L-AĦBAR

PROVINĊJA FRANĠISKANA TA' SAN PAWL APPOSTLU, MALTA. No. 97 1.12.2004

Matul il-Definitorju Ġenerali li sar fl-10 ta' Novembru, Fra Francesco Bravi ġie elett Vigarju Ġenerali ta' l-Ordni tal-Patrijiet Minuri.

Huwa ġie magħżul wara l-mewt ta' Fra Antonio Franjic, OFM, li miet fis-7 ta' Settembru 2004.

Ara wkoll il-Fraternitas, paġna 16

Żjara Franġiskana f'Bormla

Temmejna ż-Żjara Franġiskana f'Bormla b'sentimenti ta' gratitudni kbira lejn Alla. Dak kollu li konna ipprogrammajna li nagħmlu, għamilnieh bl-għajnuna ta' Alla, u bħal donnu l-Mulej bierek u kattar l-isforz ċkejken tagħna.

Nistgħu tabilħaqq ngħidu minn qalbna t-talba ta' ispirazzjoni franġiskana: 'Għaliex meta nagħtu aħna naqilgħu'.Meta nirriflettu fuq l-attivitajiet kollha li kellna l-grazzja nieħdu sehem fihom: iż-żjajjar lil mitt familja f'Bormla, il-laqgħat mat-tfal u maż-żgħażagħ, man-nisa u l-irġiel, it-tqarbin lill-morda, iċ-ċelebrazzjoni ta' l-Ewkaristija fid-diversi żoni ta' Bormla, l-ammont kbir ta' Qrar, l-Adorazzjoni Ewkaristika fil-Knisja ta' San Pawl, is-sehem tagħna fil-pellegrinaġġ marjan nhar l-20 ta' Novembru, il-programm fuq ir-Radju Tliet Ibliet, iż-żjara tagħna fid-dar ta' l-Anzjani, fil-Monasteru ta' Santa Margerita eċċ, nistgħu ngħidu li kollha kienu mezz ta' barka għalina, l-ewwel u qabel kollox, u mbagħad in-nies li ħadu

ikompli p. 17

Nawgurawlek
Milied hieni u qaddis
u s-Sena 2005
tkun waħda
ta' paċi u ġid.

L-Editur

FESTA DI SANT'ANDREA

Lettera a Sua Santità Bartolomeo
Arcivescovo di Costantinopoli
e Patriarca ecumenico

Roma, 22 novembre 2004

Prot. N. 095103

«Il Signore Le dia pace!»

Approssimandosi il giorno in cui la Chiesa celebra solennemente la festa dell'Apostolo Andrea, mi rivolgo a Lei con le parole di saluto che il Signore rivelò al nostro padre san Francesco.

Possa davvero la Pace del Risorto regnare sempre nei nostri cuori, nelle nostre comunità ecclesiali, nei nostri Paesi. Possano gli uomini e le donne di ogni nazione, razza e credo religioso trovare in Cristo la forza per vivere nella riconciliazione, riparando le ingiustizie e superando le divisioni.

Ricordando con gioia l'udienza che mi ha benevolmente concessa lo scorso mese di settembre, colgo l'occasione di questa mia per rinnovarLe il profondo desiderio dell'Ordine dei Frati Minori di voler vivere in questa riconciliazione, rimanendo sempre vicino alla Sua Chiesa, per imparare ogni giorno di più a respirare con entrambi i polmoni della grande tradizione cristiana. Sulle orme del nostro Fondatore, del suo amore e grande rispetto per ogni fratello e sorella, in cui scorgeva sempre il volto del Signore nostro Gesù Cristo, anche noi vogliamo metterci in ascolto ed essere tra voi in atteggiamento di accoglienza, nella consapevolezza che solo aprendoci al fratello, imparando a conoscerlo e ad amarlo, valorizzandone l'unicità, sarà possibile crescere insieme e insieme camminare verso la meta comune, verso Colui che è per tutti «il bene, ogni bene, il sommo bene, il Signore Dio vivo e vero» (S. Francesco).

Prego ogni giorno perché la nostra piccola e giovane Fraternità di S. Maria Draperis in Instanbul cresca in questo spirito di condivisione e sia testimone dell'amore e della vicinanza di tutti i figli di Francesco d'Assisi al Patriarcato di Costantinopoli e, attraverso di esso, a tutta l'Ortodossia. Sia la testimonianza di questa nostra vicinanza un segno piccolo ma concreto che non solo è possibile, ma che è bello e dà gioia che i fratelli vivano insieme, soprattutto oggi che il nostro mondo è dilaniato da odi e violenze fratricide.

Interceda per noi l'Apostolo Andrea, perché anche noi sappiamo riconoscere l'Agnello di Dio che passa nella nostra storia e, con fedeltà e amore, seguiamo le sue orme, per giungere ad abitare nella casa del Signore tutti i giorni della nostra vita.

Fr. José Rodríguez Carballo, ofm
Ministro generale

Communication from The Definitory
November 2004

The General Definitory held another “tempo forte” from the 8th to 22nd November, during which it dealt with the following:

* The appointment of the Vicar and Procurator General. Br. Francesco Bravi was appointed Vicar and Procurator General by the General Definitory. Another Definitor will be elected in the near future to complete the number fixed by the 2003 General Chapter.

* Visitators. The following Friars have been appointed Visitators: Br. Stephen Bliss, of the Province of the Holy Spirit in Australia and Singapore, Assistant Visitator to the “Foundation” of the Province of Sts. Cyril and Methodius (Croatia) in Australia; Br. Johannes Bahlmann of the Province of the Immaculate Conception of Brazil, Visitator to the Province of the Seven Joys of Our Lady (Brazil), Br. William Short, of the Province of St. Barbara in California (USA), to the Province of South Africa.

* Canonical Visitations. The reports of the Canonical Visitations to the Scotus Commission (Rome), to the College of St. Bonaventure of Grottaferrata and to the Marian Province of Hungary were examined and approved.

* Delegates General. The following have been appointed Delegates of the Minister General: Br. Francesco Bravi, Vicar General, for the General Curia; Br. José Pereira das Neves, of the Province of Portugal, to accompany the Custody of St. Clare of Mozambique towards its autonomy as an autonomous Custody; Br. Paskalis Bruno Syukur, Minister Provincial of the Province of Indonesia, for the Foundation of Thailand, dependent on the Minister General.

* Budgets for 2005. The budgets for 2005 were presented and examined. The approval of the said budgets will be carried out during the “tempo forte” of December.

* VIII Centenary of the Foundation of the Order. The definitive text of the celebrative itinerary of the VIII Centenary of the Foundation of the Order was approved. The text is entitled “The grace of our origins”. The “ad hoc” Commission for the Extraordinary General Chapter has presented a work project which was approved by the General Definitory. The project will focus on the “project of life” (the Rule) which Francis left us and which we have to put into practice. It will begin from the document “The vocation of the Order today” in order to confront us and question us: what must we do today? An Instrumentum Laboris for the Chapter, which will attempt to bring the Rule closer to life, will be arrived at on the basis of the syntheses which will come from the Provinces. It is thought that both the Chapter and the document which will come out of the Chapter will be open and look to the future.

* Commission for the Entities. The Definitory has been informed of the work of the Commission for bringing the Entities into line with the new legislation. At the same time it has taken suitable decisions so that the said updating can be carried out with the coming into force of the new General Constitutions and Statutes.

* Commission for the financial contributions to the Curia (“tax bands”). All the

material which the "ad hoc" Commission had prepared and will be sent to the Ministers Provincial for the study and application of the contributions to the General Curia were examined and approved. At the same time, the Definitory approved the "putting into practice" of the contributions for the year 2005, taking into account the increase in the cost of living.

* Educational Pastoral Activity. The General Definitory and the Friars of the General Secretariat for Evangelisation reflected on "educational pastoral activity". The Definitory approved a "Questionnaire" in this regard which will be sent to all Entities.

* Works in the Curia. The Bursar General gave detailed information about the work of refurbishing the General Curia.

* Scotus Commission. Br. Barnaba Hechich was appointed, for a further three years, "President" of the Scotus Commission (Rome) and Br. César Saco Alarcón was appointed "Vice President" of the same.

* Personnel. The General Definitory reflected broadly on the personnel of the Houses dependent on the Minister General and especially on the Offices of the Curia.

* College of St Isidore. A meeting, about the College, between a Commission of the General Definitory and a Commission of the Province of Ireland was held and "an agreement in principle" was reached about granting of the use of the property of the College to the General Curia. The final decision will be taken before the end of the year.

* "Plichi". As in all "tempo fortes", in this one also the Definitory examined and "dispatched" 101 matters which arrived from the different Entities of the Order and which required a response and approval.

* Meetings. The General Definitory held meetings with the Visitator General to the Curia, Br. José Pereira das Neves, who directly informed the Definitory of the Canonical Visitation carried out during these days in the Curia; with the Secretary General for the Extraordinary General Chapter, Miran Spelic, of the Province of Slovenia, and with the Commission for the Extraordinary General Chapter.

* Missionary Project in Myanmar. After receiving opportune information offered by the Definitor of the region and the formal request of the local Church, the General Definitory approved, in general lines, the opening of an International Fraternity in Myanmar, where we are not yet present.

* Thailand Project. The contract with the Province of Indonesia was renewed and there was a reflection on the project, particular attention being paid to the implantatio Ordinis.

* The coming into force of the new Constitutions and Statutes. On the 8th December 2004, the new Constitutions (in reality it is a question of the previous ones with some changes introduced by the last General Chapter) and the new General Statutes come into force. The Curia has published the text in Latin and in the three official languages: English, Italian and Spanish.

* Other information. The Definitory was informed in detail of the fraternal visits to some Entities carried out by the Minister General, accompanied by the Definitor for the region, and about some international meetings held during this period: the Province of St. Francis of Nairobi, Visit to the Province of Cologne, Visit to the Province of the Czech Republic, Visit to the Province of Ireland, Visit to the Province of Slovenia, Visit to the Province of Assisi, Visit to the Province of Genoa, a meeting of the young professed Friars of the South Slav Conference and a European meeting of Justice and Peace. The Definitors, in turn, gave information about some visits and meetings carried out during recent weeks: a Meeting with the English-speaking, COMPI, CONFRES and South Slav Conferences, a visit to the Province of Nairobi, Thailand and Myanmar. Finally, the Definitory carried out an evaluation of the meeting held in the General Curia with the MEFRA and COPEF Conferences during the month of October.

* **Other activities**. During this "tempo forte" the General Definitory was the guest of the community "Mondo X" in Rome for a full day dedicated to sharing and reflection; It participated in the celebration of 100 years since the death of Blessed Mary of the Passion, Foundress of the Franciscan Missionaries of Mary, and celebrated the annual meeting with the Visitators for this year. The said meeting lasted from Monday to Friday and 26 new Visitators, appointed this year, participated.

Br. Sandro Overend, ofm
Secretary General

Newsletter - ***Province of the Immaculate Conception***

November 2004

Tegucigalpa, Honduras - A meeting was held on Friday, October 29 to elect the Central American Foundation President. Present for the meeting: Valentine Gesuale, Peter Paul Meilak, Angelo Falzon, Rafael Frenandez, Albert Gauci, Joseph Bonello, Donald Salazar, Nery Aguirre, and Peter Walsh. Absent for the meeting: Flavian Mucci, Roberto Siguerre, Ottaqviano Batolini, Guy Vellardita, and Rocco Famiglietti.

Elections were held following a lengthy meeting that included discussion on: the future of the missions; issues raised concerning the number of friars who are present, future friars who may wish to come to Central America; friars living alone; future meetings with the Provincial and members of the Provincial Board; and retreat schedule. Rafael Fernandez was elected as Foundation President and Joseph Bonello as Councilor.

On Saturday October 30, Robert Campagna (Minister Provincial) and Patrick Boyle visited with Bishop Roberto Camilleri in Comayagua. On Sunday October 31, they visited and celebrated Mass with Bishop Gerald Scarpone who is presently residing at the Instituto San Francesco.

- ***Jekk ghandek kotba sbieh – b'materjal li jqawwilek qalbek meta thossok taqta' qalbek, li jsahhnek f'waqtiet xitwin – ghandek grazzja kbira. Terz tal-popolazzjoni tad-dinja anqas ghandhom access ghal ktieb wiehed biss – ahseb u ara jkun taghhom.***

Provinċja Franġiskana ta’ San Pawl Appostlu - Malta

Prot. No. 04\11\87

ĊIRKULARI

Lill-Fraternitajiet,

Il-Mulej jagħtikom is-sliem! Kif tafu, bejn il-15 u l-21 ta’ Novembru, aħna bħala Provinċja se nkunu nfakkru il-150 sena mill-proklamazzjoni tad-Domma ta’ l-Immakulata permezz taż-Żjara Franġiskana fil-Parroċċa ta’ Bormla. Mit-tħejjijiet li saru jidher li hemm ħeġġa mhux ħażin kemm min-naħa tagħna kif ukoll mill-Kleru u n-nies ta’ Borlma. Għas-suċċess ta’ din il-ħidma pastorali, qed nibgħatilkom dan it-talb għal matul il-jiem taż-Żjara u avviż biex jinqara fil-Knejjes tagħna fil-*weekend* li ġej.

Preċi fit-Tifħir ta’ Sbiħ il-Jum u l-Għasar
Marija Immakulata seddaq lill-ħutna kollha fil-ħidma qaddisa taż-Żjara Franġiskana.
- U wettaq b’kull ġid spiritwali u materjali lill-knisja f’Bormla.

Talba tal-Fidili fil-Quddies
Ġesu’, Bin Marija Immakulata, xerred kull barka mis-sema fuq il-Provinċja Franġiskana fiż-żjara pastorali li f’dawn il-jiem qed twettaq fil-Parroċċa ta’ Borlma. Nitolbu.

Avviż
Fl-okkażjoni tal-150 sena tad-Domma ta’ l-Immakulata, Patruna ta’ l-Ordni Franġiskan, aħna bħala Franġiskani Maltin, ser inwettqu Żjara Franġiskana fil-Parroċċa ta’ Bormla mill-15 sal-21 ta’ Novembru 2004. L-iskop tagħna hu, li nsa ħħu il-prezenza ta’ Kristu Sidna qalb il-poplu ta’ Bormla bl-interċessjoni ta’ Marija Immakulata. Għalhekk nixtiequ nitolbukom biex matul il-jiem taż-żjara, tkunu ta’ support għalina bit-talb tagħkom.

Paċi u ġid.

Maħruġa mill-Kurja Provinċjalizja
Il-Belt Valletta
Illum, 11 ta’ Novembru 2004

Fra Paul Galea, OFM
Ministru Provinċjal

Fra Marcellino Micallef, OFM
Segretarju tal-Provinċja

Fil-ħarġa ta’ L-AĦBAR li jmiss, Fra Anton Farrugia se jikteb dwar il-festafranġiskana li saret mas-sorijiet franġiskani tal-Qalb ta’ Ġesu’ (Sagramentini) u l-laqgħa soċjali li se ssir fis-7 ta’ Diċembru flimkien ma’ l-aħwa franġiskani konventwali. Kull min jixtieq jikteb għall-AĦBAR jibgħat il-materjal provofm@vol.net.mt

MISSJUNARJI ĠODDA: 2004

Friar	from	missionary in
Fr. R. Shin Hyun Jae	Provincia Santi Martiri in Korea	Cina
Fr. Barnaba Dziekan	Provincia RDC-Congo, Fondazione in Centroafrica	Federazione Francescana in Marocco
Fr. Mariusz Otachel	Provincia dell'Assunzione in Polonia	Fondazione in Russia e Kazakhstan
Fr. Norman Samsel	Provincia dell'Assunzione in Polonia	perla Fondazione in Centroafrica
Fr. Gonzalo Sebastian Z.	Provincia S. Francisco in Argentina	Custodia di Terra Santa
Fr. Angelo Redaelli	Provincia S. Carlo a Milano	Fondazione in Congo-Brazzaville
Fr. Efrem (Robert) Kalaga	Provincia S. Edvige in Polonia	Federazione Francescana in Marocco
Fr. Paolo Kim Gyun-Sun	Provincia Santi Martiri in Marocco	Provincia S. Francesco in Africa (Nairobi)
Fr. Olivo Pisoni	Provincia S. Virgilio in Trento	il Burundi
Fr. Eliot Dariusz Marecki	Provincia S. Francesco in Polonia	Fondazione in Russia e Kazakhstan
Fr. Wojciech Boloz	Provincia dell'Assunzione in Polonia	Custodia di Terra Santa
Fr. Honorat Piotr Cwikla	Provincia Immacolata Concezione in Polonia	Fondazione in Thailandia
Fr. Albin Stanislaw Kolarski	Provincia Immacolata Concezione in Polonia	Provincia S. Francesco in Africa (Nairobi)
Fr. Ananiasz Jacek Jaskolski	Provincia dell'Assunzione in Polonia	Custodia di Terra Santa
Fr. Romano Al mango	Provincia Immacolata Concezione in USA	Custodia di Terra Santa
Fr. Noel Muscat	Provincia S. Paolo a Malta	Custodia di Terra Santa
Fr. Louis Bohte	Provincia Martiri di Gorcum in Olanda	Custodia di Terra Santa
Fr. José de Jesus Gonzalez Hernandez	Provincia Santi Francesco e Giacomo in Messico	Custodia S. Chiara in Mozambico

DOSSIER EUROPE – HOLY LAND

Custodian of Holy Land asks European leaders to come to Jerusalem

Jerusalem (AsiaNews) – A European constitution is "something good", Fr Pierbattista Pizzaballa, Custodian of the Holy Land, told *AsiaNews*. Speaking about official signing ceremony in Rome of Europe's constitution, he said that it was a positive step that Europe can be present in the Middle East as a single political and economic actor with one plenipotentiary that can put pressure on both Israelis and Palestinians to reach peace.

Father Pizzaballa hopes that "a unified Europe will be able to have its say on how the Middle East evolves." The Custodian acknowledges that "European governments are absent" when it comes to protecting the region's Christian minority, but "being so closed geographically to Europe [and its Churches] is a great thing".

Here is the interview Father Pizzaballa gave *AsiaNews*.

What do you think of the signing of the European constitution?

It is certainly something positive. Europe getting its own charter is an historic event that comes after so many years of work. There are some elements of this constitution that leave a lot to be desired, but this aside, the fact that there is a constitutional document is something good.

Several commentators were unhappy with the fact that the constitution does not have any explicit reference to the continent's Christian roots. Do you think this omission can have negative repercussions on the relations between Europe and predominantly Muslim Middle East?

I hope not. I too was surprised by this omission. I can't understand how one can be afraid of one's history. I hope that it won't matter but it is too early to know. Only the future will tell.

Is the birth of a European polity important for the Middle East?

Europe and the Middle East have always had close ties and the signing of the European constitution is very important. Relations between the two have not always been easy and reaching a common European approach on the Middle East is a positive step. I hope that a unified Europe will be able to have its say on how the Middle East evolves.

What would you like to see European governments do vis-à-vis the peoples of the Middle East?

They should play a greater political role in the peace process between Israel and Palestine. They should also take a more united approach to economic issues. This would favour more joint development plans in the region.

What important symbolic step could European leaders take vis-à-vis the Middle East?

They could all come here. I wish there could be a diplomatic representative, a single plenipotentiary representing Europe that would have the power to put pressure on the governments of the two peoples to reach peace.

France was once seen as the protector of Christians in the Holy Land. Do Christians in the Middle East feel that Europe is helping them?

Currently, Christians in the Holy Land are receiving help from Churches throughout the world, including those of Europe. Being so closed geographically to Europe is a great thing. Governments are a bit absent but this stems from political choices made in Europe such as the separation of state and religion. Our consolation comes from the solidarity Churches express through the help and support they give us. (LF)

The Custos attends the funeral of Arafat

The Father Custos of the Holy Land, Fr. Pierbattista Pizzaballa, O.F.M., attended the funeral of Arafat in the West Bank town of Ramalah with a delegation of friars from the Custody of the Holy Land and offered his condolences to the Palestinian Authority. The Custos and the friars were near where the helicopter that carried the remains of the president of Palestine, Yassir Arafat, landed. At the moment of landing there were clouds of dust blown over the people by the rotors of the helicopter , and in the midst of the mass confusion there was sporadic gunfire in the air by the military, as was seen on television.

- ***Jekk qatt ma ghaddejt mill-perikli ta' gwerra, is-solitudni ta' cella tal-habs, it-tbatija tat-tortura, u l-ugigh tal-guh, inti ahjar minn 500 miljun bniedem madwar id-dinja.***

- ***Jekk tmur il-knisja minghajr biza' ta' tpattija, arrest, torturi inkella mewt, inti ahjar minn tliet biljun bniedem fid-dinja.***

- ***Jekk fil-frigg ghandek l-ikel, hwejjeg fil-gwardarobba, saqaf fuq rasek u sodda fejn timtedd, inti aktar sinjur minn 75% tal-popolazzjoni dinjija.***

ikompli minn p. 1
sehem fihom bil-qalb.

Barka għalina għaliex stajna ngħixu bis-sempliċità il-vokazzjoni tagħna u nixhdu għaliha: il-grazzja li naħdmu flimkien, li, bħalma jnebbaħna l-Vanġelu, immorru tnejn tnejn biex nagħtu xhieda ta' Dak li jgħaqqadna, li nitolbu flimkien u naqsmu flimkien il-ġurnata tax-xogħol, maqgħudin f'għan wieħed, il-grazzja li naqsmu flimkien dak li nħossu u dak li l-Mulej laqqgħana miegħu matul iż-żjara. Tassew din hija l-aktar ħaġa li laqtitna: li din iż-Żjara Franġiskana kienet verament okkażjoni ta' barka u mument ta' grazzja għalina li ħadna sehem fiha u għal dawk kollha li talbu għalina matul dawn il-ġranet.

Barka għan-nies li ħadu sehem fl-attivitajiet għaliex sabu min kien lest jixhed għall-Vanġelu, min kien lest jisma' u anke jagħtihom xi parir, min kien lest jaqsam magħhom il-piż tal-ħajja, joffrilhom il-ħbiberija u l-maħfra tal-Mulej tagħna, sabu min kien lest ikun f'nofshom bħala sinjal tal-Mulej u tal-Knisja tiegħu.

Karatteristika partikulari ta' din iż-Żjara kienet in-nota marjana. Iż-Żjara saret fl-okkażjoni tal-150 sena mill-proklamazzjoni tad-Domma ta' l-Immakulata. Dan inħass sewwa f'Bormla, anke meta wieħed jiftakar li f'dik il-ġimgħa kien hemm il-ħruġ tal-vara u l-pellegrinaġġ bl-istatwa tal-Madonna. Fiż-Żjara stajna nikkontemplaw ir-rabta u d-devozzjoni kbira li l-Bormliżi għandhom għall-Immakulata; u stajna naqsmu din l-istess devozzjoni tagħna bħala Franġiskani magħhom matul dawn il-ġranet. Forsi wieħed mill-mumenti l-aktar impressjonanti taż-Żjara kien meta kantajna t-Tota Pulchra fuq l-artal, fi tmiem il-pellegrinaġġ marjan.

Din iż-Żjara kienet l-ewwel waħda li saret wara waqfa ta' aktar minn għaxar snin. L-esperjenza f'Bormla mhux talli ma naqsitx, imma żiedet ix-xewqa li dan l-appostolat tal-Provinċja jibqa' jiġi żviluppat u organizzat bħala espressjoni ħajja u vera ta' dak li aħna u dak li ngħixu.

Fra Marcello Ghirlando OFM
Koordinatur taż-Żjara Franġiskana

Festafranġiskana fil-Ħamrun

Nhar il-Ħamis, 25 ta' Novembru, il-fraternita' franġiskana tal-Ħamrun organizzat festafranġiskana għall-aħwa franġiskani fil-Ħamrun. Ta' min jgħid li fi Triq Villambrosa, il-Ħamrun, hemm tliet fraternitajiet, jiġifieri s-Sorijiet Franġiskani tal-Qalb ta' Ġesu' (Fra Diegu), is-Sorijiet tal-Qalb Bla Tebgħa ta' Marija (magħrufin ukoll ta' l-Egittu) u l-aħwa l-patrijiet.

28 patrijiet u sorijiet iltaqgħu għall-adorazzjoni li ssir fil-knisja kull nhar ta' Ħamis, flimkien mal-lajċi. Wara ġiet organizzata *pasta night* imħejjija mill-GIFRA. Kien mument fejn l-aħwa saru jafu lil xulxin, kif ukoll mument, kif jgħid is-salmista: "kemm hi ħaġa sabiħa u ħelwa li l-aħwa jgħammru flimkien... Hemm il-Mulej jagħti l-barka, hemm hu jagħti l-ħajja ta' dejjem." (Salm 133) Ilkoll urew l-apprezzament tagħhom, u wrew ix-xewqa li ħaġa bħal din tiġi organizzata minn żmien għal żmien.

- ***Jekk izzomm rasek wieqfa bi tbissima fuq xofftejk u bi hsieb ta' radd il-hajr jimrah f'ruhek, inti ghandek grazzja ghaliex il-bosta li jistghu ma humiex konxji tas-sabih li qed jghumu fih.***
- ***Jekk tista' zzomm id xi hadd, tghannaqhom mieghek u semplicement ittaptpilhom fuq spallejhom, ghandek grazzja kbira ghaliex Alla jista' jinkoraggixxi lil dak li jkun permezz tieghek.***
- ***Jekk tlabt ilbierah, ergajt tlabt illum u bi hsiebek tkompli titlob ghada, int xortik tajba ghax huma bosta li ma gharfux lil Alla bhala missier li jhobb u jiehu hsieb uliedu.***

Festa ta' Santa Elizabetta ta' l-Ungerija Patruna ta' l-OFS

Nhar it-Tlieta, 17 ta' Novembru, fil-knisja San Franġisk, il-Ħamrun ġiet iċċelebrata l-festa ta' Santa Elizabetta ta' L-Ungerija, patruna ta' l-OFS. Għal din l-Ewkaristija ħadu sehem il-fraternitajiet kollha ta' l-OFS f'Malta, kif ukoll it-tliet Ministri Provinċjali Fra Paul Galea, OFM, Fra Alfred Calleja OFMConv., u Fra Joe Alessandro OFMCap., kif ukoll l-Assistenti Spiritwali ta' l-OFS u l-fraternita' tal-Ħamrun.

Il-Ministru Provinċjal Fra Paul Galea mexxa l-Ewkaristija. Fl-omelija tiegħu huwa għamel riflessjoni dwar Santa Elizabetta u s-sena ta' l-Ewkaristija, fejn saħaq fuq l-umilta' ta' Alla u tal-qaddisa.

Il-kant tal-quddiesa kien animat mill-GIFRA Ħamrun u wara saret bibita fiċ-Ċentru San Franġisk.

L-Edizzjoni TAU *ghandha l-VAT number taghha. li huwa MT17273615.*
Jista jintuza biss ghall-materjal li jigi stampat: publishing of journals and periodicals. Biex nkunu nistghu nigbru l-vat lura l-invoice trid tkun indirizzata: Edizzjoni TAU u Fra George Bugeja , OFM irid ikollu l-cash sale jew l-invoice biex ikun jista jressaqha meta jressaq d-denunzja.

ITTRA FIL-LEĦEN IS-SEWWA TA L-20 TA' NOVEMBRU 2004

Grazzi, Patri Ġużepp O.F.M.

Nixtieq ngħidlek grazzi minn qalbi kollha għan-nom tal-Komunita' Franġiskana, għan-nom tal-Parroċċa tal-Madonna tas-Sacro Cuor, Tas-Sliema, ghan-nom ta' tant penitenti tiegħek barra mill-parroċċa, tal-ħidma saċerdotali tiegħek speċjalment fl-amministrazzjoni tas-Sagrament tar-Rikonċiljazzjoni. Miet saċerdot Franġiskan għall-qalb ta' Alla.

Kien il-25 ta' Otubru fl-10.30 a.m. Meta Patri Ġużepp OFM kien sejjer iqarben lill-morda fid-djar meta ħassu ħażin fit-triq u miet barra mgħannaq ma' Ġesu' Ewkaristija li kien għadu ma ġiex ikkunsmat.

Il-ħidma kollha ta' Patri Ġużepp kienet iċċentrata fuq Ġesu' fl-Ewkaristija u fuq Ġesu' li jaħfer fis-sagrament tar-Rikonċijlazzjoni. Kont nistħajlu San Piju ta' Pietralcina mis-6.00 ta' filgħodu jiftaħ il-Knisja tas-Sacro Cuor u dlonk jintasab fil-Konfessinarju kuljum għal sigħat sħaħ jistenna l-midinbin biex iħabbibhom ma' Alla.

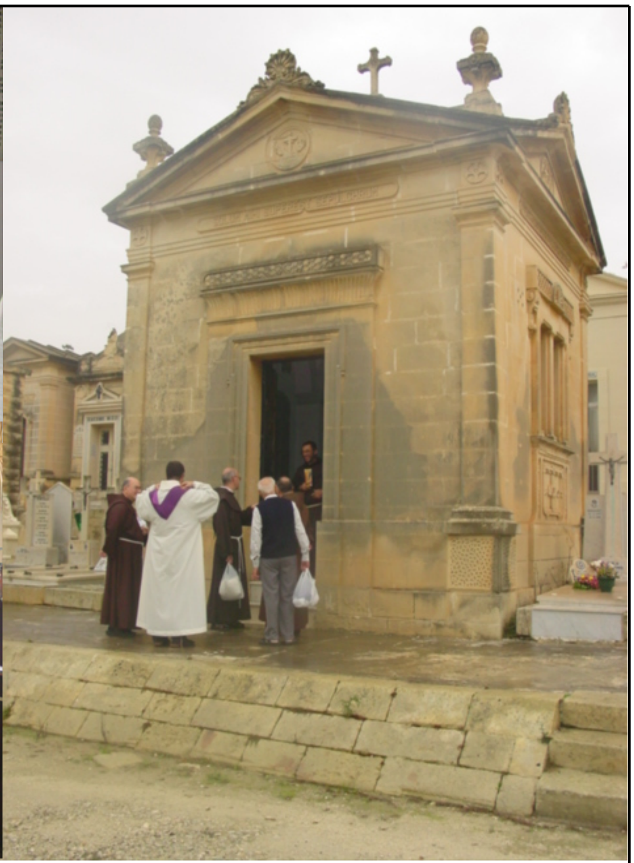
X'ħerqa kellek, Patri Ġużepp, biex lill-bnedmin midinba terġa' tagħtihom il-grazzja ta' Alla f'isem Kristu u hekk ma jgħixux u fuq kollox ma jmutux fid-dnub il-mejjet. Kemm kien ħaj fik it-tagħlim ta' Missierek San Franġisk li qal: "Gwaj għall–bniedem li jmut fid-dnub il-mejjet". Żgur li l-Mulej Ġesu' u Ommu Marija Sultana ta' qalbu laqgħuk fi ħdanhom bi tbissima tas-sema. Żgur ukoll li ħafna penitenti tiegħek li telqu qablek fil-Ħajja ta' Dejjem huma grati lejk għas-servizz li tajthom biex għenthom isalvaw ruħhom.

Kulħadd kelma waħda meta ġie biex jikkumenta fuq Patri Ġużepp.

Kemm kien saċerdot ġentili, paċenzjuż, jagħmillek kuraġġ fid-dgħufija tiegħek, jittrattak ta' persuna speċjali li għandek l-istorja tiegħek mingħajr ma jgħaġġlek għax hemm nies oħra jistennew biex iqerru. Kont tistħajlek tqerr għand Ġesu' nnifsu li tant kellu mħabba u ħin għall-midinbin. Patri Ġużepp kien saċerdot li ngħata għall-oħrajn mingħajr daqq ta' trombi, fl-umilta' u l-faqar ta' ħajtu. Il-Mulej iħallsu bi kbir fil-Ħajja ta' Dejjem talli qdieh b'fedelta' kbira fis-sejħa saċerdotali u franġiskana tiegħu.

Agħtiħ, Mulej, il-mistrieħ ta' dejjem; id-dawl ta' dejjem jiddi fuqu. Jistrieħ fis-sliem. Amen.

Doris Cordina
Sliema



Nhar is-Sibt, 13 ta' Novembru numru sabiħ ta' patrijiet iltaqgħu fil-kappella taċ-ċimiterju ta' Marija Addolorata biex iċċelebraw l-Ewkaristija għar-ruħ l-aħwa mejtin. Il-quddiesa kienet immexxija mill-Ministru Provinċjal Fra Paul Galea, OFM, fejn fit-tmiem il-quddiesa bierek l-oqbra.

Anke l-oqbra ta' l-aħwa midfunin f'Għawdex ġew imberkin fit-2 ta' Novembru, wara ċċelebrazzjoni ta' l-Ewkaristija mill-fraternita' ta' Għawdex.

NEKROLOĠJU

5 ta' Mejju 2003

PATRI ĠUŻEPP CREMONA, minn Lixandra, Eġittu. Twieled fis-17 ta' Novembru 1913, bin ġenituri Maltin, daħal Franġiskan fil-Kustodja ta' l-Art Imqaddsa fl-1930. Qeda l-ministeru pastorali tiegħu fl-Eġittu, Nażaret, Akri, Għemmaws, Kana u Ġeriko bħala kappillan, għalliem u segretarju tal-Kustodja. Kittieb tal-Malti, u awtur ta' ħafna poeżiji, li ġew ippubblikati fl-1982 bl-isem «Ward ta' Lotus» (Ed. TAU). Miet fl-infirmerija ta' San Salvatur, Ġerusalemm. Età 90 sena, reliġjuż 72 sena, saċerdot 64 sena.

25 ta' Ottubru 2004

PATRI ĠUŻEPP MICALLEF, minn Ħaż-Żebbuġ. Għal bosta snin kien konfessur imfittex fil-knejjes tal-Ħamrun u Tas-Sliema, fejn kien jaqdi l-ministeru saċerdotali tiegħu ma' ħafna morda fi djarhom. Gwardjan u konfessur tas-sorijiet. Miet Tas-Sliema waqt li kien iqarben il-morda. Età 69 sena, reliġjuż 52 sena, saċerdot 43 sena.

GĦADDIET GĦALL-ĦAJJA TA' DEJJEM

Nhar it-Tnejn 29 ta' Novembru Sr. Maria Angel Sultana għaddiet għall-ħajja ta' dejjem. Il-funeral tagħha sar l-għada fil-monasteru ta' Santa Klara, b'quddiesa ppreseduta mill-Ministru Provinċjal Fra Paul Galea, OFM.

Din is-soru Klarissa għexet il-ħajja kkonsagrata kemm meta kienet Nażaret u anke f'Malta għal aktar minn 70 sena.

Għall-quddiesa, barra l-qraba ta' Sr. Angel kien hemm diversi patrijiet tal-provinċja.

Myanmar: A new Missionary Fraternity

The Order of Friars Minor is extending its missionary presence to Myanmar, known in the past as Burma. The General Definitory, during the "tempo forte" of November 2004, decided to open an international fraternity in the capital of Myanmar, Yangon.

Msgr. Locelyn Madden, Prefect Apostolic in Burma, had requested the presence of the Friars Minor in the region in 1979, without, however, receiving a positive answer. The Archbishop of Yangon, Msgr. Charles Bo, recently invited the Friars Minor once again, especially for the ministry of spiritual accompaniment and pastoral animation in the Catholic community. The Catholics there are a small minority (1.05%), but the communities are very alive and produce many religious vocations.

The Franciscan Missionaries of Mary (FMM) are present in Myanmar since the foundation of their Institute. The conditions for the establishment of the Friars Minor are favourable. The new fraternity will be formed by Asian Friars coming from the Provinces of Korea, Vietnam and the Philippines.

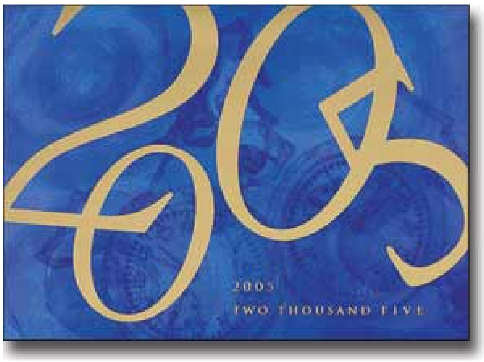
Myanmar is a prevalently Buddhist country and the biggest and most majestic Pagoda, built in 500 BC, can be admired in Yangon. In this ancient country, rich in traditions, at least fourteen different ethnic groups, who retain their own characteristics, live.

Provincja San Pawl Appostlu - Malta DIĊEMBRU 2004

IT-TNEJN	IT-TLIETA	L-ERBGħA	IL-ħAMIS	IL-ĠIMGħA	IS-SIBT	IL-ħADD
		1.	2.	3.	4.	5. II Ħadd ta' l-Avvent
6.	7.	8. Festa ta' l-Immakulata Patruna ta' l-Ordni Franġiskan	9.	10. Festa ta' Fra Lorrie Zerafa	11.	12. III Ħadd ta' l-Avvent
13. Festa Publika	14.	15. Definitorju Provinċjali - Bahia, Mellieha **NOVENA TAL-**	16. **NOVENA**	17. **NOVENA**	18. **NOVENA**	19. IV Ħadd ta' l-Avvent **NOVENA**
20. **NOVENA**	21. **NOVENA**	22. Party tal-Provinċja fil-fraternita' tar-Rabat	23. **NOVENA**	24.	25. **KRISTU TWIELED GĦALINA!**	26. Festa tal-Familja Mqaddsa Festa ta' Fra S. Sciberras u ta' Fra S. Magro
27.	28. Party tal-Ġenituri Porziuncola Retreat House	29.	30.	31. Te Deum Laudamus Festa ta' Mons. Sylvester Magro		

General Constitutions and Statutes 2004

Today, 30th day of November 2004, the last volumes of the General Constitutions and General Statutes have been sent out. They are in the three official languages of the Order with a facing latin edition. These documents, together with a database version, are available online at:
http://www.ofm.org/ccssgg



FESTI U BIRTHDAYS

DIĊEMBRU

10 Fra Lorrie Zerafa
25 Fra Noel Muscat
26 Fra Stephen Sciberras
26 Fra Stephen Magro
27 Fra Ġwann Schranz
31 Mons. Sylvester Magro

1 Fra Alfred Sciberras
3 Fra Noel Muscat
4 Fra Marcellino Micallef
11 Fra Ġwann Micallef
17 Fra Charles Tonna
17 Fra Ray Scicluna
19 Fra Godfrey Micallef
29 Fra Pietru Pawl Meilak
31 Fra Sebastian Camilleri

JANNAR

7 Fra Karlu Tonna
8 Fra Arturu Azzopardi
16 Fra Marcello Ghirlando
20 Fra Sebastian Camilleri
27 Fra Julian Sammut

7 Fra Kerubin Galea
8 Fra Adrian J. Cachia
Fra Mark Ciantar
9 Fra Charles Grech
15 Fra Kamillu Aquilina
31 Fra Sandro Overend

Awguri u Xewqat Sbieħ!

F' DIN IL-ĦARĠA

Diċembru 2004

Żjara Franġiskana 1
Ittra tal-Ministru Ġeneral lil Patrijarka Bartolomew 2
Ittra tal-Milied mill-Ministru Ġeneral 3
Mid-Definitorju Ġenerali 6
Ċirkulari tal-Ministru Provinċjal 9
Missjunarji ġodda 2004 10
Intervista mal-Kustodju ta' l-Art Imqaddsa 11
Fraternitas 12
Festa Franġiskana fil-Ħamrun 18
Festa tal-Patruna ta' l-O.F.S. 19
Apprezzament għal Fra Ġużepp Micallef OFM 20
Informazzjoni 21
Kalendarju 23

L-AĦBAR

EDITUR

fra marcellino micallef ofm
provofm@vol.net.mt

Kunvent Tal-Fran;iskani
291, Triq San Pawl,
Valletta VLT 07

Tel. 21238218 Fax. 21231266