

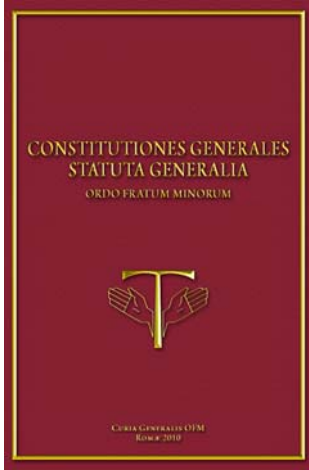


# FRATERNITAS

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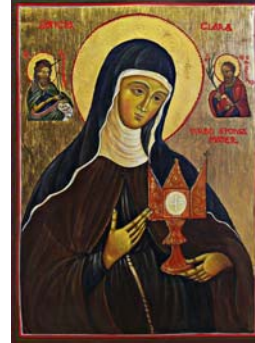
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## OFM Rule, General Constitutions and Statutes



**M**ay Mary, the mother of mercy and advocate of the poor, who obtained for her servant, our Father Francis, the privilege to “conceive and give birth to the spirit of gospel truth” (St. Bonaventure, Major Legend, 111,1), strengthen the renewed will of the Order to persevere faithfully in the same spirit. May she help us to make progress in the observance of the Holy Gospel and to serve the world, the Church and the Kingdom! To download the latest version available since March 19, 2010, [Click here](#).

## Sollemnitatis Sanctae Clarae Assisiensis



“The Word of God was, without a doubt, the main source of the prayer of both the Little Poor Man of Assisi and his Little Plant, St.

Clare. The Psalms and the biblical songs inspired and nourished their prayer so much that we can easily say that they both embodied the very figure of the *Suffering Servant of Yahweh* in all its dimension, such as placing full trust in the Lord and immersing oneself in praise and adoration. In the same way, if we want the Word to be enfolded in our day-to-day existence, then the practice of the *prayerful reading of the Word* – so recommended by the Church today – must be habitual in our fraternities. We have still miles to go in this area”  
(From the Letter of the Minister General on the Feast of St. Clare 2010).

## 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Province of the Immaculate Conception in USA

**O**n June 23, 2010, the Province of the Immaculate Conception of the United States celebrated in New York City 100 years as a Province (1910-2010). The festivity took place in the Mother Church of St. Anthony on the corner of West Houston and Sullivan Street. Built in 1866 and dedicated in 1888, St. Anthony's Church was the place of worship for Italian immigrants for decades including St. Francis Xavier Cabrini (aka Mother Cabrini) who taught catechism there. The celebration consisted in a Solemn Mass presided over by the Minister General Br. Jose Carballo, OFM, flanked by Definitor General Br. Francis Walter, OFM, and Provincial Minister Br. Robert Campagna, OFM. Also present was Honduran Cardinal Oscar Andrés

Rodríguez Maradiaga (*affiliated to the Province*), Bishop Maurus Muldoon, OFM, Bishop Robert Camilleri, OFM, 5 Provincial Ministers from the English Speaking Conference, a good number of Friars of the Province, many women religious, and lay faithful and benefactors. The Eucharistic liturgy was followed by a gourmet catered dinner during which Archbishop of NY Timothy Dolan stopped by to congratulate the Friars for their service to both the Church and Society.



## Chapter of Mats for Houses Dependent on the Minister General

**T**he Minister General along with his General Definitory has convoked in Rome the Chapter of Mats for all Houses dependent on him to gather at the *Fraterna Domus* from **Nov. 26-28, 2010**. The theme of the Chapter will be *Our Gospel Witness at the Service of the Order* and its motto *The Gospel: to live-share-witness*. The main goal of the Chapter is to get to know one another; discuss the resources and projects of each

community; share the life and mission of the Friars; and strengthen ties between fraternities. The Chapter will seek to deepen its harmony with the entire Order in the area of evangelizing mission in light of the General Chapter of 2009. All the Guardians of houses dependent on the Minister General are requested to advise their brothers about this event and to encourage a lively participation in it. For more information click here on [programme](#).

## Agenda of the Minister General

- **01-02 August:** Feast of Holy Mary of the Angels at the Porziuncula and meeting with the youth of the Franciscan March in Assisi.
- **05-10 August:** Visit to the Custody of Paraguay and meeting with UCLAF.
- **06-16 September:** General Definitorial Meeting (Rome).
- **17 September:** Celebration of the Stigmata of St. Francis (Verna).
- **22 September:** Participating in the Chapter of the Foundation of Blessed Giles (Palestrina – Istanbul).
- **23-30 September:** Visit to the Province of the Holy Martyrs of both Japan and Korea.

## General Curia OFM: Website of the Month Posted by [www.siticattolici.it](http://www.siticattolici.it)



Looking at the homepage of the new website of the Order of Friars Minor, one can notice that it seeks to bring together:

- Tradition and Innovation. Franciscan symbols and Latin expressions are inserted in a context of modern graphic for the website mingled with shading, transparency, and reliefs.
- Past and Present. There is the possibility of accessing both old and new websites with the latter being updated in 2010.
- A Culture of Different Languages. The Latin language is used next to the Italian, Spanish, and English languages. All three modern languages

enable our visitors to browse the website in the language of their choice.

The main page allows the visitor to browse about twenty articles regarding the Franciscan Order. There are news from all over the world and are often accompanied by in-depth documents or multimedia illustrative materials. Much of the space along the sides of the main page is dedicated to the research of current humanitarian outreach expressed through colored banners and a sliding photo gallery, showing the direct help the Friars Minor offer to the poor and the needy. As expected, there is information on the life and works of St. Francis, the Curia Staff and its offices. Also, the website is created to be visual even on i-phone, thus showing the Orders continuous effort to be updated and keep up with the times.

## Belgium – The Missionary Fraternity of Brussels has been Renewed

During the last meeting, the General Definitory appointed a new team for the International Fraternity of *Notre-Dame des Nations* in Brussels. The new Guardian is Br. Didier Van Hecke, OFM, of the Province of the Three Companions in both Belgium/France and Gianfrancesco Sisto, OFM, of the Province of St. Michael the Archangel of Foggia, Italy, with the latter being a missionary in Nairobi. Both missionaries are now in-charge of the formation of future missionaries, of missionaries on sabbatical, the laity, and youth who may be interested in mission *ad gentes*. The other two Friars, Br. Jean Nguyen Hung Lân and Br. Benjamin Kabongo Ngeleka, already members of the fraternity, will also be assisting in the missionary formation in addition to their work in the Parish of *Notre-Dame des Nations*.

The next course of formation for future missionaries will take place from Aug. 30 – Nov. 27, 2010. Already about 10 Friars from the Capuchins, Conventuals, and Minors have enrolled in the course. We are

grateful to the following Friars for their excellent service and work of evangelizing mission of the Order: Br. Jean-François Nguyen Gia Think of the Province of St. Francis in Vietnam, Br. Damien Isabell, of the Province of St. Benedict the African of Democratic Republic of Congo, and Br. Benoît-Michel Amoussou, of the Province of the Incarnate Word in Togo. All of them have finished their assignment in the fraternity of *Notre-Dame des Nations* of Brussels and will be returning to their respective Provinces.

### New Visitors General

- **Br. Andrew Brophy**, of the Province of the Assumption of the BVM in the USA, was appointed Visitor General of the Province of Ireland.
- **Br. Aldo la Neve**, of the Roman Province of Sts. Peter and Paul in Italy, was appointed Visitor General of the Picene Province of St. James of the Marches in Italy.
- **Br. Fred Dijkmans**, of the Province of the Holy Martyrs of Gorkum in

## New Franciscan bishop



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**Marko Semren**, O.F.M., of the Province of the Holy Cross of Bosnia Herzegovina, current Guardian of the Franciscan convent of Gorica-Livno of the same country, and professor of the Franciscan Theological Institute of Sarajevo, as Auxiliary of the Diocese of Banja Luka (area 16,457, population 550,000, Catholics 37,797, priests 68, religious 136), always in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The bishop-elect was born in Bila, Bosnia Herzegovina in 1954, made his solemn vows with the Friars Minor in 1980, and ordained a priest in 1981.

Holland, was appointed Visitor General of the Autonomous Custody of St. Francis, Herald of Peace, in India.

► **Br. Marko Mrše**, of the Province of the Most Holy Redeemer in Croatia, was appointed Visitor General of the Province of Sts. Cyril and Methodius in Croatia.

► **Br. Bruce Michalek**, of the Province of our Lady of Guadalupe in the USA, was appointed Visitor General of the Province of the Sacred Heart in the USA.

► **Br. Patryk Olikh**, of the Province of St. Michael the Archangel in the Ukraine, was appointed Visitor General of the Province of Holy Mary of the Angels in Poland.

► **Br. Ulic Troy**, of the Province of Ireland, was appointed Visitor General of the Province of the Immaculate Conception in England.

► **Br. Fedele Pradella**, of the Piedmontese Province of St. Bonaventure in Italy, was appointed Visitor General of the Province of Sardinia of Holy Mary of Graces in Italy.

► **Br. Manlio di Franco**, of the Salernitan-Lucan Province of the Immaculate Conception in Italy, was appointed Visitor General of the Roman Province of Sts. Peter and Paul in Italy.

## Two New Franciscan Archbishops Receive the *Pallio*

For the feast of Saints Peter and Paul, Pope Benedict XVI conferred the *Pallio* on **Br. Luis Cabrera**, OFM, Archbishop of Cuenca, Ecuador, and a member of the Province of St. Francis of Quito, Ecuador, and to **Br. Jesús Sanz Montes**, OFM, Archbishop of Oviedo, Spain, and a member of the Province of St. Gregory of Castile, Spain. The diocese of Cuenca has currently 84 priests, while that of Oviedo has more than 500. During the Eucharistic Liturgy celebrated in the Basilica of St. Peter, both Archbishops were graced with the presence of the Minister General OFM and some Friars from the General Curia. Later in the evening at

the General Curia, the fraternity prepared a fraternal dinner to celebrate with our bishop brothers the joy of this day. Also present for the occasion was Br. Fabio Duque OFM, Bishop of Armenia, Colombia.



## Franciscan Bookmark

► **B. Ioannis Duns Scoti, Ordinis Fratrum Minorum, OPERA OMNIA.** Studio et Cura Commissionis Scotisticae ad fidem codicum edita, XII, Typis Vaticanis, Civitas Vaticana MMX, pp. 547.

The Scotistic Commission has published vol. XII of the complete works of the Bl. John Duns Scotus; it contains the treatise on the Eucharist, which is considered one of the vastest in-depth studies on the Eucharist for its ancient and medieval times. Neither Bonaventure, nor Thomas of Aquinas, nor any Doctor at the time with the exception of Scotus has delved deeper into this topic when considered one its theological, philosophical, liturgical, juridical, and ascetical depth. To order copies, write to: Friars Publishers of Quaracchi, Via Santa Maria Mediatrix 25, 00165 Rome, Italy; e-mail: [quaracchi@ofm.org](mailto:quaracchi@ofm.org)

► **A Legend in Search of an Author. The Life of St. Clare of Assisi** by Marco Guida, Société des Bollandistes, Brussels 2010.

Through this current study, the author establishes that the *Legenda sanctae Clarae virginis* is the actual work of Thomas of Celano, the most excellent hagiographer of St. Francis of Assisi. Toward the end of the XV century, the Poor Clares Sister Battista Alfani of Perugia was the first to attribute it to Thomas, a hypothesis that has endured to this day. The external proof of Alfani is now confirmed by the internal critical work which the author meticulously does (based on its lexical and stylistic elements) between the

legend, the process, and the letter of canonization of St. Clare and the certain works of Thomas of Celano.

► **Saint Francis and Islam**, Holy Land Publishers – *Taselli* Series, Milan 2009, pp. 48.

This little volume contains a collection of brief chapters presented by Br. Gwenolé Jeusset with summaries of all that he himself wrote in his book, *Saint Francis and the Sultan*, originally in French, but translated into Portuguese, Italian, and Croatian about the meeting of Damietta in 1219. His reflection continues here on “Francis Beyond the Wall” and takes a new look at the Church of the Crusaders. The visit to the Sultan, misunderstood for centuries and now studied in-depth in this era, appears to be one of the most important events handed down to us and, therefore, worthy to be reflected on and offered to the world. The different appendixes of this book show some of the sources of this encounter, plus a reflection by the Minister General, Br. José Rodríguez Carballo.

► **Hacia una nueva comprensión del Noviazgo en la Sociedad Postmoderna. Retos éticos y pastorales** (Toward a New Understanding of the betrothal in the Postmodern Society. Pastoral and Ethical Challenges) by Javier López Cerdán Ed. Espigas y Azucenas, Murcia 2010. (“Theological Institute of Murcia” Publications, Major Series, nº 53). Betrothal today is influenced by post-modernism which has changed the way we understand loving relationships among the youth. For this rea-

## Madrid, Spain – Card Carlos Amigo celebrates 50 Years of Priesthood

Cardinal **Carlos Amigo Vallejo**, OFM, Archbishop Emeritus of Seville, Spain, celebrated his 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of priesthood on June 27, 2010, with the Franciscan Fraternity of the Interprovincial House, “Cardinal Cisneros” of Madrid. It was a happy and festive moment of thanksgiving to the Lord for the abundant gifts bestowed on our fellow brother during his 50 years of priesthood. We thank the Lord for the Cardinal’s generous and exemplary service first to the Province of St. James of Compostela and then, to the Church both as Archbishop of Tangeri in Morocco and Archbishop of Seville, Spain. During the “Fraternal Agape” (recreation), the community donated an icon of the Crucified of San Damiano to the Cardinal, a theological treatise, and a Franciscan Pectoral cross to the Minister General. Why exactly did the celebration happen at the “Cardinal Cisneros” fraternity? Because at the end of his Episcopal mandate, the Cardinal retired in Madrid as part of the age limit policy where he maintains close ties with this fraternity.



son, Br. Javier Lopez Cerdán, a Franciscan of the Province of Carthage-Murcia, Spain, seeks to respond with this book to the most pressing ethical and pastoral issues facing the Church regarding postmodernist thought on betrothal. On the one hand, there is a need for a new ethical-theological discussion on betrothal centered on *love-agape* as a human experience that opens up couples to the divine plan. On the other hand, this text wishes to offer couples engaged to be married a pastoral handbook with *journeys of faith* that favor a real ecclesial *status* and guarantee the presence of Christian Faith in future marriages.

## Great and Small News

### ► 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Priesthood Ordination of Card. Franc Rodé:

Our Minister General was the Preacher at the Holy Mass celebrating the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Priesthood of Franc Card. Rodé on July 3, 2010, in St. Peter's Basilica. Cardinal Rodé is the Prefect of the Congregation for the Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life.

For more information go to: <http://www.ofm.org/ofm/?p=798&lang=it#more-798>

### ► Symposium on St. Clare in Graz, Austria:

In preparation for the celebration of the 800<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the conversion of Clare of Assisi, the fraternity of the Friars Minor of Graz, Austria, will organize from Nov. 12-13, 2010, a symposium, entitled, "Lebendiger Spiegel des Lichtes: Klara von Assisi" ("Living Mirror of Light: Clare of Assisi"). There will be German speaking experts and specialists in attendance, such as Paul Zahner OFM, Martina Kreidler-Kos, Irenäus Toczydlowski OFM, Theresia Heimerl, Niklaus Kuster OFMcap, Johannes Schneider OFM, Oliver Ruggenthaler OFM; they are experts on Clare of Assisi and the medieval reality in which she lived. Also special will be the performance of Gregorian Chant by Graz's Institute of Sacred Music for the feast of St. Clare. It is a chant found in a manuscript of the library of the convent of Friars Minor. For more information click here on the [programme](#).

### ► A Study Day on Francis and the Sultan:

On September 25, 2010, in collaboration with the Franciscan and Medieval School of Higher Learning of the Pontifical University of *Antonianum* of Rome will be organizing a Day of Study on "St. Francis and the Sultan". It will take place in the Hall of Lauds at the Convent of St. Francis in Florence, Italy. For further information go to:

<http://www.ofmtoscana.org/html/san%20francesco%20e%20il%20sultano.html>;

E-mail:

[sssmf@antonianum.eu](mailto:sssmf@antonianum.eu)



► **Mariology Forum:** On the occasion of the 500th anniversary of the apparitions of the Blessed Virgin in Motta di Livenza, Italy, there will be a Mariology Forum organized by the Pontifical International Marian Academy from Sept. 16-19 at the Shrine of our Lady of Miracles. If interested click here on [programme](#)

### ► IV Archivist Internship for those who work with the Archives of Franciscan Families

will take place from Nov. 15-18, 2010, 8:30-12:15 and 15:25-18:50. It will be organized by the Franciscan Medieval School of Higher Learning at the Pontifical University *Antonianum*. It is expected that guided visits will be conducted to places of archivist interest and artistic preservation in the city of Rome. For more information go to: [www.antonianum.eu](http://www.antonianum.eu)

### ► A Week of Franciscanism: The Province of Friars Minor of Sicily invites the Friars and all the members of the Franciscan family to participate at the annual week of Franciscanism from Aug. 30-Sept. 4, 2010 in Palermo-Baida, Italy.

The theme will be "The Rule during the First 100 Years of Franciscan History (XIII-XIV CENTURY). Letters by Pontiffs, the Constitutions, and Commentaries." The presenters will be both Prof. Marco Bartoli and Prof. Peter Maranesi, OFMcap.

For more information contact

[salvoferro@libero.it](mailto:salvoferro@libero.it);  
[www.ofmsicilia.it/](http://www.ofmsicilia.it/)

### ► Appointments and Activities of the Office of "Pro Monialibus":

The office will meet with the Federation of Poor Clare Sisters and the Immaculate Conception of Lima, Peru, from Feb. 8-23 on the theme of "The Contemplative Life". From March 8-16, it will preach the spiritual exercises to the Poor Clares of the Monastery of St. Elizabeth in Cordoba, Spain, while focusing on the theme of "Contemplative Prayer". From April 16-28, meeting in Montalvo, Portugal, with the Federation of the Poor Clare Sisters on the theme of "Authority and Obedience". From May 12-14, there will be a meeting in Rome at the General Curia with the Commission preparing for the II International Congress of Presidents of the Federations of the Order of the Immaculate Conception. The actual Congress itself will

take place in Toledo, Spain, from May 23-29, 2011. The same Commission will come together again from July 6-7 at the Monastery of "St. Joseph of Jesus" of Madrid.

► **North Slavic Conference:** Under the guidance of the Secretary for Formation and Studies of the North Slavic Conference, Br. Witoslaw Szytk, OFM, the Franciscan youth gathered together for the annual course of preparation for solemn profession at the Shrine of Mount St. Anna in Poland. The first part of the meeting lasted a couple of weeks at the level of the Conference; then the second week was managed by the Provinces themselves. This year about 35 young Friars came from 6 Entities, including the Byzantine Foundation of all Franciscan Saints and the Province of St. Michael the Archangel in the Ukraine. The gathering of the Friars included quality time in prayer and meditation, and a retreat day. There was also time for reflections on Franciscan spirituality, the vows, and the theology of religious life. As usual, the first didactic meeting was guided by Br. Sergiusz Baldyga OFM, Vice-Secretary General for Formation and Studies on the theme of interpersonal and fraternal communication.

## New Provincial Ministers

► **Br. Pierbattista Pizzaballa** confirmed as Custos of the Holy Land.

► **Br. Jeremiáš Daniel Kvaka** was elected Minister Provincial of the Province of the Most Holy Savior in Slovakia.

► **Br. Norbert Plogmann** was elected Minister Provincial of the Province of St. Elizabeth in Germany.

► **Br. Gabriel Romero Alamilla** was elected Minister Provincial of the Province of St. Philippe of Jesus in Mexico.

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