FOUR HUNDRED YEARS OF FIDELITY TO ITS CHARISM AND THE NEW EVANGELIZATION
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Meeting of the CEVIM in Fatima

On Monday, April 23rd, the annual meeting of CEVIM (Conference of Visitors of Europe and the Middle East) began at the Miraculous Medal House of the Daughters of Charity, in Fátima, Portugal. The participants gathered together at 8:30am for Morning Prayer which was led by Father Nicola Albanesi, Visitor of the Province of Italy. This meeting was scheduled to continue until the morning of the 26th.

It was noted that this meeting was unique because of the reconfiguration that has occurred in France, Spain, Germany-Austria, Italy and the Province of Holland. The Visitors of Ireland and Hungary were unable to participate in this gathering, nevertheless, the remaining eleven Visitors were all present and the Superior General, Father Tomaž Mavrič, C.M. remained with us throughout the meeting.

The house that hosted the members of CEVIM is located ten minutes away from the Shrine of Fatima. The conference room was spacious and comfortable as well as the booths for simultaneous translation. The translators were: Fr. Casimiro (Poland); Fr. Abdo (Lebanon), and Félix Álvarez (Spain) ... it should also be stated that at all times we were able to rely on the presence of a team of people who took care of every detail, this included providing for our needs in the meeting room as well as in the chapel and the dining room.

On the first day, after the greetings, Fr. Nélio Pita, C.M., (Province of Portugal), presented the theme The Vincentian charism in Europe. Three points were developed during the presentation: [1] St. Vincent de Paul and Europe [2] Europe today [3] the challenges of the Vincentian charism in Europe. The presentation was followed by small group discussion and a plenary session during which time the participants shared their responses to three questions that has been posed by Fr. Pita.

On the second day, the participants focused on the “Lines of Action and Commitments of CEVIM” which were developed at the General Assembly that took place last year in Chicago. The Visitors focused on two of those commitments, namely, to rethink initial formation (Internal Seminary and Major Seminary) and to launch a common missionary project in the city of Melilla, Spain.

The last day was devoted to voting on proposals from previous days: to eliminate the CEVIM web page, to appoint a commission to develop a draft with regard to the proposal for an Interprovincial Internal Seminary. It was decided that we will meet next year in Lebanon during the second week of the Easter Season. The commission to develop the proposal for the Internal Seminary is composed of Nicola Albanesi, CM, Christian Mauvais, CM, David Carmona, CM and Jesús María González Antón, CM.

During our time together there were three significant celebrations. The first took place on Monday with the celebration of the Eucharist in the Chapel of the Apparitions, presided by Bishop Augusto César, Vincentian Bishop Emeritus. The second took place the following day, a national holiday that commemorates the Claveles Revotion ... our celebration of that event consisted of a meeting with many missionaries from the Province of Portugal and a discussion that was focused on the the four distinct stages of their history. This was followed by the meal at which Bishop Augusto César and the Bishop Antonio Marto (the Bishop of Fatima) were present. On the last day there was an excursion to the city of Batalha where the participants were able to visit the Gothic Cathedral and the cloisters as well as the caves of Mira de Aire. There, at the depth of 120 meters, after walking along narrow galleries, we had the dinner together and that meal marked the end of the 2017 meeting of CEVIM.

By: Félix Álvarez, CM Province St. Vincent de Paul (Spain)
Translate Charles Plock, CM
People are always passionate when discussing the theme that refers to the mission. Mission refers to all those various attempts to fulfill the command that Jesus gave to his disciples: Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit (Matthew 18:16-20). Dedication of one’s life to the fulfillment of that command is, as Pope Francis has stated, the joy of every disciple of Jesus. Therefore, let me begin by expressing my gratitude to all the confreres who have dedicated their life to the evangelization of those persons who are most poor, and doing this in some of the most remote areas of the world, places where no one wants to go.

I am grateful for the experience I had from March 22-April 22. During that time I became more aware of the missionary commitment of our confreres in Peru, who in addition to being good hosts are engaged in a wonderful process of evangelization. May God bless all their endeavors ... especially the new mission of “Kateri” where two Vincentian missionaries have labored for the past five months: Fr. Julio Villalobos. CM (Peru) and Fr. Andreas Medi Wijaya, CM (Indonesia). It is hoped that one or two more Missionaries will be sent out to this mission, thus providing it with greater stability.

Kateri is not a village or a town but is an educational center that was begun and has been directed for a long time by the Daughters of Charity. Here the indigenous people from the surrounding area receive formation. At the present time this center is directed by a “council of teachers” that has been established precisely to accomplish that task. The Daughters constructed their house near this center and that house will serve as the center for the Missionaries who are engaged in the process of evangelization in this area.

This new mission was established during the last visit of Father Gregory Gay to this area ... an area where the Daughters have ministered for some sixty-eight years. Kateri is part of a larger project, namely, EPARU, the Rural Pastoral Ministry Team. This team dedicates their time to the formation of leaders who will minister in the various indigenous communities throughout the Diocese.

Father Gregory requested Father Pedro Guillen to send forth at least one Missionaries to begin to study the possibilities of engaging in this mission and therefore I invited him to accompany me as I visited the communities in Bolivia. We were both able to experience the situation in which our confreres minister. Part of their ministry consists of visiting the neighboring communities situated along the Isiboro and Securé Rivers (tributaries of the Mamoré which joins the Amazon River). These rivers can be navigated and is in reality the best means for travel to the various communities.
A three day by boat is necessary in order to travel from the parish of the Most Blessed Sacrament (the episcopal seat) to Kateri (the Daughters purchased a boat that is currently used for travel). The trip could be shortened by some eight or nine hours if one were to travel in a speed boat. The majority of the indigenous groups are semi-nomadic, hunters and fishers and gathers of fruit. It is obvious that even though all the people speak and understand Spanish, yet in many ways this is a difficult mission.

We were great encouraged by the enthusiasm of the two Missionaries. The Daughters of Charity and the lay members of FPARI were very happy to receive the two priests as members of the team. The two bishops of this area, as well as the priests with whom we shared our time, expressed their hope that these new members of the team would not only animate the indigenous peoples but also animate the priests of this area … providing all people with a missionary spirit that is so necessary to provide growth to this new diocese of Benbi.

After some work sessions in this mission we traveled to Cochabamba to the “Mission of Sacaba”. The Missionaries have ministered there since 2009. Father David Paniagua, CM (Chile) and Father Jorge Manrique, CM (Chile) have ministered in the “Parish of Huayllani and they are awaiting the arrival of a third Missionary which will allow them to intensify their missionary ministry.

This mission has been able to continue to move forward. When the Congregation began this mission there were no structures in place that would guide the process of evangelization. This area is composed of two area: a rural area and the altiplano region. The priests visit and evangelize in some twenty-two communities. In many of these places a small Christian community is beginning to take root. No doubt this is a very arduous process. It is estimated that some 5,000 or 6,000 persons inhabit this … many of whom do not understand Spanish. Nevertheless, it is important to reach out to these people, to come to know them and to speak with them in order to nourish their faith.

Another area is referred to as the “marginal city”. These are settlements or colonies of workers who have moved to this area because the Company they work for or the government has provided them with land and/or lodging, or the government. There are seven chapels there and it will be necessary to establish more of these. There are some 8000 Spanish/Quechan speaking inhabitants. The priests believe that this area can be given back to the Bishop and administered by a diocesan priest. The bishop believes, however, that everything that has been accomplished would be lost and that there would be the danger of turning the parish into a market for sacraments. Father Pedro and I are in agreement in this matter. Similar situations have existed in many of the parishes that the Congregation administers throughout Latina America. Let me explain: the people of these areas are poor and in need of formation … but with the growth in population it is difficult to know where all this will lead.

During our final two days in Bolivia we engaged in dialogue with the confreres and did some planning with the confreres from El Alto who were generous in coming down the mountain to join us for these sessions. We share reflections on the achievements and difficulties that are encountered in this mission which was established some twenty-five years ago (it would be even longer if we go back to the time of the first Vincentian Missionary who ministered in this area, Father Manuel Blanco (Salamanca).

Today there are three confreres ministering: Father Aidan Rooney, CM (Philadelphia), Father Cirille Pierre CM (France) and Father Diego José Plá, CM (Saint Vincent, Spain). For eight years these confreres have ministered with great missionary zeal. They have clothed themselves in Vincent’s spirit of struggle, a gift inherited from our Founders. The evaluation remains positive and hopeful. The growth in the area of Moco-moco, where there has been much work with the children and with adolescents, has been significant. The disperse and small population in Italaque has created problems for growth in that area (and even though there has been some growth it is viewed as not being very significant). What is the future of this mission? Much will depend on conversations with the Bishop and with the General Council of the Congregation.

We then returned to Lima where we departed for Ounta Arenas, Magallanes, Chile. There we found ourselves in the
parish of San Miguel where Father Pablo Alexis Vargas, CM, pastor (Chile)

Father Ángel Ignacio Garrido, CM, superior (San Vicente, Spain) and el Fr. Severino Margarito Martínez, CM, ministering in Isla Porvenir where there are two parishes (México).

As can be seen this is a mission with very diverse ministries: care for the infirm, parish ministry, collaboration with the Diocese and with the larger Vincentian Family, care for the people in the rural communities of La Isla, ministry to the military personnel of La Isla. This is also an area of extreme poverty and there is need for the greater evangelization.

The Bishop, Bernardo Bastres share his reflections with regard to the presence of the Missionaries in his Diocese. There is an atmosphere of great hope and a desire to strengthen the faith which will require the formation of the laity, of men and women who long to be protagonists in the creation of a new Christian area.

I thank Fr. Fernando Macías (the Visitort of Chile) and Fr. Alejandro for their hospitality and for the opportunity to dialogue about the two missions in which the Province is committed. We are also grateful for the assignment of the three Missionaries to the International Missions. May God bless this Province with abundant vocations.

I returned to Lima, where I participated in the meeting of the Provincial Council and reported on the Beni Mission. I celebrated the Triduum in a very poor community of the Parish Villa Ma. Del Triunfo. I Thank the Province of Peru for allowing me to participate in this simple, but very beautiful experience. I am also grateful to them for having taken me to participate in their ministry in the colonies of ICA, where they are involved in an incredible work with very poor men and women. I have seen that the poor are always the ones who tame some of the most inhospitable land- in this case, the desert – and their work transforms this land into oasis. Spending time with them has strengthened by zeal for the salvation of the poor.

I thank God for the fact that in all the communities I have visit, the spirit of Saint Vincent shines brightly and there is a strong desire to serve the poor. I pray to God that all the educational work of the Vincentians, results in a permanent heritage of love and service on behalf of the poor. For all of us who lack for nothing in our life, experiencing the ministry of the confreres in these countries is an encouragement to live more intensely the charism of Saint Vincent … the charism that originated 400 hundred years ago.

By: Aaron Gutiérrez, Assitant General
Translated: Charles T. Plock, CM

The International Mission of Tunisia

During one of my visits, speaking to a confre with a lifelong missionary, he said this to me: “Father, I will be here in this mission as long as I can do something, otherwise I will return to my homeland.” This genuine statement of a confre who is honest, sincere and authentic (that is, without falsehood), reveals an ancient concept of mission: to do. The failure or success of the missions was measured by the capacity of the same missionary “to do”. And all this, most of the time, was at the expense of being-missionaries in the true sense of the word. “Mission”, understood this way, it may not a very significant in the Maghreb context. Why? The nature, the content, the appearance and even the philosophy behind the mission in the Maghreb is entirely unique. Moreover, this mission in the Maghreb also demands a profound reflection on our “missionary-spirit” and the way we do our mission and it demands a careful and peculiar preparation. The lack of which can easily lead to frustration and disillusion because most of us are accustomed to missions in countries where Christianity

a mission with a particular physiology and a philosophy
International Missions

dominates. The success or failure of the Maghreb mission is not measured by the parameter of “doing”, but rather the parameter of “being”. It is primarily a presence-testimony because what is done, is done behind closed doors, behind the scenes, in the darkness and in hiding. Nothing should appear and be flashy on the surface. Yet, if one wants to do something and is creative in his way of doing it, respecting the Muslim mentality and culture, there is no lack of what can be done. The missionary adhering to this type of mission must be well trained and prepared in all fields: a preparation that is human, spiritual and provides a minimum of basic knowledge of Muslim religion and spirituality.

Our Tunisian mission, started in September 2011, has grown since last year. Now we are in two cities: Tunis and Sousse. What is our ministry? In both cities, we have two parishes, so the pastoral ministry is one. Who are our faithful? In Tunis the faithful are mostly foreign students (of sub-Saharan Africa); and, since Tunis is the capital of Tunisia, there are many diplomats and workers of different kinds. In Sousse, however, our faithful are mainly the occasional tourists; although after the attack, tourism has significantly decreased in Sousse. But there are immigrants and students here too. Everywhere, no matter their number, there are native Christians (Tunisians). In addition to this pastoral ministry, confreres also work in other areas. There are various chaplaincies (among the Christians who are in various prisons, and are foreign detainees; the Daughters of Charity; and other religious communities present in the territory). There is the direction of the diocesan Caritas which the Archbishop of Tunis, Bishop Antoniazzi Ilario, has entrusted to us for the second time (first time in the person of Fr. Firmin Mola Mbalo, and now in that of Fr. Claudio Santangelo). Caritas is a creative ministry because, officially, the diocesan Caritas is not a recognized civil entity for the Tunisian state, yet Caritas is doing much for the poor. And our confreres, along with the Daughters of Charity, are leaving an indelible trace of direct service to the poor. These poor are mainly Tunisians, but also foreigners, immigrants and political refugees. In short, our confreres are open to everyone and at the service of all, without regard to religion or anything else: people are served with dignity and honor simply because they are the image of God.

In Tunisia, at least according to the Constitution of the country, there is religious freedom and being “Christians” in itself is not a crime, as in the rest of the Arab countries. But the Catholic Church seems to be tacitly guarded and controlled, and conversions from Islam to Christianity are not easily tolerated.

By Zeracristos Yosief, CM
Assistant General
Fr. Mathew Kallammakal, CM, the Assistant General, made a recently visited the Region of Tanzania and what follows is a report of his visitation.

The beginning and the growth of this mission is story of collaboration among different provinces, among different confreres from around the world, among different group of women religious and among different funding agencies. In 1993 Tanzania was as an international mission that was served by confreres from India, USA, Spain, Ireland and Puerto Rico. In 2001 the entire responsibility of the mission, administrative as well as financial, was given to the Southern Indian Province. Since that time the Southern Indian Province has sent numerous missionaries to Tanzania. They established new local communities, began formation programs, built educational institutions and initiated social developmental activities.

Present ministries and the personnel

The Personnel

There are 22 confreres ministering in Tanzania: 14 are from Tanzania (10 priests, 1 lay brother and 3 deacons who will be ordained in June 2017); 8 are from India.

Houses, Communities and mission parishes

The region has 3 canonical houses and 7 mission parishes in five different dioceses of Tanzania.

Educational Ministry and Social interventions

In the region there are 2 primary Schools, 3 secondary schools, 2 kindergarten schools, 1 daycare center and 5 hostels for school children. The contributions of various religious groups of women to this ministry deserves special mention. There is a registered social service agency that engages in and promotes social, developmental activities. This Organization provides direct assistance to some 1600 children, especially in the areas of education and medical care.

Formation programs and formation infrastructure

There is a spacious formation house for the major seminarians (philosophy and theology students). The internal seminary and minor seminary buildings have not been constructed. There are 10 seminarians in different stages of formation. The reason for recruiting only a few students every year is due to the lack of sufficient formation infrastructure facilities especially minor seminary and internal seminary buildings. There are many students eager and willing to join the Vincentians.

Economic Condition

The region generates sufficient financial resources that enable the Missionaries to manage the ordinary activities of the region. The dependence on outside funding sources has arisen as a result of attempting to provide the necessary infrastructure and facilities that are intended to expand the Vincentian service to new areas. It is encouraging to note that attaining self-sustainability is very much included in the planning process of the confreres.

Tanzania was raised to that status of a Region in 2016 and Fr. Ansgar Lugomi, C.M, a Tanzanian confrere, was appointed the regional superior. Fr. Tomichan M, the Visitor of Southern India continues to visit and give direction to the Region. We extend our gratitude to all those who have been instrumental and who continue to be instrumental in the growth of Tanzania as a Region.

By Mathew Kallammakal, CM
Assistant General
In 1967, Father Paul Hendrikus Janssen established the Bhakti Luhur Foundation to help children with disabilities in Indonesia. (Photo supplied)

USCAN News of Asia features the following story about a much loved confrere Paul Hendrikus Janssen

East Java Catholics are mourning the death of popular Dutch Vincentian Father Paul Hendrikus Janssen, 95, who passed away on April 20, in Malang, East Java.

Father Janssen became well known for founding the Indonesian Pastoral Institute in Malang, the Association of the Institute for Lay Missionaries and orphanages for children with special needs.

“The Catholic Church in East Java has suffered a great loss. Father Janssen was a major force in building education,” Father Robertus Joko Sulistyo, head of Mater Dei Parish in Madiun, East Java, said.

He said the late priest loved children very much. “Father Janssen was particularly fond of disabled children and established many orphanages for them,” he said.

Born in Amsterdam, on Jan 29, 1922, he was ordained as a priest in July 1947.

He was sent by his congregation to become a missionary in China, but was forced to leave by the communists so went to Indonesia in 1951.

In 1967 he moved to Malang and established the Bhakti Luhur Foundation to help disabled children.

The Bhakti Luhur Foundation has more than 400 houses in which over 2,000 children live.

The foundation serves in 15 provinces.

The government recognized Father Janssen’s work and he received a Setya Lencana award from President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono.

He was buried on April 24 in, Malang, East Java.

We all know that the Good Shepherd left the 99 sheep to find the lost one. We can now also witness that Vincent, the good shepherd, has left the flock of the Rue du Bac, to meet a few sheep four hundred kilometers away.

For two days Vincent’s heart stayed here to be with hearts that were sick, broken and crushed. The story summed up the news. The last three Daughters of Charity who had worked at the hospital of Vichy now came to join us, all the way from Le Coteau. They left their nursing center (EHPAD) to find the place where once they used to serve, now transformed. The heart was there, in this hospital chapel, during this week devoted to organ donation. One man testified, having lived these past four years because of a heart transplant, declaring simply that now he lives his life only because of and for others. Three people then came forward; one had given his kidney to his brother who was present at his side. Now its his turn to be sick as he gets ready to receive the kidney of his wife who is willing to make this gift without the slightest reticence. Suddenly, we realized that “giving one’s heart” was no longer a figure of style, but the testimony lived out by thousands of anonymous people. They illustrated a love that is contagious, a love that works miracles. After such testimonies as these, who would refuse to give his heart?

Saint Vincent de Paul’s Conferences in Vichy, now more than a hundred years ago also were meant to show us just how simple it was to give one’s heart. It wasn’t necessary to give an hour-long conference to invite us to visit a single person their community. Nor was it necessary to wait for great ways on how to do things in one’s group. Getting together with others on a Sunday when boredom could be deadly, recovering one’s taste for life sitting around enjoying a good, homemade pie. These conferences uncover delightful examples of love in action. Who could refuse, after these testimonies, to let their own heart speak out?

The mass in the Missionary’s Chapel offered the singular testimony of the fruits of the Mission. Saint Vincent’s heart wanted to beat on to the ends of the earth. "It is not enough for me to love God, if my brother or sister doesn’t also love him." Saint Vincent sent the missionaries to Madagascar, Poland, and Algeria, never stopping at the first shipwreck, despite the disapproval of the slow-pokes, who thought it more reasonable to keep the missionaries for France. Around our altar today, Malagasy, Algerian and Polish priests presided, in a paradoxical missionary turnaround. 400 years later, missionaries from these countries chosen by Saint Vincent now set out to minister in France. Who would refuse now, after these testimonies, to allow Vincent’s heart to spread out to the ends of the world?

On Saturday evening, in a small group led by the parish chaplain, divorcees gathered in the chapel around Vincent’s heart. "For the heart that is broken, my God, you do not despise." They were surprised by our invitation, and did not know how to express their gratitude. As they shared their life journey marked with all that has been painful, disappointing and chaotic, tears replaced ritualized prayers. They wrote their own messages on pieces of paper deposited in the urn to return to the Rue du Bac. Who would refuse, after these testimonies, to let all hearts beat at their own rhythm?

On Sunday, Vincent’s heart was there for the parish church of Saint Louis. These were wonderful days; the solemn organ music certainly did not diminish popular piety. Even the Saint Pius V parish community came for a time, in silence, to visit with Saint Vincent’s heart. Daughters of Charity gathered with the elders of the neighborhood. There were new discoveries and plenty of sharing with our sisters from Brazil, Spain and Poland, just as a family brought together by providence, experiencing the Kingdom even here today.

On Sunday afternoon, the diocesan group DUEC (becoming one in Christ) was surprised that they gathered together by Vincent’s heart. During the long litanies, hearts murmured in rhythm the two refrains. There were some who needed nothing more than to abandon themselves to silence. But all agreed to this -- that there is no greater love than to give one's life ... Their conclusion is also our own.

Preparation Team
House of the Missionaries of Vichy

Translate Dan Borlik, CM
The Religious of Saint Vincent de Paul, in charge of the Parish of Our Lady of Nazareth in Paris, wanted to experience the grace of the 400th anniversary of the Vincentian charism with the Parishioners. The relic of the heart of Saint Vincent de Paul, on pilgrimage since January 25, was greeted with enthusiasm in the Church by Father Gilles Morin, parish priest along with the parishioners. This took place during a triduum, from Tuesday evening, March 28 through Thursday morning, March 30.

Opening this highlight event was a very festive solemn Eucharistic celebration; it was then that the relic was placed in the Church sanctuary. During the Offertory, each participant was asked to write down his or her intentions and place them in a basket placed near the reliquary. In procession, the faithful approached with deep faith, going to Saint Vincent who can now intercede for us. It was a powerful moment, very moving, much appreciated by all.

Through Thursday morning, several celebrations were organized around the veneration of the relic. These rites were marked by simplicity, fraternity and a spirit of deep recollection.

A special gathering was developed for the children. This made it possible that they too know much more about Monsieur Vincent’s life. With natural spontaneity, they wrote out their dreams and desires to present them as prayers to the Lord through Vincent’s intercession. The little ones expressed their love and their wishes by drawings flowers, landscapes ....

Once could easily see the joy and gratefulness in the expressions of the faith of these children.

The Daughters of Charity in the Rue du Bac also came to pray with the people of this beautiful parish family, for their community and for the parish.

The heart of Saint Vincent finally departed from the parish ... His passage marked our hearts: “It is truly a time of spiritual resourcefulness for all of us ...”; “We have an incredible opportunity here, we are spoiled ...”.

The two days were well punctuated by prayer and gatherings that transcended our differences, generations and origins. Saint Vincent’s message remains here and reminds us: “OSE LA TENDRESSE ! DARE TO CARE! “.

Pilgrimage Team

Translated, Dan Borlik, CM
In his meeting with the Superior General and his council during the council of Tempo Forte of March, Fr. Guillermo Campuzano, our United Nations representative, reported of his work in the past 18 months. He brought two initiatives to promote and support the integration of JPIC in the life and mission of the Congregation of the Mission in coordination with the Superior General, the General Council and other offices of the CM with similar goals.

1. The CM and Inter-Congregational Collaboration: currently, many global congregations work somewhat in initiatives of Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation. These Congregations increasingly recognize that their message and methods are strengthened when they unite their voices and efforts. As part of the founding working group, Fr. Guillermo has invested a good portion of his time helping to create a new inter-congregational coalition called JCoR. This is the working name of a newly-forming coalition of Catholic Religious NGOs with UN accreditation, seeks support to initiate a paradigm shift in the culture of Religious ministry that will benefit both the congregations and the people they serve by instituting an era of inter-congregational collaboration and integration of justice work into ministries at all levels from the grassroots to the global. So far, counting some already existing coalitions, around 100 congregations have accepted the invitation to join JCoR. The Superior General signed the founding document of JCoR asking Fr. Guillermo to act as his representative. The new board of JCoR will begin its work this coming May in New York. At this pivotal moment, JCoR is poised to leverage its global network and enhance its collective advocacy efforts to address the global justice challenges and to ensure a just transition to a sustainable, equitable model of development for all peoples and the planet.

2. VIN-JPIC another effort of collaboration among the Vincentians. The second initiative that our UN representative brought to the Tempo Forte meeting of the council was the VIN-JPIC: Vincentian International Network for Justice Peace and Integrity of Creation. The Superior General and his council also approved this internal network. This network “is built upon the dynamism and pertinence of our Charism. VIN-JPIC promotes the values and attitudes of Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation on the personal, communal, provincial and international level of the Congregation. VIN-JPIC represents the prophetic stance of the CM by joining its voice with those who cry for justice and by providing a voice for our planet and for those who are voiceless in the struggle for justice. This is an action-oriented entity of the CM, to support and/or promote campaigns directed towards the causes of injustice and the violation of Human Rights. Each province has been invited to name a representative in this network. There will be a coordinator for every conference of visitors/provinces and
a global animation of the initiative.

VIN-JPIN can contribute to a very dynamic relationship among the provinces generating new points of encounter/discussion/attention. VIN-JPIC can also generate a permanent actualization of our identity and our mission, as expressed in our Constitutions (Ns 2 and 12). This initiative was born in the heart of the discussions of the General Assembly 2016 (Final Document - Lines of Action 3rd part).

These two initiatives can clearly strengthen advocacy skills (through training) of CM members on each level of ministry (local, national, regional, and global); systematize and enhance advocacy communication among provinces and among levels of ministry including our local, provincial, regional and global leadership; establish advocacy labor-and resource-sharing mechanisms among congregations on each level of ministry; and execute coordinated, congregational (and in conjunction with JCoR) advocacy campaigns aimed at policy-makers on multiple levels and areas of need/interest for countries and regions.

These are open efforts that welcome people who want to join in the promotion of justice, peace, and the integrity of creation. If you feel the call for this specific ministry... join the initiatives with creativity!

Connect with the World: a Vincentian Family Press Office

Bottom of Form

At the initiative of Fr. Tomaž Mavrič and the Vincentian Family Executive Committee, the .famvin Digital Network is launching a Vincentian Family Press Office online.

Here it is!

http://famvin.info.

The purpose of this office and the press initiative is to acquaint the general public with:

the historical and present contribution of the Vincentian Family;

the figure of St. Vincent de Paul and other saints and blesseds of the Vincentian Family and their influence on world culture;

the events surrounding the 400th anniversary of the charism of St. Vincent de Paul and his collaborators.

If you have personal contacts in your national press or in the world press, please contact Aidan R. Rooney, C.M. at

info@famvin.org.
**General Information**

### Nominationes / Confirmationes

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<td>04/04/2017</td>
<td>Director DC Cameroon</td>
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<td>Director DC Madrid-Saint Louise</td>
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<td>BARTA Szabolcs</td>
<td>22/04/2017</td>
<td>Visitor Hungary</td>
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<td>28/04/2017</td>
<td>Visitor Philippines</td>
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### Ordinationes

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<td>BANABAI Fragé</td>
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<td>Por</td>
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<td>DARLOT Antoine</td>
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### NECROLOGIUM

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