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Launch of the new cmglobal.org website

Communication Office

Presentation of the new www.cmglobal.org website took place on at 6 p.m. CEST Thursday, July 19 (Italian time), at the General Curia of the Congregation of the Mission in Rome.

In a live broadcast on his Facebook fanpage and in the presence of members of the Curia and some foreign Confreres invited for the occasion Father General, Tomaž Mavrič, C.M., launched the new website.

During the live show he explained the importance of this digital project. Months of work which have intensely involved members of the Communication Office, he said, emphasizing above all the power of communication in growing the Vincentian charism and connecting all the reality of the Congregation.

Many Confreres and members of the Vincentian Family all over the world participated in this live broadcast proving the fact these tools, if used in the proper way, give our Congregation opportunity to express with strength and passion its community face.

It was an emotional moment when Father General cut the blue ribbon spanned over the table officially inaugurating the new platform. Next, he blessed us and this great project of digital evangelization.

Concluding the broadcast Father Tomaž asked all the missionaries and members of the Vincentian Family to suggest to the Communication Office, the name of one of the Saints and Blesseds of the Congregation of the Mission, who could become the patron of the new website.

On Friday, August 3, St. John Gabriel Perboyre was named a patron saint of the new cmglobal.org.

Looking forward to your suggestions, we recall, as Father General did in his letter, the words of St. Vincent addressed to the Daughters of Charity: “O mon Dieu! yes! That’s a real need: close communication with one another; sharing everything. Nothing is more necessary. It unites hearts, and God blesses the advice received, with the result that things go better” (CCD XIIIb, 281)

Those who want to watch the Thursday live broadcast can do it here on the website:

https://www.facebook.com/SuperiorGeneralCM/videos/708454159486644/
When you fly over the Amazonia, the people who arrive, mainly missionaries, filled with curiosity and expectations, cannot imagine what they will find in that jungle, crossed by many large rivers. So they have gotten information or researched or read, they cannot imagine the complexity of life in that immense territory with several “Amazonias”, given the great diversity. As they get deeper into that biodiversity, living with this reality, nature, inhabitants, their customs and culture, they gradually come to know what happens in this world with a past and a present wrapped around in adventures, stories, myths and legends. It is known that the Amazonia is still shown as “an enigma that must be deciphered”. Therefore, this reality cannot be approached with a simplistic, folkloric, stereotyped, or exotic view, or viewed as a backward culture, or as an immense farm of water and mineral resources for the world.

Amazonia always presents challenging, because of its great geographic distances where its population is spread, with precarious means of transport and communication, and basic attention, making any activity difficult there.

In the religious aspect, in addition to the beliefs of the traditional peoples, the Catholic Church is present, as much as many Pentecostal Evangelical denominations, which are in growing continuously. It was Catholicism to reach these lands first with missionaries, starting in the seventeenth century, establishing towns and cities on the rivers banks.

Leaving their homeland, many missionaries entered into rivers and jungle, with a missionary spirit marked by the dedication and commitment of their own lives. But from the Evangelization project of that time, prevailing doctrinal rigor and sacramental practice, established a dualism between what was proposed and what people lived. Catholicism emerged from that relationship “became practiced without the presence of clergy,” without the need for mediation of a priest and a lay leadership.

Due to large government projects in the 70s, economic growth and integration of the Amazonia with the rest of the country was noticed. there was a process of migration to the rest of the country and a large influx of people from other regions of the country to the Amazonia. The consequence of this fact started to be called “Urbanization of Poverty”.

In this development process, the hundred-year-old city of Tefé experienced a growth leading...
to expansion, creating new neighborhoods and overpopulating older ones. One of them, traditional and close to the center of the city, is the densely populated Abial neighborhood, where our International Mission is located. It’s a small elevation next to the lake Tefé and crossed by the small river Xidarini. During rain season it can be accessed in small motorized boats ("rabetas or catraias") which carry about 8 people. Disembarking, a view you can immediately have is shocking. Asphalt paved streets are in poor condition, causing the sewer system to be exposed. Houses, well linked to each other, do not offer space for privacy and adequate hygiene conditions, sometimes giving room to promiscuity.

There are three schools, one municipal and two state owned. All are in good condition and many students enjoy the comfort of study and sports. In any case, the search for survival leads young people to bet on the easiest, most immediate and most illicit means of earning for a living, generating a vicious circle in which violence is present.

Going through Amazonia, and especially in the state of Amazonas, is stepping into a markedly indigenous land. The same takes place Abial. The majority of the people, using their physical features, show the beauty and marks of their indigenous ancestors. In the same way they show their customs, the way of building the houses - especially in wood and on poles (palafitos) - in their habits, in their food, in the religious manifestations and in the ways they coexist.

The parish of Abial, created ten years ago, is made up of four communities: the main church, with a good space for ministry; the other three communities are located within walking distance from the heart of the parish: one is in the upper part of the neighborhood - community of Christ the King - another, in a fishermen colony – Christ the Redeemer community - and the third, in a recently obtained urban location - Saint Vincent de Paul community - fruit of the recent Vincentian presence.

The vitality of these communities is striking, because of the number of participants from the small group of people which is frequently demonstrated during preparation and realization of the celebrations, during catechesis and in the responsibility to maintain and preserve the community. There was a great effort to endow the parish with a good material structure, fruit of community work which develops the sense of belonging.

After eight months of living in the neighborhood of Abial, this reality must be taken into account. It was important to think about how to run pastoral ministry respecting history, culture, identity and the manifestations of its inhabitants.

It is important to keep in mind the words of then Cardinal Jorge Bergoglio, before he became the Pope about “outgoing and broken Church”, which reminded us that “a transcendent look of faith” is important to observe or perceive who is behind a reality like that. This view involves situation of specific people, their history, their culture, their identity and religion. Our presence as a Congregation of the Mission here, will demand a use of all means to dismantle our fears and not to create in us a feeling of pastoral impotence: human maturity and faith, in which humility helps us to learn, patience in walking with people and communities and respect in that journey will enable an important and fruitful dialog for the proclamation of the Kingdom a mystic proper for the region, in agreement with the Episcopal Commission for the Amazon of the CNBB (National Conference of Bishops of Brazil).

Source:
Father Tomaž Mavrič visited Colombia from June 30 to July 8. During his first visit to this Country he met with Daughters of Charity from two Provinces (Bogotá-Venezuela and Cali), seminarians, Vincentian Family in Bogotá, Santa Rosa de Cabal and Cali, Confreres who undertook their spiritual retreat, elderly Missioners, Community in Dialog of Soacha, Young men who were going to be ordained priests and deacons, and those who will soon join the Congregation of the Mission.

On Wednesday, July 4, in the National Shrine of the Miraculous Medal in Santa Rosa de Cabal inauguration of new Visitor of Colombia, Fr. Diego Luis Vásquez took place in the presence of Confreres, Daughters of Charity, Seminarians and Members of the Vincentian Family. Also, He was present at the celebration for the 150 years of CMs arrival to Colombia, which will be completed in 2020.

During his visit Superior General has promoted the culture of vocations, he encountered with the poor, initiatives of the International Vincentian Family in favor of the homeless, among others.

2018 Provincial Assembly in Colombia

Right after the departure of the Superior General to Rome, from July 9 to 14, 41 delegates gathered for the Provincial Assembly at the Apostólica de Santa Rosa de Cabal. The new Visitor, Fr. Diego Luis Vásquez presided. The motto of the meeting was “adore, welcome and go”, referring the words of Pope Francis from his message to the Vincentian Family on the occasion of the 400 years of the charism. In effect, this Assembly sought to reflect on the spiritual life, community and fraternity in the Province.

Along with these issues, reports on current situation of the Province, Rwanda-Burundi and Venezuela regions, economy, and others were presented. Bishop Alfonso Cabezas CM, who presided at the ordinations of four priests and two deacons on July 14 was present as one of the invited guests.

At the end of the Assembly new Visitor presented his new Provincial Council, which is composed of Frs. Francisco Salamanca, Johan Sebastian Lopez, Johnier Rojas, Humberto Aristizábal and Alexander Correa. There was also a meeting with the stepping down Council to get more details of the life of the Province.
Preparations are still underway for “Finding Vince 400”

The popular US actress, producer and model She-ree J. Wilson is one of the Festival’s supporters. You can check out her video here: https://famvin.org/en/2018/05/27/new-video-invitation-to-finding-vince-400/

Due to the many requests they have received, Festival organizers have extended the submission deadline until 31 August for the two sections entitled “Seeds of Hope” and “Short or Future Film”.

Plus, people from around the world who wish to attend you can register now online. The fv400.comwebsite will provide all necessary information to attend the Film Festival and stay in Castel Gandolfo during the event, for those who need accommodation. Our website and social media channels will constantly provide updates on this.

It is possible to participate in the “Finding Vince 400” contest in the following two sections:

“Seeds of Hope”. This section is for youths under 18 and is dedicated to one single theme: serving the poor. To participate in this section, i.e. to “make seeds of hope”, the theme must be developed through any form of creative expression (from storytelling, to poetry, from painting to sculpture, music etc.). Contestants must send their work – videos, images or creative productions – to the following email address submit@fv400.org or register at http://fv400.com/by 05/28/2018. On that date, a form will be activated for contestants to submit their work until 08/31/2018. The artists chosen by the jury will be rewarded with a free trip and stay in Castel Gandolfo for the duration of the event.

“Finding Vince 400” Short or Feature Film. This section is for short and feature films, focusing on serving the poor and changing the way society looks at poverty. Artists selected by the jury will be rewarded with a free trip and stay in Castel Gandolfo for the duration of the event.

The award-giving ceremony will take place in Castel Gandolfo between October 18 and 21, 2018.
The Congregation of the Mission and the Daughters of Charity are members of the Committee of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) that at the UN advocate against trafficking in persons. The CM representative at the UN is also part of the central commission of Consecrated of the Americas Life against trafficking in persons (9 regional or national commissions). For this reason, we are also associated with Talitha Kum, the international network of Consecrated Life against trafficking in persons.

Human trafficking is a crime that exploits women, children and men for numerous purposes including forced labor, traffic of organs, and sex. The International Labor Organization estimates that 21 million people are victims of forced labor globally. This estimate also includes victims of human trafficking for labor and sexual exploitation. While it is not known how many of these victims were trafficked, the estimate implies that currently, there are millions of trafficking in persons victims in the world.

The work of many social organizations, religious communities, NGOs, etc. aims to prioritize victims coming from a context of armed conflict and those identified among large refugee and migration flows. Its focus is also the work with victims trafficked for the purpose of sexual exploitation, organ removal, forced begging, forced criminality and emerging exploitative purposes (e.g. skin removal, online pornography).

In September 2015, the world adopted the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda and embraced goals and targets on trafficking in persons. These goals call for an end to trafficking and violence against children; as well as the need for measures against human trafficking, and they strive for the elimination of all forms of violence against and exploitation of women and girls.

‘Responding to the trafficking of children and young people’

This year, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) has chosen ‘responding to the trafficking of children and young people’ as the focus of the World Day. This year’s campaign highlights the fact that almost a third of trafficking victims are children. The theme draws attention to the issues faced by trafficked children and to possible action
initiatives linked to safeguarding and ensuring justice for child victims.

We invite you to honor this international day against the victimization of human beings with your prayer and reflection but also getting informed and joining any local or national efforts so that this day marks another step in our commitment against trafficking in persons. We can collaborate with the efforts others have organized in the prevention, accompaniment, rescue, healing and the social and work relocation of the victims.

**Why do we have an international day against human trafficking?**

It is not a celebration ... it is a day to resist, to sensitize, to raise awareness, to call attention, to point out that there is an unresolved problem, an important and pending issue in societies so that, through this awareness, governments and states can act and take measures or for citizens to demand this from their representatives.

New York July 30, 2028

**First Encounter of Vocation Directors of the Congregation of the Mission**

Fr. Andrés Motto, CM - Director of CIF

Having concluded the Jubilee Year during which we celebrated the 400th anniversary of the birth of the Vincentian charism, the International Formation Center of the Congregation of the Mission (CIF) proposes the convocation of this Encounter for three reasons.

First: the reality which we as a Congregation are presently experiencing, namely a decline in vocations in some provinces. Rather than viewing that situation as a threat, it should be seen as a challenge. At the same time, we have experienced an increase in vocations with new circumstances that also presents a challenge to the Congregation. It is, therefore, necessary to establish a culture of vocations in order to revitalize our charism and thus, ground our ministries on a vocational perspective.

Second: the Superior General, Father Tomaž Mavrič desires to establish this culture of vocation at the very center of the Congregation. He has spoken about this reality in his letters and views this as one of the fruits of the Jubilee Year. This culture of vocation is intended to involve all the Missionaries so that each and every one becomes committed to proclaiming the richness of our charism to young
men and women. This proclamation is done through the witness of one’s life and by placing the vocational question in front of young people (and doing this in a very natural manner).

Third: this year the bishops will gather in Rome to discuss the theme, Young People, the Faith and Vocational Discernment and has stated that the Church has decided to examine herself on how she can lead young people to recognize and accept the call to the fullness of life and love, and to ask young people to help her in identifying the most effective ways to announce the Good News today (Introduction of the Preparatory Document).

We are aware of this reality and of the extraordinary ministry that the Vocation Directors carry on in their provinces, vice-provinces, regions, and international missions. Thus, this Encounter presents our confreres with an opportunity to participate in on-going formation and to share their experiences, hopes and dreams as they search together for a common vision in their daily ministry and in the new situations that they confront as a result of the development of technology technology that is used by young men and women in order to interact with one another. May this Encounter enable all the participants to experience themselves supported in the mission that has been entrusted to them by the Lord and by Saint Vincent.

Objective

To provide those persons (in the provinces, vice-provinces, regions and international missions) involved in vocation ministry with an opportunity for on-going formation and reflection. This Encounter will attempt to do this through deepening our understanding of a culture of vocations (from the perspective of the Vincentian charism) and will provide the participants with tools for the development of a pastoral plan on the social networks.

Themes

1. Reality and context of Vocational Promotion.
2. Statistics and the reality of Vocational Promotion in the CM.
4. A culture of vocations.
5. On-going formation and creation of a vocational culture for the Congregation.
6. Vincentian Tradition and Vocational Challenges for the CM.
7. The Ministry of Vocational Promotion in the Ratio Formationis.
8. Vocational pedagogy and accompaniment.

Methodology

Presentation, group work, visit to significant places in the life of Vincent de Paul and development of a Final Document.

We have opted for a methodology that requires the physical presence of the participants. There will be intensive work sessions with supporting didactic material (texts, videos, presentations, workshops, evaluations) … there will be time for prayer and meditation.

During the Encounter we will make two visits to significant Vincentian places in Paris (places where St. Vincent and the Congregation of the Mission ministered on behalf of the poor).

Dates: From November 19th to December 1st, 2018. We ask all the participants to plan to return to their provinces between the afternoon of December 1st and December 2nd. Another group will be arriving on December 3rd and so all the rooms must be unoccupied and cleaned before the arrival of the next group.

Languages: The Encounter will be in English, French and Spanish (there will be simultaneous translation).

Cost: 800 Euros (includes lodging, food, visits to the various Vincentian places, translation and material)

Deadline for registration: September 30, 2018.

More Information: Fr. Andres Motto: andresmotto@gmail.com or cifparis@cmglobal.org
### NOMINATIONES / CONFIRMATIONES

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### NECROLOGIUM

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