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## From the Superior General

### All the Visitors in Europe

Rome, July 15, 2017

Dear Visitor:

*May the grace and peace of Our Lord Jesus Christ be always with us!*

I am writing this letter with regard to the immediate preparations for the Vincentian Symposium which will be celebrated in Rome (October 12-15, 2017). The focus of this event is the same as that of the Jubilee Year: Welcome the Stranger!

A few weeks ago, the International Office of the Vincentian Family, located in Philadelphia (USA) sent a letter to all the Visitors in Europe, requesting the collaboration of the National Advisors of the VMY in each province, that is, requesting that they become the liaison between the President of the Episcopal Conference of their respective countries and the International Office of the Vincentian Family (coordinated by Joseph Agostino, CM), thus extending an invitation to young men and women throughout Europe to participate in the Symposium which will be held in Rome.

Therefore, I am specifically requesting that the National Advisor of the VMY and another confrere from the Province visit the President of the Episcopal Conference of your country or region and encourage him to invite the young men and women of the different dioceses of the country to participate in the symposium that has been organized on the occasion of the 400th anniversary of the birth of the Vincentian charism.

The Prefect of the Dicastry for Laity, Family and Life has been notified about this event and has offered his support and blessing.

This event provides us with a wonderful opportunity to deepen our understanding of St. Vincent de Paul, who during the Jubilee Year of Mercy was proclaimed the Patron of Europe (this occurred during the celebration of World Youth Day in Krakow, Poland). I consider this event to be a privileged moment, a time of grace, especially since Pope Francis will join us in our celebration (Saturday, October 14th, 2017). At the same time, we will have the reliquary of Saint Vincent's heart in our midst during the days of that celebration.

With all my heart I thank the Visitors, the National Advisors of the VMY and the confreres who have engaged in this initiative ... I thank you for your service, your support and your collaboration. I understand that you have many responsibilities and commitments and therefore, forgive my boldness as I ask you to add this initiative to your ministry. I am convinced that the participation of young men and women from throughout Europe will produce much fruit for the benefit of the Vincentian Family and for our mission. Let us live this event with a spirit of gratitude and let us allow ourselves to be renewed in our missionary zeal.

During the time of the Symposium we will have special sessions for young men and women (Friday afternoon, October 13th, 2017). There will also be an encounter with Pope Francis (Saturday, October 14th, 2017), a prayer vigil (Saturday evening) and a closing celebration of the Eucharist in the Basilica of St. Paul's Outside the Walls. It is with much joy and hope that I am able to write to each one of you and I hope to have the joy of welcoming you and many young men and women from each one of the countries of Europe.

Let us continue to pray for one another!

Your brother in Saint Vincent,

Tomaž Mavrič, CM  
Superior General

**Process:**

- Find out the name of the President of the Episcopal Conference or the bishop or person responsible for Youth Ministry in your respective country or region.
- As the Visitor, National Advisor of the VMY or confrere delegated by the Visitor, request a personal meeting with the Bishop.
- At that meeting, be mindful of the following aspects:
- As members of the International Vincentian Family, and more especially as members of the VMY, we are taking advantage of this Jubilee Year (the 400th anniversary of the origin of the Vincentian charism) to participate in a Vincentian Symposium that is a follow-up to the previous celebration of World Youth Day.
- This is a wonderful opportunity to honor the Patron of Europe: Vincent de Paul was chosen by the young men and women through a virtual survey that was conducted prior to the celebration of World Youth Day in Krakow in 2016.
- Extend an invitation to all the young people in Europe to participate in the Symposium.
- Offer your assistance in organizing this event and do so in collaboration with the leaders of youth ministry so that the young men and women throughout Europe can participate in this Symposium in Rome.
- The coordinating commission of the symposium is preparing a budget for the young men and women, thus ensuring the participation of the greatest number of young people possible. The commission will be involved in the search for lodging for these young men and women.

- Follow-up: after the meeting with the Bishop or the individual responsible for Youth Ministry, it will be necessary to follow-up the meeting in order to insure that the process is moving forward. Since his support and accompaniment in the process is most important, another conversation should be held with that individual within 30 days of the first meeting.
- If you need some further explanation, help, support, and/or information, please do not hesitate to contact our Office: [vfo@famvin.org](mailto:vfo@famvin.org)
- We have sent an invitation to the President of the Episcopal Conference of your country and very soon we will be sending that person more information.

## Schedule

### Wednesday and Thursday, 11–12 october:

9:00 AM – 9:00 PM (21:00)

Registration at the Collegio Apostolico Leoniano  
Via Pompeo Magno, 21



### Thursday, 12 october:

6:00 PM - 7:00 PM (18:00 – 19:00)

Prayer Service in honor of Our Lady of  
the Miraculous Medal at the Basilica of S.  
Giovanni in Laterano  
Piazza di S. Giovanni in Laterano, 4



### Friday, 13 october:

9:00 AM: Conference & Dialogue: Vincentian Spirituality and its Prophetic  
Challenge (given by Tjeu van Knippenberg, CM and Peter Reijers)

### Break

Conference & Dialogue: Vincentian Formation & Communication in the  
Information Age (given by Peggy O'Neil, SC)

12:00 PM: Lunch on your own

1:30 PM (13:30): Conference & Dialogue: Vincentian Ministries: From Here  
to Where? (given by Dennis Holtschneider, CM)

3:00 PM (15:00): Celebration of the Eucharist (Presider: Gregory Gay, CM)

The languages groups will be meeting at the following locations:

### Italian, Spanish, and English

at the PalaCavicchi  
Via Ranuccio Bianchi  
Bandinelli, 130



### French

Parr. S. GREGORIO VII  
Via Gregorio VII, 6



### Polish

CASA MARIA IMMACOLATA  
Via Ezio, 28



### Portuguese

Collegio Apostolico LEONIANO  
Via Pompeo Magno, 21



On Friday afternoon, the meetings with Consecrated Youth and Young Adults will be held at the PalaCavicchi; Via Ranuccio Bianchi Bandinelli, 130

### **Consecrated Youth and Young Adults Schedule Friday afternoon**

3:00 – 6:30 PM (15:00– 18:30) Session and Mass with Consecrated Youth:  
“Go and do likewise.” (Luke 10,37)

6:30 PM (18:30) Break

7:30 PM (19:30) Session with Consecrated Youth and Young Adults:  
“Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.” (Matthew 25,40)

### **Saturday, 14 October:**

Celebration of the Eucharist in private

8:00 AM: St. Peter’s Square security opens  
Piazza San Pietro, 00120 Città del Vaticano

8:45 AM: Symposium Program begins

12:00 PM: Audience with Pope Francis

Afternoon Free



7:00 PM - 9:00 PM (19:00 - 21:00)

Prayer Vigil at the Basilica of St. Paul

Outside the Walls

Piazzale San Paolo, 1



### **Sunday, 15 October:**

10:30 AM Celebration of the Eucharist at the Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls; Piazzale San Paolo, 1

## Registration for the Symposium

Rome, 11 August 2017

To all the Visitors, Provincial Secretaries, and Superiors of the International Missions

Dear Confreres,

*May the grace and peace of Jesus be always with us!*

I am writing to you with regard to the Symposium that will take place in Rome (12-15 October). Every confrere, who wishes to participate in this event, should register or should be registered (by you or someone else) on the indicated website by 1 September 2017. If a letter of invitation is necessary in order to obtain a visa, those requests must also be sent by 1 September. NO EXCEPTIONS will be made with regard to this matter.

Please, as the one responsible for the province or the international mission, inform the confreres and the other members of the Vincentian Family, members of the Vincentian parishes, schools, and all those who might desire to participate in this event that they must register online by 1 September. If it is more convenient, one person, who is responsible for a specific group, can register all the members of said group. In that way, people who do not have access to the internet, but who wish to participate, can be registered.

With much joy, we hope to see you in October as we celebrate together the jubilee of the birth of our charism.

Your brother in Saint Vincent,

Tomaž Mavrič, CM  
Superior General

## Online Catalog

Rome, 5 September 2017

To all members of the Congregation of the Mission

My dear confreres,

On 21 November 2013, my predecessor, Gregory Gay, wrote to all members of the CM announcing the launch of the *Online Catalog* of the entire Congregation and provided instructions for its use.

Today, after four years, I realize that some confreres do not even know of the existence of this *Catalog* and that those who use it are less numerous than we would have hoped.

Therefore, I am now encouraging you to learn about and use this powerful tool that is designed for all of us. Our Secretary General wants to keep this *Catalog* up-to-date in real time. This, of course, depends on information that comes from the provinces.

To use the *Catalog*, go to the [cmdb.cmglobal.org](http://cmdb.cmglobal.org) page, enter your User ID, which corresponds to your last name, followed by the first letter of your first name (for example, mine is mavrict) and then the password (which each confrere will choose personally by modifying the original one). In case you are having trouble or cannot remember your password, you can contact the Secretary General ([secgen@cmglobal.org](mailto:secgen@cmglobal.org)), who will assist you.

One last thing. Because the data in this *Catalog* is meant to be up-to-date and accurate, please communicate promptly to the General Secretariat all information about changes in ministries, new appointments, orders, deaths, etc.

For this reason, I ask each Visitor to entrust a person (who may be the provincial secretary or even a layperson or another confrere in his province) with the delicate and important task of helping those confreres who need assistance to access and use the *Catalog*, as well as sending regular updates and information from the province to the General Secretariat.

I thank everyone for his cooperation in the hope that we can all benefit from and be satisfied with this precious and useful tool.

Your brother in Saint Vincent,

Tomaž Mavrič, C.M.  
Superior General