholic scholars at the University of Chicago, the *Lumen Christi* Institute has as its purpose the formation of scholars informed by the wisdom of the Catholic spiritual, intellectual and cultural heritage. Sometime in 2018 Fr Mark of New Melleray was contacted by Thomas Levergood, Executive Director, with a proposal of collaboration between the Institute and New Melleray Abbey. The purpose of this collaborative effort would be to expose young *Lumen Christi* scholars to the monastic contemplative environment with emphasis on monastic texts. As a way to accomplish this goal, students would be provided an immersion experience in monastic life at New Melleray, or another monastery of monks or nuns, over a few days period. Fr Mark referred the proposal to the vocation team at New Melleray to work out a program with Thomas Levergood and the Institute, which has not been implemented yet.

Great Courses Project

Energized by the very effective series of “Great Courses” videos so popular as a teaching program, Sr. Grace of Mississippi Abbey and Fr. Lawrence of Gethsemani Abbey are proposing something similar as a project which could be a valuable resource for both initial and ongoing formation. The core of the proposal is to capture an electronic glimpse of the scholarship of Cistercian scholars, as well as others, who are still active but may soon be retiring. These presentations would be made available to any monastery who wishes to use them.

The superiors found the proposal a very creative and worthwhile endeavor. In the discussion several ideas surfaced. Perhaps a study sessions format (as in the Great Courses series) would be more effective than the interview format. Another suggestion is to explore the webinar as a possible format. It seems that an initiative such as this should be connected with the work of the Regional Secretary of Formation so that efforts are coordinated and the best use made of our various resources. The superiors encourage the further development of the project in dialog with the Regional Secretary of Formation and ask that it be presented in greater detail at the next Regional Meeting in 2020.

Cistercian Studies Quarterly

Fr Elias reported that, basically, CSQ is doing well. The number of subscribers has increased slightly; and, although still operating at a loss, the annual deficit has been reduced. Since CSQ is now carried by the ATLA database, there is not as great a need for backorders as before. ATLA has now received all of the CSQ issues, dating back to the first and are in the process of digitizing them. Because ATLA treats the region as a library that is a subscriber, the region has password access to the CSQ database.

There have been some personnel changes in the past year. Fr Stephen Muller has resigned his position as assistant editor in charge of layout, and Fr Elias has graciously stepped in. After seven years of service, Br Paul Andrew Tanner of New Mellerary has asked to be relieved of his position as book review editor; Sr Claire Boutin of Redwoods is succeeding him beginning next issue. Marsha Dutton has agreed to the position of Associate Editor; her place on the board of directors has been filled by Tim Vivian. The one constant has been Fr Jerome Machar of Genesee, whose careful stewardship of the accounting process has been invaluable.

In the estimation of the editor, Fr Lawrence of Gethsemani, the main reason that the journal is flourishing is the high quality of submissions. In the past year CSQ has published articles by accomplished scholars as well as by first time contributors. As editor, Fr Lawrence encourages more monks and nuns to write, and not only scholarly articles but also those that reflect their lived experience as monastics. He sees this as fulfilling the mandate of the journal as a place where academic and monastic writing meet.

Cistercian Publications

The members of the CP Corporation are the OCSO Superiors of the US Region. The Board of Directors is elected by the members of the corporation. Historically, the CP Board has included four superiors in order to maintain a majority in any voting by the Board. Otherwise, the membership of the Board and which members have voting rights have varied over the years. Presently, there are seven Board Members with voting rights: the four superiors, the Executive Editor of CP, and two at-large

members, ordinarily one representing scholarship and the other, the publishing industry. The Board also includes a non-voting representative from LP.

Proposed Changes in CP Bylaws – Since the bylaws were last revised in 2008, several developments indicate the need to readjust bylaws.

- The membership of the corporation has been reduced by two superiors—those of Holy Trinity Abbey and Our Lady of the Assumption Abbey.
- Sometimes it has been difficult for four superiors to attend the Board meeting, and in recent years, LP has had only one representative present.
- There have been occasional tensions among Board members, particularly when at-large members look at CP from the perspective of market-driven publishing models.
- Two current Board members are no longer eligible to serve – Fr Brendan, President, who is now serving in another region and Fr Stan, Treasurer, who has ended his term as abbot.

A majority vote of the Members of the Corporation (Regional Superiors) is required to make revisions to the CP bylaws. The following revisions are proposed:

- The CP Corporation will consist of 15 members (Holy Trinity and Ava no longer members).
- The CP Board of Directors are:
 - Voting Members – the board consist of 7 voting members that must include 4 Cistercians, of whom at least 2 need to be superiors.
 - The President of the Board must be a superior.
 - Non-voting Members – at least one representative of Liturgical Press is required.
- Term in office – all elected members of the Board have a 3 year term.
- If the above changes to the bylaws are approved, the current Board is dissolved and a new Board is elected.

These proposed changes were accepted unanimously and the superiors proceeded to elect a new Board. The 2 OCSO superiors elected are Fr Elias (President) and Fr Gerard (Treasurer); the two additional Cistercians (who, according to the revised bylaws, are not required to be members of the Corporation or Regional Superiors) are Fr Brendan Freeman and Fr Lawrence Morey. Completing the 7 voting members of the Board are Marsha Dutton (Executive Editor), Christopher Bellitto, representing the publishing field, and Tyler Sergent, scholarship.

The superiors elected 3 new superiors to the Corporation: Fr Joseph of Mepkin, Fr Charles of Snowmass and M Sofia of Wrentham.

Monastic Business Association (MBA)

The MBA attorney, Scott Duval, has the responsibility of protecting our industries by identifying illegal uses of our trademarks. Examples of registered trademarks are Trappist Caskets, Trappist Preserves, etc. For several years he has been recommending by the monasteries in the US Region. A certification mark would provide stronger protection against the establishment by the MBA of a certification mark for the variety of products produced misuse of our name. In a letter of May 2017 Scott Duval explained the following:

Trappist and *Trappistine* are **collective memberships marks** indicating **membership in the Order [O.C.S.O.]**. A **certification mark** indicates that the goods on which the mark appears **satisfy the particular criteria to which the owner of the mark attests**. A **trademark** is used by the **owner of the trademark on goods produced by the owner**,

whereas a *certification mark* is attested by the owner to be used on goods produced by someone else who fulfills the particular criteria.

The superiors request the MBA to investigate the possibility of a certification mark for products of our region and to present the results of their investigation at the next regional meeting.

Regional Health Care Plan and Catastrophe Fund

This is a type of ‘self-insurance’ plan for the houses of our Region who choose to participate. It is based on a point system according to each community’s membership, ages, other health insurance and covered medical expenses – and based on these, each community has a deductible. Expenses beyond this deductible are eligible for reimbursement by the plan if the community wishes to make a claim. In practice claims are seldom made. The Catastrophe Fund is for extraordinary medical expenses that would go beyond the ability of any individual house in the Region to cover. The Fund is prudently invested, with each community who participates, who made an initial investment, having a certain share. It has not been drawn upon since its beginning, so has grown considerably over the years. Presently it is over \$1,100,000. It is possible for any participating community to withdraw from it at any time. At present we are simply letting the capital grow.

Mepkin personnel have been administering the Health Plan and the Fund for a number of years, but can no longer do so. Holy Spirit Monastery, Abbey, will now take over the administration.

EVALUATION OF THIS REGIONAL MEETING

The meeting came smoothly to conclusion with heartfelt expressions of gratitude not only for the skillful organization of the work but also for the gracious hospitality of the Mepkin community and the bonds of friendship shared among the superiors.

We were warmly welcomed into the life of the Mepkin community and immediately made to feel at home. The breathtaking beauty of the monastery grounds, the prayerful Liturgy, and the delicious and delightful meals nourished us on all levels. Fr Joe, the ultimate pastor, and his community were omnipresent and ever ready to meet our every need with good cheer and efficiency.

The President of the Region, Fr Elias, and the two Moderators, Fr Gerard and M Vicki, were thanked for their openness, organizational skills, and teamwork that kept this and previous meetings moving at a calm, smooth pace. Several participants commented that although the agenda was full and some of the issues complex, nothing seemed overly rushed. The complexity worked itself out with the help of the expertise and experience present in the group, and through conversation that was open to questions and a willingness to step back and explain. As one person commented, he is always amazed how everyone is heard. Several articulated appreciation for the willingness of people to be vulnerable. Delegates present also expressed wonder at the way things worked themselves out through the open, friendly way the superiors worked together.

The three new superiors voiced their appreciation for their warm welcome into this gathering of friends; and vice-versa, their presence was acknowledged with thanksgiving for a “new generation of superiors.”

Participants thanked the Vote Formulators for their diligence and hard work that lent a good deal of ease and efficiency to the voting process. Likewise, the secretaries were thanked for their hard work and long hours. Sr Barbara of Crozet was especially thanked for her amazing expertise in keeping things running behind the scene through many years of meetings.

The prior work of the Law Commission greatly aided the superiors in the challenging issues that they grappled with related to *Cor Orans*, Constitution 67 and the Statute on the Accompaniment of Fragile Communities. Concern about the fragility of communities and of the Order was a thread that connected the deliberations of this meeting. At the conclusion of the meeting, one superior invited us to take an imaginary walk into the future. What would a commission for the future of the Region look like?

We return to our communities renewed in faith, hope and love by this experience of the Charter of Charity, to gather again next year at the Abbey of the Genesee.

APPENDIX

Delegate report to the Superiors on Digital Communications, February 2019

Our impressions of : --what we heard presented
--the outline of further work by the Williams Group

Impressions regarding Sue Schuttinger's work with social media and regional website.

- The group expressed that they are grateful and pleased with what Sue is doing: establishing and maintaining a presence for the region on social media, and networking and creating lists of contacts. She is doing necessary work we are not able to do.
- Questions/thoughts raised:
 - Does her age make her less able to fulfil the role since we think we are targeting millennials? Should we find someone younger to do her work? Ex: a millennial to reach millennials?
 - She is very happy, enthusiastic, and energized about the work. Can we keep her and find someone younger as well? Perhaps someone who works with university or college students.
 - Are some social media sites better/more useful than others? Should she focus her time better on some sites and not doing them all?
- Appreciation was expressed for the new regional website and the work gone into it thus far. It will continue to need some professional support (even if we do not go with the Wg.)

We need visibility to attract vocations; the website and social media are both important tools for this.

Regarding the Williams Group project scope outline.

There is a lack of clarity on the purpose of our work with the Williams Group. Is it for vocational promotion? Or for marketing/evangelization (i.e. letting people know we exist)? We need to clarify the issue amongst ourselves of vocational promotion or evangelization so that our strategic planning can be more focused.

The delegates seemed to agree that the new Williams Group proposal is primarily marketing, and not directly vocational promotion. Further comments are in light of this distinction.

- Thoughts in favor of the Wg project scope outline:
 - Marketing is not bad, per se. Evangelization is a good thing and even if it is not purposely vocational, it can still attract vocations
 - The price that Wg is proposing, even at highest estimate, would be only \$2,500 per community, which is quite reasonable in the marketing world.
 - We have already started with the Wg; they are already familiar with us and have worked with us. If we do want to go with marketing it wouldn't make sense to start over with someone else.
- Thoughts not in favor of the Wg project scope outline:

- Because of our lack of clarity and focus between marketing or vocational promotion, the Wg may not be the right people for us to work with.
- There has been some dissatisfaction with the work that the Wg has already done, especially considering the cost involved.
- Most real vocations come from personal contact. It could be more fruitful to concentrate our efforts and resources on making contacts through LinkedIn (one of the social media endeavors Sue is pursuing), Newman centers, and the like. We could better spend the money on more direct vocational promotion.

Alternative possibilities:

- Identify key themes and core messages ourselves (this is Wg phase one of the new proposal) and *then* engage Wg or someone else to help us with images/wording/presentation.
- The previous ad hoc committee that worked with the Wg has dissolved since that work has ended. Another committee could be appointed to continue the work of regional vocational promotion in whatever form we decide to take (Wg or on our own).

Other general points to be noted:

- It is good to have more than one “iron in the fire” or approaches for vocational promotion.
- Perhaps there could be a regional vocation director as there is a regional secretary for formation?
- Sue already worked for Vina with their vocational promotion before the region hired her. Are there other people that work with our monasteries that could help with aspects of marketing/promotion/support that we could utilize rather than Wg.
- It is important to use pictures showing people of different races when we can. Suggestion also to have vocation materials in other languages (especially Spanish). These can help potential candidates from other ethnic backgrounds feel welcomed, even if English is the only language spoken in the monastery.

WE, OURSELVES, living happy and faithful monastic lives, are most important for both vocational promotion and evangelization.

U.S. REGIONAL STATUTE

(Approved at Regional Meeting 2014 – modified and approved at 2017 and 2019 Meetings)

01. US REGION is the official name. The Region is composed of both monks and nuns.

(Constitution 81; Regional Meeting 1996)

02. Regional Meetings:

- A. At least one meeting is held during a General Chapter. Two Regional Meetings are held between General Chapters: the second one, immediately preceding the General Chapter, may be attended by delegates from the communities.
- B. The first meeting after a General Chapter prepares for the Central Commission
- C. There may be meetings for pastoral sharing.
- D. Parliamentary law is followed during the Regional Meeting.
- E. Superiors and delegates have a right to vote if the nature of the vote does not restrict this right to the Superiors.

03. President of the Region is elected by the superiors present at the first Regional Meeting after a General Chapter. The responsibilities are:

- A. Presiding at Regional Meetings.
- B. Coordinating and moderating Regional Meetings using the help of two assistant moderators if the Regional Meeting opts for these assistants.
- C. Preparing an agenda and circulating it with other necessary information to the superiors.
- D. Inviting a Canadian observer and other persons who are asked to attend.
- E. Providing for secretaries for the Regional Meetings.
- F. Calling mini-meetings when these are required.
- G. Dividing the expenses of a Regional Meeting according to the percentage basis.

04. Regional Personnel:

- A. At the end of each Regional Meeting, two assistant moderators are elected for the following Regional Meeting. They form a coordinating committee with the President.
- B. One Regional Delegate for the General Chapter is elected at the Regional Meeting which occurs in the year of the General Chapter. Eligible for the Regional Delegate to the Chapter are those monk and nun delegates present at the Regional Meeting. Electors are the superiors and delegates present. All of these electors (monks and nuns) vote for a single delegate, a monk or a nun.
- C. The Regional Secretary of Formation is elected by superiors and delegates at the Regional Meeting which occurs in the year of the General Chapter. He or she chooses an assistant. The secretary's responsibilities are given in #71, Guidelines on Formation.
- D. When the US Region sponsors CSQ, the editor is elected by the US Regional Meeting, by superiors and delegates. The editor's term of office is six years. If a new editor must be named between meetings, the Regional President makes a temporary appointment until the next Regional Meeting. The US Regional Meeting will also elect three Directors whose task is to promote CSQ, to provide counsel to the editor, and to advise the region about its choice of editors. The financial and administrative matters of CSQ are overseen by the Board of Directors of Cistercian Studies Quarterly, Inc., a board that consists of a President (the editor), a Vice President, a Treasurer (i.e. the administrator of CSQ's current

business, who may be an employee), and a Secretary (a monk or nun of the Region capable of monitoring the corporation and its finances). If the sponsorship of CSQ passes to another region, these provisions cease to apply.

- E. Cistercian Publications: Members of this Corporation are the superiors of each community. New superiors must be voted in at a Regional Meeting. Meetings of the Corporation are held during a Regional Meeting.
- F. A member for the Central Commissions and an alternate are elected at a Regional Meeting during the General Chapter.
- G. Monastic Business Association officials are elected at a Regional Meeting.
- H. Regional Health Plan has an administrator and a substitute elected by the Region.

05. Regional Expenses, shared and pro-rated by the communities, are:

- A. The Regional Delegate to General Chapter
- B. Secretaries for Regional Meetings.
- C. Abbot General if he attends a Regional Meeting, and his secretary, but only room and board.
- D. English Speaking Member of the Permanent Council if she/he is present, but only room and board.
- E. Visitors officially invited.
- F. The schedule for pro-rating is:
 - 9% Gethsemani, New Melleray, Spencer, Genesee

 - 6.5% Conyers, Guadalupe, Wrentham, Berryville, Vina, Mepkin, Snowmass, Mississippi

 - 4% Redwoods, Santa Rita, Crozet.
- G. The *per diem* amount for meetings at monasteries in our Region is \$60.00 (voted upon and approved at the 2019 Regional Meeting).

Wednesday Evening, 6:30: Welcome – Fr Joe;
Intro of new members; selection of Vote Formulators &
Readers of Minutes; *per diem*; Information for Delegates

REGIONAL MEETING, FEBRUARY 20-27

MEPKIN

THURSDAY, 21st	FRIDAY, 22nd	SATURDAY, 23rd	SUNDAY, 24th 7:30-9:30	MONDAY, 25th	TUESDAY, 26th
FR ELIAS Regional Secretary of Formation – Report (Br Cassian) Regional Website – Report (Br Christopher)	FR ELIAS <i>Cor Orans</i> , cont'd	FR GERARD CST 67 (M Kathy of Redwoods & Fr Paul Mark)	M VICKI <i>Lumen Christi</i> (Fr Mark) CSQ (Fr Elias) MBA (Fr Mark) CP (M Rebecca & Fr Elias)	M VICKI CP cont'd Regional Health Plan (Fr Joseph of Mepkin) Common Fund (Fr Gerard)	FR ELIAS Elect Regional Form Sec GC Vote 64 (Personnel) Delegates' Report Great Courses Evaluation of GC, cont'd
Morning Break 10:15-10:45	Morning Break 10:15-10:45	Morning Break 10:15-10:45	End 9:30	Morning Break 10:15-10:45	Morning Break 10:15-10:45
Presentation by Sue Schuttinger, Digital Communications Manager	Nominations for Secretary of Formation Evaluation of General Chapter (Fr Gerard)	CST 67, cont'd Question from Sue Schuttinger to Superiors Great Courses Project	X	Presentation of Votes	Vote Presentation of votes on GC and Delegates
Sext and Dinner	Sext and Dinner	Sext and Dinner		Sext and Dinner	Sext and Dinner
FR GERARD Fr Peter Verhalen, O.Cist. Fr Timothy, Generalate	M VICKI Preparation for Election of Abbot General (Fr Damian) Fr Clément	<i>Cor Orans</i> , cont'd Private Mtg of Superiors Separate Mtg of Delegates		Morning, cont'd Private Mtg of Superiors Separate Mtg of Delegates	Vote – GC & Delegates Nominations & selection of Delegates Nomination for Regional President & Moderators Place and date of next Regional Meeting
Afternoon Break 3:15-3:45	Afternoon Break 3:15-3:45	Afternoon Break 3:15-3:45		Afternoon Break 3:15-3:45	Afternoon Break 3:15-3:45
<i>Cor Orans</i> Presentation (M Kathy of Redwoods and M Rebecca)	Delegates to Regional Mtg and General Chapter (M Kathy of Crozet)	Meetings, cont'd		Mtg. of Superiors, cont'd	Vote - Regional President and Moderators Evaluation of this meeting

