

Promulgation of the *Ratio Formationis*

Rome, 27 November 2014

My brothers:

I present to you our *Ratio Formationis*, completed by a Commission of confreres, and with editorial assistance for clarity and economy of style. As with all documents issued by the General Curia for the good of the Congregation, the *Ratio Formationis* has been created in accordance with our Constitutions and Statutes, specifically Statute 41.1 which states:

“Each province will prepare a formation plan, which will be in conformity with the principles already established, with the documents and directives of the Church and of the Congregation of the Mission, and which responds to the various local needs” S. 41.1.

The purpose of the *Ratio Formationis* is to put this statute into practice and to assist the provinces in so doing. I am grateful for the confreres who served on the Commission for the *Ratio Formationis* and who assisted in finalizing and in translating this text.

I offer two recommendations to better understand and implement this document. First, I remind all who apply this document to their formation programs that the *Ratio* expresses what we truly are: an international Congregation. Secondly, I believe that in both initial and ongoing formation, the *Ratio* should promote collaboration and deeper bonds with the Vincentian Family.

The *Ratio Formationis* is comprised of an introduction and eight chapters that cover various aspects of formation for life in the Congregation. They include vocational discernment, stages of initial formation of priest and brother candidates, and the ongoing formation of all confreres. However, this text is meant to be applied as a complete, integral entity. Each chapter represents a part of the whole process of the overall goals, objectives, and strategies of Vincentian formation.

Therefore, with the consent of the General Council, as Superior General, I hereby promulgate on an *ad experimentum* basis the *Ratio Formationis* of the Congregation of the Mission for implementation in all provinces, vice-provinces, regions, and missions throughout the world.

G. Gregory Gay, C.M.
Superior General

*Given in Rome, 27 November 2014
Feast of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal*