

## CHRONICLE OF THE GENERAL CHAPTER SESSION 2, SEPTEMBER 2022

### Third week, September 18 to 23

You will understand that this brief chronicle can only be a summary of a very busy and rich week, lived by the capitulants.

During this week, we were visited by Dom Mauro Lepori, Abbot General of O.Cist and Mother Noëlla Ghijs, Prioress General of the Bernardines of Oudenaarde. They were invited to participate in a round table discussion, in which Dom Bernardus also participated. We welcomed by Zoom, Father Mauricio Tavella, Central Secretary for Formation.

The work done in the commissions on the houses of the Order and on particular topics comes back to the plenary assembly to be listened to, discussed and, in many cases, voted on. I will spare you all these decisions, but I will give you the most significant ones.

Many votes were taken on modifications or requests for dispensations for our nuns, on the document *Cor Orans*. The important work done by the Law Commission must be emphasized. It remains to present everything to the Congregation for Religious for approval. We have also taken an orientation on how to approach the question of abuse and the protection of minors and fragile persons in the Order.

The liturgical commission has been re-established in the Order. It will consist of 2 persons and will have to collaborate closely with the O.Cist Commission.

It should be noted that the Canadian region becomes a sub-region of the NEC. Two communities of the Order have been closed: Les Neiges and Snowmass. If some communities end their life, others take on new life. The communities of Abakaliki and Nsugbe in Nigeria, Mokoto in the Congo and Esmeraldas in Ecuador were elevated to the rank of Abbey. The foundation of Paraiso, also in Ecuador, acquires its autonomy by becoming a Simple Priory. Finally, the pre-foundation of Citeaux became a foundation.

On the last day of this General Chapter, it was fitting that the Eucharist was celebrated by the Abbot General, Dom Bernardus. He was assisted by his two predecessors, Dom Eamon and Dom Bernardo.

Before Dom Bernardus spoke a word of wisdom and closed the General Chapter 2022, we decided that the next Chapter would also take place in Assisi in 2025. It seems that the members of the Order particularly appreciate the hospitality of St. Francis.