



Central Secretariat for Formation - OCSO  
 Monasterio Nuestra Señora de los Angeles, March 2020.

## Newsletter 24

*To the Superiors, the Regional Secretaries of the OCSO and to the brothers and sisters interested in formation*

The Generalate organized and sponsored another **formation course for the new superiors** of the Order. It took place on 7<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> November 2019 at the Marist Brothers Generalate which is in the neighborhood of ours, only a five minutes' walk away.

Superiors who have been elected or nominated since the last time a similar course was held in 2016 were invited to Rome to participate in the program.

Name	Monastery	Nº.	Country
D. Bernard	Bricquebec	10	France
D. Damien	Scourmont	20	Belgium
D. Emanuele	Tre Fontane	25	Italy
D. Guido	Zundert	45	Netherlands
M. Marie-Josée	Baumgarten	04*	France
M. Pascale	Arnhem	26*	Netherlands
M. Maria Francesca	Valserena	43*	Italy
M. Brigitte	Tautra	67*	Norway
D. Malachy	Roscrea	29	Ireland
D. Innocent	Calvaire	48	Canada
D. Augustine	Conyers	57	USA
D. Matthew	Awhum	85	Nigeria
D. Sevanand	Kurisumala	96	India
D. Benedict	Nsugbe	100	Nigeria
M. Sofia	Wrentham	27*	USA
M. Regina	Abakaliki	54*	Nigeria
M. Kathy	Crozet	58*	USA
D. Jose Antonio	San Isidro	41	Spain
D. Santiago María	Azul	76	Argentine
D. F. Javier	Las Escalonias	92	Spain
M. Maria Victoria	Tulebras	38*	Spain
M. Maria Fabiana	Juigalpa	68*	Nicaragua
M. Yacqueline	Sevilla (Las Huelgas)		Spain
M. M. Raphaela	Imari	32*	Japan
M. Scholastica	Nasu	35*	Japan
M. Gertrude	Ajimu	53*	Japan



All together twenty-four of them were present, unfortunately a number of new superiors did not manage to come due to the needs of their own communities.

The design of the course is based on the structure of our Constitutions, and emphasis was put on the practical aspects. Experienced abbesses and abbots of our Order made presentations on various themes, such as *Situation of the Order*, *Formation*, *Service of Authority*, *Consultation of Community*, *Father Immediate*, *Temporal Administration*, and so on. This time two special themes were added, namely *Sexual Abuse*, *Liberty of Conscience*.

\* *Situation of the Order*

- Light and Shadow: D. Eamon, General Abbot
- Challenges and Signs of the Time: D. Bernardus [Tilburg]

\* *Formation*

- Spiritual Accompaniment and Spiritual Discernment: D. Bernardo [Azul]
- Formation and Christian Humanism: M. Giovanna [Matutum]
- Accompaniment in Life Crisis: D. Isidoro [Huerta]

\* *Legislative texts, General Chapter and Central Commission*  
M. Danièle [Generalate]

\* *Service of authority*

D. Bernardo [Azul]

\* *Election and Resignation*

D. Juan José [Generalate]

\* *Consultation of Community, Conventual Chapter and Council*

D. Bernardus [Tilburg]

\* *Pastoral care*

D. Isidoro [Huerta]

\* *Father Immediate and Regular Visitation*

D. Timothy [Generalate]

\* *Temporal Administration*

D. Armand [Scourmont]

\* *Sexual Abuse*

D. Richard [Mt. Melleray]

\* *Liberty of Conscience*

D. Juan José [Generalate]



Once again, there was the valuable collaboration of the interpreters: f. William (Spencer), f. Godefroy (Aiguebelle), br. Ricardo (Jacona), f. Raphael (Cîteaux), br. Gregory (Gethsemani), f. Simeon (Generalate), F. David (Spencer/Nasu).

The papers related to *Formation*, by Dom Bernardo (only in Spanish) and Dom Isidoro, can be found in the attached files.



A day trip to Subiaco and Montecassino was also arranged during the 10-day program. On the whole, the course received quite a positive feedback from the participating superiors. They appreciated very much the sharing of wisdom from their seniors, finding the content very helpful to their pastoral ministry. Besides, they also enjoyed the special time to be together, building up a fraternal support among themselves.



We thank D. Athanasius and Sr. Marilucía of the Generalate for the information they provided for this Newsletter.

## RE

During the days 2-6 December 2019, the course on "***Basic care for people in situations of dependency***" took place at the San Rafael Hospital of the Hospital Brothers of St. John of God, in Granada. This course was held only for the RE monasteries; ten people from the communities of Alloz, Armenteira, Huerta, Viaceli and Zenarruza attended, as well as two sisters and three workers from the Monte Sión Welfare monastery.

We were accommodated in the premises of the hostelry, reserved for the brothers of the Order, being able to share with their community, the prayer of Lauds and meals. The Eucharist was in the afternoon at 7:30 pm in the Basilica of San Juan de Dios. The schedule was distributed in tutored practical classes (20 hours) in the different care units: palliative care plant, automatic breathing and long-term hospitalization; and theoretical classes (5 hours) taught by professionals from the center. There was also time to explore Spanish culture and history, in a city as emblematic as Granada and to learn more about the charism of St. John of God. We visited the historical archives of the Order and the place where the saint died.



The content of the course was very varied, from "learning to care when you can no longer be cured" because the medication is no longer effective, to learning how to make hospital beds, shroud a corpse, cleaning totally dependent people, etc. All This is very useful and practical, given the precariousness of our communities.

We thank the Brothers of St. John of God for their great generosity and for all the facilities to carry out these quality hospital days and for the RE for having made this much-needed practical training possible in our day.

Sr. Paula Téllez González (Armenteira) and  
Bro. Abdón Rodríguez Hervás (Zenarruza),  
members of the RE Formation Secretariat