

Prot. N° 02/BI/21
Curia Generalizia

INFORMATION BULLETIN – N° 196

L'Étoile N.-D.

On July 10, 2021, at the end of the mandate of Mother Geneviève Akakpo, the community of L'Étoile N.-D. (Benin) elected as Abbess **Sister Elisabeth Marie Samati** for a six-years term.

Mother Elisabeth Marie was born in 1967 in Afagnan-Gbléta (Benin). She entered L'Étoile N.-D. in 1988 and made her solemn profession in 1995. At the time of her election, she was Prioress and Hotelliere of the community.

Ordo 2021-2022

A copy of the **Latin Ordo for 2021-2022** is now available on the website, and can be downloaded in PDF format: « Resources/Liturgy/Ordo »

Thanks to Fr. Justin of Genesee!

Mont des Cats

Dom Marc-André Di Péa, Abbot of Sainte-Marie-du-Mont Abbey (Mont des Cats, Archdiocese of Lille, France) since 2016, having reached the age of retirement mentioned in ST 40.A of the Constitutions, presented his resignation to the Abbot General. With the consent of his Council, the Abbot General accepted the resignation which became effective on August 30, 2021.

On the same day, Dom Ginepro Riva, Abbot of Tamié (France) and Father Immediate of Sainte-Marie-du-Mont Abbey, appointed **Father Bernard-Marie van Caloen** as Superior ad nutum of Sainte-Marie-du-Mont Abbey.

Dom Bernard-Marie was born in 1953 in Loppem (Belgium). He entered Sainte-Marie-du-Mont Abbey in 1978, made his solemn profession in 1986 and was ordained a priest in 2000. At the time of his appointment he was Prior of the Community.

Cîteaux

Dom Olivier Quenardel, Abbot of N.-D. de Cîteaux (Diocese of Dijon, France) since 1993, having reached the age of retirement mentioned in ST 40.A of the Constitutions, presented his resignation to the Abbot General. With the consent of his Council, the Abbot General accepted the resignation.

On September 15, 2021, the community of Cîteaux elected as Abbot for an indefinite term, **Dom Pierre-André Burton**.

Dom Pierre-André was born in 1963 in Salzennes (Belgium). He entered Scourmont in 1987, made his solemn profession in 1992, went to Désert in 1996 and made stability there in 1999. He was ordained priest in 2003. He had been Abbot of Abbaye Sainte-Marie du Désert from 2013 until its closure in 2020.

Bamenda Abbey

In addition to living in a war-zone for four years, the Region where Bamenda Abbey is located in Cameroon has a high infection rate of Corona Virus. The Region is quarantined. Eleven of the twenty-five monks of Bamenda have tested positive for the virus with varying symptoms. One Brother had to be admitted to the hospital because of congested breathing.

Please, in your prayers, remember the Brothers of Bamenda and the Region worn out by violence and the innumerable persons in the area who suffer from war and now are burdened with the virus.

Dom Timothy Kelly
Pontifical Commissary of Bamenda Abbey

Armenteira

On November 9, 2021, **Mother Ana Carmen Moneo Castel-Ruíz** completed her second term of six years as Prioress of the Monastery of Armenteira (Archdiocese of Santiago de Compostela, Spain). On the same day, she was re-elected Prioress of the Community for an indefinite term.

Review Cistercium

After thirty years of service as Director of CISTERCIUM, the Father Francisco Rafael Pascual, from Viaceli, and the group of present directors, have given the directorship to a new group. Attached are new emails addresses for those who want to contact.

We hope that the Review will continue to provide the Order and the Church with the service of informing, teaching and diffusing the Cistercian patrimony.

Antonio García Flores: direccion@cistercium.es (Dirección general)
Joaquín López Serra: redaccion@cistercium.es (Redacción)
Guillermo J. Imbert Paredes: administracion@cistercium.es (Administración)
Francisco Rafael de Pascual: pacorafa@planalfa.es

Échourgnac

Mother Geneviève-Marie Fontaine, Abbess of Échourgnac (Diocese of Périgueux, France) since 1995, having reached the age of retirement mentioned in ST 40.A of the Constitutions, presented his resignation to the Abbot General. With the consent of his Council, the Abbot General accepted the resignation.

On November 20, 2021, the Community of Échourgnac elected as abbess, for an indefinite term, **Sister Bénédicte Riondet**.

Mother Bénédicte was born in 1967 in Marseille (France), entered Échourgnac in 1993 and made solemn profession in 2000. At the time of her election, she was Prioress of the Community.

Newsletter Formation

The Newsletter n°30 of the Central Secretary for Formation can be obtained from the Internet under the heading "Formation/Newsletter": [Formation/Newsletter](#)

Mount Melleray Abbey

Over the last year allegations were made against **Dom Richard Purcell**, Abbot of Mount Melleray Abbey (Ireland). Because of this the Abbot General asked for a Regular visitation, whose primary object was to establish if there was any substance to the allegations. The Visitation was conducted by Dom Bernardus Peeters, Abbot of Tilburg (The Netherlands) and M. Pascale Fourmentin, Abbess of Arnhem (The Netherlands). The investigation concluded that the allegations were unfounded. However, for personal reason, Dom Richard offered his resignation. Abbot General, having received the consent of his council, accepted the resignation which will become effective on the 25th November, 2021.

Sobrado

Dom Carlos Gutierrez Cuartango completed his third term of six years as Prior of Sobrado (Archdiocese of Santiago de Compostela, Spain) on November 25, 2021. On the same day, **Dom Carlos** was re-elected as Prior of the Community for a new six-year term.

Central Commission 2021

The Abbot General was due to offer his resignation in the General Chapter of 2020. This General Chapter was postponed because of the pandemic.

Now, due to a serious health problem, Dom Eamon wishes to offer his resignation as soon as possible. The Central Commission, meeting in Rome, voted to hold the **2022 General Chapter** in two parts, both at *Domus Pacis*, Assisi : part one, **February 6 – 18**, followed by part two, **September 1 - 24**.

The election of the new Abbot General will take place during the first part of this Chapter, two members of the Abbot General's council will also then be elected and the third member will be chosen by the new Abbot General and his Council.

Daily Office Readings

To assist those who prepare readings for the Liturgy of the Hours, Fr. Justin has sent three PDF files containing the list of Scripture Readings for Vigils, Lauds and Vespers, and Sext for every day of the liturgical year 2021-2022.

These readings can be accessed at the following link:

["Ressources - Liturgy - Cistercian Lectionary"](#)

Colloquium for the 25th anniversary of the martyrdom of the Tibhirine brothers

December 3 - 4, 2021. The "**Colloquium for the 25th anniversary of the martyrdom of the 7 brothers**" will be held at the Pontificio ateneo Sant'Anselmo, Rome, a meeting to deepen the spiritual patrimony of seven brothers martyred in Algeria.

New Melleray

On 1st December 2021, Dom Peter McCarthy, Abbot of Our Lady of Guadalupe Abbey (Diocese of Portland in Oregon, USA) and Delegated Father Immediate of New Melleray, appointed **Dom Brendan Freeman** as Superior *ad nutum* of New Melleray (Archdiocese of Dubuque).

Dom Brendan was Abbot of New Melleray Abbey from 1984 to 2013, Superior *ad nutum* of Holy Trinity Abbey from 2013 to 2017 and Superior *ad nutum* of Mellifont Abbey from 2018 to November 2021.

El Encuentro

Mother María Esther Mares Silva, Abbess of El Encuentro (Diocese of Morelia, Mexico), for reasons of health gave her resignation from the office of Abbess to the Abbot General (Cst 40). The Abbot General with the consent of his Council accepted the resignation.

On 20 December 2021, Dom Santiago María Ríos, Abbot of Nuestra Señora de los Ángeles - Azul (Diocese of Azul, Argentina) and Father Immediate of El Encuentro, appointed **Mother Cecilia Grageda Vázquez** as Superior *ad nutum* of El Encuentro.

Mother Cecilia was born in Guadalajara (México) in 1960. She entered El Encuentro in 1990, made her solemn vows in 1996. At the time of her appointment, she was Subprioress of the Community.
