

# Nuntia

Newsletter of the Congregation of the Mission

JANUARY 2019

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**Congregation of the Mission**  
Communication Office

**"We have confidence that 30 confreres will feel the ardent desire to leave their homes and go where God needs them."**

Tomaz Mavric, CM



These 30 missionaries represent 1% of the Congregation, and thanks to their commitment we will be able to double our presence in the world and establish new missions.

**We need you! Become our 1%**

write to: [segreteria@cmcuria.org](mailto:segreteria@cmcuria.org)



**Congregation of the Mission**

**#missionCM**

# Dear confreres,

Here is the new look of NUNTIA!

I hope you like it and I hope this is the first change in a series of improvements that the Communication Office intends to make in 2019.

As you know, NUNTIA is a service developed to keep alive the connection among the various confreres scattered around the world, the Superior General, his Council, and the Curia.

Although many of the articles you find in the various issues already have appeared on our official website, this monthly newsletter is the printable version of the above-mentioned articles. For this reason we have invested in the graphic design, making it more pleasant and functional, to be read on devices and with the option of being printed.

Therefore, we invite you to spread it among the missionaries, but, above all, we invite you to evaluate the possibility of collaborating with us to enrich it more and more, because if the format is the responsibility of the Communication Office, the content is you and your stories at the service of the Congregation!

*Jorge Luis Rodríguez, CM*  
Communication Office Director





“

*We are called to announce through  
our words and work  
that we are at the service of the poor,  
and in fact, at the service of Jesus Himself*

”



joy and coming together. Friendships among the young pilgrims blossomed and the priests sisters and laity who are leaders were able to renew the bond of charity that the Vincentian charism has awakened in them over the years. The young pilgrims left this weekend with a better understanding of faith, the Vincentian charism, and the virtues that make it possible: humility, charity, simplicity, zeal, and sacrifice. Nothing can stop them now from living the joy of being Vincentian!

*John Maher, CM  
Province of Eastern of USA*

# LIVED EXPERIENCE

## OF A VINCENTIAN SEMINARIST IN PANAMA



### VINCENTIAN YOUTH GATHERING – WORLD YOUTH DAY

“ Mary took the risk and for this reason she is strong,  
for this reason she is an influencer”,  
the “influencer” of God!



**Pope Francis**

I had a very enriching and pleasing experience during the gathering of young men and women who embrace the Vincentian charism. This gathering took place at the Casa San José in Malambo, Panama (January 18-21). Every culture, every country, every young Vincentian shows a different and specific way of living the legacy of San Vicente to follow Jesus Christ Evangelizer of the Poor. Being able to share all that unities us enabled the participants to be renewed and to be nourished by the life experiences of one another.

I was able to see that the members of the different branches of the Vincentian Family, in their concrete reality, have responded to the cry of the poor. During the time I also experienced an on-rush of many different emotions, one of which was joy. Father Tomaž Mavrič spoke about this when he stated that the organizers of this event want to highlight, from the beginning, the joy of the gospel that fills the heart and life of those who know Jesus, who let themselves be saved by Him, freeing them from sin, sadness, inner emptiness and isolation. With Jesus, joy is reborn in our lives (Homily of the superior general, Opening Mass, January 19, 2019).

Vincentian joy flows from our option for the gospel and for the poor. That was the perspective from which Vincent lived his life

and is the manner in which the hundreds of young men and women who participated in this gathering also live their life. It is obvious that there are various ways to give life to our charism. It was interesting to hear about the work that is being done by the members of the Saint Vincent de Paul Society in Brazil (young men and women involved in significant ministry on behalf of the poor) ... this has inspired me to think about new ways of service.

At the conclusion of the Vincentian Youth Gathering, with much enthusiasm and many expectations, I traveled with the Colombian delegation to Panama City. There young people from throughout the world gathered and I found myself in the midst of a young church, a multi-cultural, enthusiastic church, a church that recognizes in the Pope Francis the authority of the Vicar of Christ on earth.

With the words, I am the servant of the Lord, may it be done to be according to your word (Luke 1:38), the young men and women reflected on the person of Mary. Father Adbo Eid, CM and one of the catechists stated that Mary did not simply say “yes” but rather abandoned herself totally to the will of God ... she stated that she was a servant, a humble servant. She recognized her limitations and opened herself to God. Mary’s perspective makes us question ourselves about our openness to God’s love, to



the God who wants us to empty ourselves so that we might be filled with God's grace.

On the night of the vigil, Pope Francis stated in his homily: Mary did not take out an insurance policy! Mary took the risk and for this reason she is strong, for this reason she is an influencer", the "influencer" of God! The "yes" and the desire to serve were stronger than any doubts and difficulties.

During the celebration of World Youth Day, one was able to experience a youthful church, a church that is sensitive to the discovery of Christ in those persons who suffer. This was especially true during the Way of the Cross that was presided by Pope Francis and during which time we prayed for the various countries on the American continent. In the same way, the young men and women were able to recognize the presence of Christ in the Eucharist as they participated in the Holy Hour (a time of profound silence) I was part of that multitude of people praying in silence before the Blessed Sacrament and I was able to affirm once more that Jesus Christ continues to be a way of life.

*By Oscar Betancourt  
Seminarist — Province of Colombia*

*Translated: Charles T. Plock, CM  
Eastern Province, USA*

# Meeting of the International Commission



For the Promotion of the Vocation to the Brotherhood

“

*We are convinced that the promotion of the vocation of the Brother in the Congregation of the Mission occurs when all the members take ownership of their own identity and mission.*

”

The International Commission for the Promotion of the vocation to the Brotherhood in the Congregation of the Mission met in Cameroon from January 3-7, 2019.

This Commission was created by the Superior-General during the Tempo-Forte of March 2018. During that meeting a group of five Brothers (from different Provinces) presented a report to the General Council on the present situation of the Brothers in the Congregation.

This Commission is composed of the following: Miles HEINEN (Assistant

General), Francisco BERBEGAL VÁZQUEZ (Province of San Vicente de Paúl-Spain), Guénolé FEUGANG (Vice-Province of Cameroon), Adriano FERREIRA SILVA (Province of Río de Janeiro) and Martial TATCHIM FOTSO (Vice-Province of Cameroon).

The meeting took place at the Saint Vincent de Paul Seminary in Yaoundé, the political capital of the country. Due to problems with regard to passport and visa, Brother Adriano was unable to participate in the meeting. The above cited seminary is the formation house for the philosophy and theology students who are members of the



Vice-Province of Cameroon. Students from the Province of Nigeria are also studying at the same seminary.

Prior to the meeting, the members communicated with one another through e-mail and had discussed various readings and documents. At the meeting, three documents provided a foundation for the deliberations: the report submitted to the General Curia at the March 2018 meeting; the Final Document from the Meeting of Vocation Directors (CIF:Paris, November 2018) and the revised Ratio Formationis.

Even though different proposals were examined, the objective of the Commission is to develop a long-term plan for the revitalization of the vocation to the Brotherhood. This plan also takes into account the development of a culture of vocations that is being promoted by the Congregation (January 25, 2018 Letter of the Superior General). We

are convinced that the promotion of the vocation of the Brother in the Congregation of the Mission occurs when all the members take ownership of their own identity and mission. Such an action will not only change the vision of the Brother in the Congregation (and in the Church) but will also change the way in which we present this vocation to young people.

Some proposals are going to be developed by the members of the Commission. We highlight here their proposal to create a space in which the present Brothers can communicate among themselves. This plan will be presented to the members of the General Council along with other lines of action. After the meeting of the General Council we hope to present more details about our proposals.

*Francisco Berbegal Vazquez, CM  
Province of San Vicente de Paúl - Spain*

*Translated: Charles T. Plock, CM  
Easter Province, USA*

# 2019 MEETING OF THE VINCENTIAN FAMILY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



From 14 - 16 January 2019, the international leadership of the Vincentian Family held its annual meeting at its headquarters in Philadelphia (USA). This year, a new Branch of the Vincentian Family was invited to join the Vincentian Family Executive Committee (VFEC) – the Vincentian Congregation (VC) based in India.

This year, a number of significant issues were addressed. The challenge of communication, both internal and external to the Vincentian Family, was discussed at great length. A new Strategic Plan for Communications, presented by Javier Chento, was approved. One result will be a first-ever

meeting of those responsible for communications among various Branches of the Family in Madrid on 16 March.

The effective use of social media for the sake of the Mission remains a primary concern.

Two major initiatives being undertaken by the Family were also studied. First, we received an update on the work of the VF Homeless Alliance from Mark McGreevy. The “13 Houses” project is being well received. This year, on the Feast of St. Vincent, the Family will be asked to reflect on forced displacement - another aspect of the homelessness crisis.



The second initiative concerns the creation of a culture of vocations for the Vincentian Family. The 5 year strategic plan formulated by the Task Force for this area was approved. Much more will be said about this in the months ahead.

A listening session was also held between the VFEC and the NGO members of the Vincentian Family at the United Nations in New York. This provided us an opportunity to better understand the scope of our work at the UN and to discuss how we can better collaborate in the promotion of our mutually shared concern for the eradication of poverty and the promotion of social justice.

Many other topics were discussed over these days. They will be addressed more specifically soon. But of greatest significance are the plans which were laid for the upcoming meeting of the international leaders of the Vincentian Family in Rome. The theme for this gathering is: "FamVin 2020: the Vincentian Family Moving Forward". For the first time in our history as a Vincentian Family a meeting of all the leaders of all the Branches of the Vincentian Family is being called, affording us an opportunity to look together at the future of our shared Vincentian Charism. We anticipate that over 300 leaders of the Family will come together from 8 - 12 January 2020.

The next meeting of the VFEC will be in January 2020 after the international leaders meeting.



*Joseph Agostino, CM  
International Coordinator Vincentian  
Family Office*

# International Formation Center 2019

I am sending you information about the activities of CIF for 2019. Since 1994, the International Formation Center has organized programs that help us in our ongoing formation. These encounters are intended to free individuals from isolation and to help them preserve their identity. At the same time this formation is also organized in such a manner as to encourage Vincentians in their ministry with the poor as well as to enhance the practice of charity so that it transforms the social reality. These encounters also provide the missionaries with tools that will strengthen the practice of solidarity, the promotion of justice and the spiritual/human development of the participants who are exhorted to clothe themselves in the spirit of Jesus Christ, evangelizing the poor

#### IV CIF MEETING OF THE VINCENTAIN FAMILY.

This program is open to the members of those congregations and associations that are inspired by our charism, more specifically, the program is open to religious and to those lay person who involved in the many different Vincentian ministries and/or who are ministering with the various associations of the Vincentian Family.

This program focuses on the Vincentian family: how to collaborate in our shared ministry on behalf of those persons who are poor, clarifying the original inspiration of St. Vincent so that it can be deepened, reflecting on various aspects of Vincentian spirituality and Vincentian approaches to today's social problems. This program includes pilgrimages to some of the Vincentian places in the different parts of France. Throughout the program the participants will be encouraged to participate in the various spiritual and community activities that are intended to strengthen the bonds of unity.

I would ask you not only to invite members of the Congregation of the Mission, but to extend that invitation to all the members of the worldwide Vincentian family ... in particular, to those lay people who minister in our different works: schools, administration, charitable works, etc. The province will surely be enriched by the formation of the laity.

This program will be held at the Motherhouse of the Congregation of the Mission (Paris) from August 2 to August 26, 2019. The Encounter will be in English, Spanish and French and the cost is € 1,900 (all expenses are included in that price).



### XVIII CIF VINCENTIAN HERITAGE.

This program is open to the priests and brothers of the Congregation of the Mission who are 50 years of age or older or who have twenty years in vows.

It has been said that the danger of every consecrated person is to begin to live comfortably in the shadow of their ancestors and their glorious history. The temptation is to be satisfied with what our Founders and other illustrious members of the Congregation have done. This Vincentian Heritage Program aims at deepening and revitalizing our charism and service.

What will we do?

- 1) We will make a serious effort to renew the participants in their living the Vincentian charism.
- 2) We will analyze the most urgent problems that confront the poor today and look for possible solutions.
- 3) We will incorporate the demands of the 42nd General Assembly that refer to certain elements of our missionary activity: solidarity, intercultural, international, compassion.
- 4) We will take time to deepen our understanding of the Constitutions and Statutes.

Where and when will this program take place

This program will be held at the Motherhouse in Paris from October 1 to October 31, 2019.

Is there more information?

The program will be conducted in English, Spanish and French and the total cost is € 2,000 (that price includes lodging, meals, all the session, pilgrimages, museum tickets and material).

Since the Motherhouse receives a large number of visitors, your participation in this program must be confirmed before September 15, 2019 (no registrations will be accepted after that date). More information will be provided at a later time.

Your brother in Saint Vicente,  
Rev. Dr. Andrés R. M. MOTTO, C.M.  
Director of the C.I.F.

**PS:** to register participants or for any clarification, write to:  
[cifparis@cmglobal.org](mailto:cifparis@cmglobal.org)

# CALL TO ACTION



## LET US SHARE THE CHARISM

“How could you draw souls to Jesus Christ if you weren’t united among yourselves and with Him? That couldn’t be. So then, have only one same opinion and one same will, otherwise it would be to act like horses hitched to the same plow, with some pulling to one side, the others to the other, and in that way they’d spoil and break everything. God calls us to work in His vineyard: go to it as having in Him but one same heart and intention, and by this means you’ll have a very good yield of fruit from it” (Coste, English Edition, Conference 104a, Volume 11, page 137).

Dear brothers,

Our faith and our vocation unite us to Christ and to the mission to which we belong. Thanks to charity, we are united. Our office wants to share this unity through the contemporary world’s media.

The objective of the Communication Office is “to be a communication hub where the life and history of the Congregation are intertwined to maintain the importance of the charism.”

This goal can be achieved especially with your support. The Congregation is

present in 95 countries and today, thanks to digital technologies and our office, all the places where a missionary resides can be reached by all of us through this digital connection (and not only).

That is why we ask you to assist us by sharing with us your stories, your hopes, your difficulties, but also your successes, your projects, your talents, and your service to the poor.

We will support you by connecting you as one body and one soul and, in this way, the Congregation can inspire not only the confreres, but also the laity who know us in the world and those who do not yet know us.

To nourish the charism and spread it, we ask you to read carefully the infographic that follows and inform us, by email, of your eventual availability.

Imagine, dear brothers, that the plow of which Saint Vincent speaks is our office with its website, its newsletter, Vincentiana magazine, its social channels, and you, the horses that will direct it!

# We need you!



## Articles:

On the charism, spirituality, missionaries in the world, projects, lives of the saints, charity, service to the poor.



## Translations:

Translators of different languages of our Congregation (Spanish, French, English, Italian, Portuguese, others). To translate: articles, prayers, social media content, and videos



## Photos:

High quality photos of our missionaries at the service of the poor, of our missionary works, of our activities, and photos that represent the charism in action.



## Video:

Brief reports about our missionaries on the missions. Video testimonies of new vocations. Let the world know our support for the poor by showing what we do.

Contact us to collaborate  
with the communication office:

[nuntia@cmglobal.org](mailto:nuntia@cmglobal.org)

## NOMINATIONS / CONFIRMATIONS

PRAGER John P.	10/01/2019	Director DC Ecuador (Reconfirmed)
MAUVAIS Christian	12/01/2019	Visitor France (Reconfirmed)
FEUGANG Guenolé	15/01/2019	Visitor of Vice-Province of Cameroon
MOREIRA RIBEIRO José	16/01/2019	Director DC Recife (Reconfirmed)
TIRKEY Prakash	16/01/2019	Visitor North India
AZCÁRATE GORRI Santiago	18/01/2019	Visitor Zaragoza

## ORDINATIONS

DA SILVA Paulo César	Sac	FLU	08/12/2018
KAITHAMATTATHIL Joseph	Sac	INM	02/01/2019
ALIJALA Joseph	Sac	INM	05/01/2019
GUDDINTI Jayanth Kumar	Sac	INM	05/01/2019

## NECROLOGIUM

Nomen	Cond.	Dies ob.	Prov.	Aet.	Voc.
ROELOFS Linus (L. J.)	Sac	01/01/2019	CGN (HOL)	82	61
PÉREZ FERNÁNDEZ Serafín	Sac	05/01/2019	SVP	73	55
RAFTERY Eamon	Sac	06/01/2019	HIB	83	64
GÓMEZ PRIETO José	Sac	08/01/2019	PER	91	69
MAGNOUX Hervé Daniel	Sac	08/01/2019	MAD	74	56
ANTOLINI Luigi	Sac	14/01/2019	ITA	78	59
WĘGLARZ Andrzej	Sac	28/01/2019	POL	82	67
DAVITT Thomas	Sac	30/01/2019	HIB	89	72



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