



Il-Kappella tat-Transitu (il-post fejn Missierna S. Franġisk iltqa' ma' oħtu l-mewt nhar it-3 t' Ottubru 1226), li tinsab fil-Bażilika ta' S. Marija ta' l-Anġli ġewwa Assisi. Il-pittura hija ta' Domenico Bruschi (1840-1910) u saret fl-1886.

***"Għax għaliya l-ħajja hi Kristu,
u l-mewt hi rebħ"***

Fil. 1.21

**Tifkira għażiża ta' hutna l-patrijiet,
l-familjari tagħna u l-benefatturi.**

**+ Aghtihom, o Mulej, il-mistrieħ ta' dejjem u d-dawl ta' dejjem
jiddi fuqhom jistrieħu fil-paċi. Amen**



**ORDO FRATRUM MINORUM
MINISTER GENERALIS**

C. Min. Generale de Frat. Minor. (O.F.M.) - S. Maria Maddalena 29, 00185 Roma - Italia - Tel. +39 06 664519
fax: +39 06 488169 - e-mail: omg@ofm.org

To Minister Provincial
Br. Sandro Overend OFM
Province of the Saint Paul Apostle
291 St. Paul Street
Valletta VLT07 MALTA
and to all the brothers of the Province

Rome, 8th September 2008

Re.: Message to the Province after the Chapter 2008

Dear Brothers,

May the Lord give you His Peace!

After the closing of your Provincial chapter of 2008 I would like to wish you and to your Province the help of the Holy Spirit to carry out the decisions of the Chapter and to make this event fruitful in your life.

In the General Definitory, we have reflected upon the final report about your Chapter. Let me share with you some of the things that seem to me to be important as you start this three-year period.

It seemed to us that you were living in a difficult period in the development of your society: with growing welfare, consumerism is likely to erode traditional values. In this situation I would like to confirm your resolution to look at our world always as **men of faith**. It is only in faith that we can discover how to live a Gospel life today. Our life "hidden with Christ in God" (Col 3:3) is therefore the point of departure for the discernment of the ways that lead us into the future.

As you are trying to discern what the Lord is asking of you, a generous response is never lacking on your behalf. What needs discernment is whether you will be able to carry on all the various tasks that you have undertaken in the service of the People of God. It will be inevitable to set up a **priority** in these tasks, to be able to regroup your forces and to maintain the good level of your service.

In recent years, in fact, reflection in our Order has given us the basic insight that the three elements of **fraternity, contemplation and mission** are connected in a fundamental way. For your discernment, I would like to underline his profound interconnection. As you speak about your life experience in permanent formation meetings, try to reflect regularly on this interconnection of **fraternity, contemplation and mission** – never any of these without the other two. It is often the link between **fraternity and mission** that has bearings on leadership decisions. I wish you the courage to make these when they seem inevitable.

Internet: <http://www.ofm.org>

In the name of the whole Order, I thank you for the very important help that you are giving to our presence in Libya. Besides offering personnel, the framework of fraternal life and formation is crucial in terms of assuring a background to friars working there. I sincerely hope that your provincial fraternity will be able to keep up this commitment and fill the existing agreement with a rich content.

I would like to mention a specific aspect of our witness in fraternity. Friars around the world are trying to live poverty in today's circumstances with a particular stress on **transparency and solidarity**. It is becoming an insight shared by all friars that any solidarity with the poor must begin with solidarity among the members of the House or the Province. I would like to encourage you to live up to the radical expectations that our legislation holds up to us in this respect.

I let me close this fraternal message with a reminder about the pastoral care of vocations. Do not cease to offer our charism for the young people who come to you with their questions. Be always ready to propose them the beautiful ideal of Gospel life that once touched your hearts and is still animating your choices. Share with them the joy of following Christ!

May the Lord guide you with His Spirit on your way and enlighten your heart. We know that he has been faithful to his promises, and we know he is the one who "creates all things anew." Remaining faithfully in communion with him, our steps will never go astray.

Yours in St. Francis:




Fr. José Rodríguez Carballo O.F.M.
minister general

Prot. n. 699141

*An extract of the intervention of Fr. Jose Rodriguez Carballo O.F.M.,
Minister General, on the 11th October during the General Assembly
of the Synod of Bishops*

“ The Word of God is life and the text is only understood in depth in the measure in which it is lived and put into practice. Indeed, any listening to the Word or its study would be transformed into a curse, would be “ words which kill (cf. St. Francis, Admonition 7), if they were not embodied in everyday life”.

 **ORDO FRATRUM MINORUM
MINISTER GENERALIS**

Il-Hidma ta' I-O.F.S. ġewwa pajjiżna

(*Nota ta' l-Editur* : Nhar id-28 ta' Settembru ġie ċelebrat ġewwa l-knejjes kollha Franġiskani - **JUM L-O.F.S.** L-Iskop tal-Kunsill Nazzjonali ta' I-O.F.S. kien, biex fostna lkoll terġa' titqajjem mill-ġdid l-idea tal-hidma ta' I-O.F.S. f'pajjiżna. Fost il-hwejjeġ li nrridu niftakru : li ma għadux isejjaħ Terz Ordni Franġiskan, kif xi whud għadhom jgħidu. Se nġiebu artiklu żgħir, li deher fi *flyer*, li tqassam ġewwa l-knejjes tagħna f' dak il-jum mill-membri ta' I-O.F.S.)

X' jġifieri Ordni Franġiskan Sekular ???

ORDNI Għax huwa għaqda ta' Nsara li jiddeċidu volontarjament li jgħixu fuq ir-regola tal-fundatur li tiegħu qegħdin ihaddnu l-ideal. Fih jibdew mixja ta' formazzjoni li twassal għall-Professjoni.

FRANĠISKAN Għax ġie mwaqqaf minn San Franġisk u kien huwa stess li ta r-regola lil dawk li jhaddnu dan l-Ordni. Din ir-regola mbgħad ġiet approvata minn diversi Papiet.

SEKULAR Għax dan l-Ordni kien imwaqqaf għas-sekulari, jġifieri dawk l-insara, li waqt li jibqgħu fid-dinja bla ma jingħalqu f' kunventi jew monasteri, jgħixu l-hajja tal-Vanġelu fuq it-twissijiet ta' San Franġisk.

L-Ordni hu mifrux madwar id-dinja. Huwa attiv f' 103 pajjiż u għadu jinfirex. L-organizzazzjoni u l-amministrazzjoni hija mmexxija miċ-C.I.O.F.S. (Konferenza Internazzjonali ta' l-Ordni Franġiskan Sekular) maħtura mill-Fraternitajiet Nazzjonali kollha u li tiegħu hsieb ixxerred il-Vanġelu u l-kariżma Franġiskana mad-dinja.

Għall-aktar informazzjoni : P. Martin Coleiro O.F.M., Kunvent tal-Franġiskani, Triq S. Pawl, Rabat RBT 1245 Tel. 21 45 45 94 jew <http://ofsinfo.blogspot.com/> <http://ofsmalta.blogspot.com/>

AHBARIJJIET MILL – PROVINĊJA

Il-festa ta' Missierna S. Franġisk

Fil-kunventi tagħna saru bosta ċelebrazzjonijiet f' ġiegh Missierna S. Franġisk. Spikka, bħas-soltu, it-tberik tal-*pets* u l-*animali*. Jalla dak l-messaġġ, li ppruvajna inwaslu lin-nies li jifrekwentaw l-knejjes tagħna, aħna nippruvaw ngħixuh f' ħajjietna.

Ohtna l-mewt terga' żurna

Nhar t-23 t'Ottubru miet fl-Isptar *Mater Dei*, huna P. Karlu, Tonna li twieled ġewwa r-Rabat, Malta, nhar is-17 ta' Diċembru 1935. Huwa liebes iċ-ċoqqa franġiskana nhar is-26 ta' Settembru 1954 u għamel il-Professjoni Solenni nhar it-28 ta' Diċembru 1958. Ġie ordnat saċerdot nhar is-7 t' April 1962. Fi' ħdan il-Provinċja huwa qeda s-servizz ta' Gwardjan, Mastru ta' l-Studenti u Assistant Spiritwali lokali ta' l-O.F.S. Hadem f' Londra u Toronto .Barra minn dan, huwa kien konfessur u konferenzier. R.I.P.

Laqgħa ta' l-ESC

Il-Provinċjal, P. Sandro Overend, bejn is-6 u l-10 t'Ottubru, attenda għall-laqgħa ta' ESC, li saret fil-*Catholic Theological Union* ġewwa Chicago, l-Amerika. Din id-darba kien hemm ukoll il-Provinċjali ta' l-COTAF (il-Provinċji tat-Transalpina). Fost is-suggetti li ġew diskussi: Il-fidi illum u l-Kapitlu Ġenerali 2009.

Vanġelu mill-Art Imqaddsa fuq DVD

Il-CAM Productions International (Cpi), entita' fi ħdan is-Socjeta' Mlssjunarja ta' San Pawl, ħarġet sensiela ta' *DVDs* dwar il-Liturġija tal-Kelma taċ-ċiklu B. Dan seta' ssir possibbli wara żjara fl-Art Imqaddsa. Fihom insibu spejga dwar il-post fejn seħħ il-Vanġelu, minn P. Twanny Chircop OFM, il-Kummissarju ta' l-Art Imqaddsa ġo pajjizna, qari tal-Vanġeli minn Fr. Louis Mallia MSSP u Marthese Brincat, u spejga tal-Vanġelu minn P. Marcello Ghirlando OFM. Din hija ħidma oħra biex il-poplu tagħna jkun jista' japprezza aħjar il-Kelma t' Alla u l-ħidmiet li qed jgħamlu ħutna l-patrijiet tal-Kustodja ta' Art Imqaddsa. Aktar informazzjoni fuq : www.cpi.com.mt. Prosit tassew !!!!!

Reċensjoni

Fonti għall-Hajja ta' Sant' Antnin ta' Padova

(Nota ta' l-Editor: *Dan l-artiklu deher fil-ġurnal – Lehen is-Sewwa ta' l-4 ta' Ottubru 2008 f' pagna 18*)

Fonti għall-Hajja ta' Sant' Antnin ta' Padova, traduzzjoni mill-original Latin ta' Noel Muscat OFM u Ġużep Beneditt Xuereb OFM, introduzzjonijiet, apparat kritiku u indiċi ta' Noel Muscat OFM, edizzjoni TAU, Patrijiet Franġiskani, Malta 2008, pp.555, ISBN 978-99932-0-595-1.

Fis-sensiela ta' pubblikazzjonijiet tal-Fonti medjevali tal-hajjiet ta' qaddisin Franġiskani, wara ż-żewġ volumi dwar il-*Fonti għall-Hajja ta' San Franġisk* u l-volum dwar il-*Fonti għall-Hajja ta' Santa Klara*, issa jmiss dan il-volum dwar il-Fonti Bijografikli għall-Hajja ta' Sant' Antnin ta' Padova (1195-1231).

Il-Fonti għall-Hajja ta' Sant' Antnin huma dokumenti medjevali dwar wieħed mill- aktar qaddisin popolari tal-kristjanita, miktubin minn patrijiet li kienu jafuh, jew minn dixxipli tagħhom, bejn l-1232 u t-tmiem is-seklu 14. Huma xhieda tal-għerf kbir tad-duttur Evangeliku Sant' Antnin, għax jipprezentawh bħala predikatur u qaddis li jwettaq għegubijiet, l-aktar fl-ambjent ta' Padova fejn qatta' l-aktar snin importanti ta' hajtu. Fl-istess hin jitekellmu dwar l-orijini tiegħu fir- renju tal-Portugall, l-ewwel bħala Fernando ta' Lisbona, kanonku regolari ta' Santu Wistin, u mbgħad bħala Fra Antnin, li jissahhar mis-semplicità ta' l-ewwel Patrijiet Minuri li għaddew minn Coimbra biex imorru l-Marokk, fejn mietu martri fl-1200.

Juru lil Antnin bħala missjunarju fl-Afrika ta' Fuq, nawfragu fuq ix-xtut ta' Sqallija, patri mhux magħruf fil-kapitlu ta' l-Għid il-Hamsin tal-1221, eremita fuq Monte Paolo, predikatur li juri l-għerf tiegħu fil-belt ta' Forli. Juruh bħala għalliem tat-teologija f' Bologna, bħala kustodju tal-patrijiet f' Limoges, u bħala ministru provinċjal f' Padova. Fuq kolloxx, huma dokumenti ta' valor kbir rigward il-kult li ngħata lill-qaddis mill-poplu sempliċi, sa mill-ewwel mumentu wara l-mewt tiegħu fil-monasteru tal-Klarissi ta' Arcella, qrib Padova fit-13 ta' Ġunju 1231. Huma dokumenti li nkitbu mill-ewwel wara l-kanonizzazzjoni ta' Antnin fi żmien *record* ta' biss 11- il xahar mill-mewt tiegħu, u li saret mill-Papa Girgor IX fit-30 ta' Mejju 1232.

Din hi t-tielet opra li l-Franġiskani Maltin qegħdin jipprezentaw fis-sensiela ta' volumi ta' dokumenti Franġiskani medjevali, li jikkommemoraw il-25 anniversarju mit-twaqqif ta' l-**Edizzjoni TAU** (1982-2007) u jippreparaw iċ-ċelebrazzjoni tat-800 sena mill-fondazzjoni ta' l-Ordni tal-Patrijiet Minuri (1209-2009).

B' hekk nistgħu ngħidu li issa għandna f'idejna t-tradizzjoni bil-Malti tal-Fonti medjevali ewlenin ta' l - iktar tliet qaddisin importanti ta' l-Ordni Franġiskan. Ta' min jgħid li hu biss fil-lingwa Taljana li dawn il-Fonti dwar Sant' Antnin ġew tradotti kollha.

Ix-xogħol tat-traduzzjoni sar minn P. Noel Muscat OFM u P. Ġużepp Beneditt Xuereb OFM, li ma laħaqx ra din l-opra stampata, għax miet fil-11 ta' Ottubru 2007. Il-volum hu għalhekk ukoll att ta' gratitudni għall-ħidma li għamel P. Ġużepp Beneditt b'risq il-Provincja Franġiskana Maltija u l-Ordni tal-Patrijiet Minuri. Il-volum fih preżentazzjoni minn P. Raymond Camilleri OFM, li hu l-fundatur ta' l-edizzjoni TAU.

Fir-recensjoni li l-istudjuż P. Leonhard Lehman OFM Cap., għamel dwar il-volumi tal-Fonti għall-Ħajjiet ta' San Franġisk u Santa Klara, u li dehret fir-rivista *Collectanea Franciscana*, fost kritika kostruttiva nsibu kliem ta' apprezzament, li qegħdin nitraduċuh bil-Malti: “ Dawn iż-żewġ volumi ma jistgħux ma jqajmux fina ammirazzjoni. Il-Patrijiet Minuri ta' Malta rnexxielhom jitraduċu u jipublikaw il-Fonti Franġiskani bl-ilsien tagħhom, ċertament għal ċirku ta' persuni ristrett ħafna, imma din il-ħidma rnexxielhom jagħmulha bl-istess impenn u eżateżża xjentifika li użaw l-edituri tal-edizzjoni Amerikana għal pubbliku ħafna akbar”.

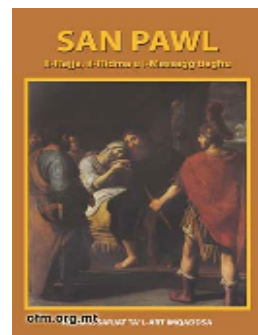
Il-volum dwar il-Fonti ta' Sant' Antnin issewgi l-istess metodologija ta' dawk ta' qablu, biż-żieda prezzjuża ta' introduzzjonijiet u apparat kritiku, flimkien ma' indiċi ta' riferimenti bibliċi, indiċi ta' persuni. Indiċi ta' postijiet u indiċi tematiku. Il-figura simpatika ta' Sant' Antnin ta' Padova tista' issa ssir magħrufa aħjar fir-rikkezza kollha tagħha, bil-hila ta' din il-ħidma esperta. Il-volum jista' jinkiseb direttament mingħand P. Ġorġ Aquilina OFM, Kunvent tal-Franġiskani, 291, Triq San Pawl, Valletta VLT 1213, Tel. 21251131. Prezz : €20.

KOTBA GĦAS-SENA PAWLINA

Tkun haġa flokha, jekk f' din is-Sena Pawlina, ssir taf aktar lil



MISSIERNA SAN PAWL



FRATERNITAS

Vol. XLI. Nr. 148 - OFM Rome - Email: rbahcic@ofm.org - 11. 01. 2008

The VII Centennial of the Death of Blessed John Duns Scotus

- **Johannes-Duns-Scotus-Akademie** organizes in Cologne, Germany, from Nov. 5 – 8, 2008 study days dedicated to John Duns Scotus entitled, *Unity and Love of God and of Men in John Duns Scotus*.
- **The Department of Philosophy of the Catholic University of the Sacred Heart in collaboration with the Province of Friars Minor of Lombardy, Italy** from November 7 – 8, 2008 in Milan organizes a convention of studies on *“Pro statu isto”: The Appeal of Man to the Infinite*.
- **The Pontifical University Antonianum** from Jan. 15 – 16, 2009 in Rome organizes a convention: **A Journey toward Truth. Actuality of Thoughts of John Duns Scotus.** www.antonianum.eu; sco-tus@antonianum.eu
- **At “the Cultural Center Cardinal Cisneros”** from November 3 – 7, 2008 in Madrid, Spain, plans study days entitled, **Actuality of Thoughts of Bl. John Duns Scotus.**

“Let us hope that this VII Centennial of the death of the *Subtle and Marian Doctor* constitutes a strong impulse for all the Franciscan institutes of study, so that his message may be still valid for the future. If John Paul II, in his discourse in the former Franciscan Church of Cologne in 1980, defined him as a “spiritual tower of faith”, then this must be for all Franciscans an invitation to discover his thought so fruitful for dialogue with the culture of our time.”

(From the Letter of the General Ministers of the First Order and of the TOR: *John Duns Scotus: Genius and Audacity*)

The General Board of Definitors meets the Conference of Asia and Oceania

From September 20 – 24, the General Board of Definitors met with the Conference of East Asia, South Asia, Australia, and Oceania, as requested by the General Chapter. The meeting with all the representatives of the entities present in two continents took place in Bangkok, Thailand. In addition to the General Minister and his board of definitors, there were also present 22 other members (Ministers, Custodians, and two secretaries). On the first day, the Minister and his board visited our presence in Lamsai. The General met with the friars who live in Thailand; it is a new presence in the Order that is growing with vocations from the local area and offers encouraging prospects. In the morning of the 21st, a solemn celebration presided by Cardinal of Bangkok remembered the 8th centennial of the Order. Then, a busy moment for everyone ensued with a visit to “St. Clare’s home”, where the sick stricken with Aids are cared for. The meeting between the Definitors and the Conference took place at the “Pastoral Center of the Bangkok Archdiocese”; it is a big and very comfortable structure offering space for every need for this event, such as accommodation, a chapel, halls, and a beautiful garden surrounded by flowers and fountains. The meeting, which was admirably prepared, had its first session with the presentation of all entities (Provinces/Custodies), followed by a speech by the General Minister with an opportunity for dialogue regarding future challenges. Not even a history and religious approach to Thai culture was lacking after participating at a cultural show and a historical view of the Royal Palace.

Lithuania – V Congress of European Lithuanian Franciscan Youth

Preparations for the V Congress of European Franciscan Youth will take place in Lithuania from Aug. 18 – 24, 2009 with the theme, “From Martyrdom to Resurrection”.

For Franciscan Lithuanian youth, it will be a great honor to welcome other Franciscan youth in their country of Lithuania which commemorates a thousand years to its name in their Capital of Vilnius, the European Capital of Culture 2009. This Congress will be a true event, especially for Franciscan youth of Europe because it will happen during the VII centennial celebration of the birth of Franciscan charism. For more information on this event, one can visit the official website of the Congress at <http://www.jaupra.lt/congress/>.

Hungary – General Chapter SFO

From November 15 – 22, 2008, the Secular Franciscan Order will celebrate its 12th General Chapter in Hungary. It will be an elective chapter and will conclude the period of two years dedicated to the VIII Centennial of the birth of St. Elizabeth of Hungary. The central theme of the Chapter will be “The Profession of the Secular Franciscan and their Sense of Belonging to the Secular Franciscan Order”. See: <http://www.ciofs.org/>

Great Britain – 7th Centennial of the Death of Duns Scotus

The Province of the Immaculate Conception in Great Britain continues to develop the program of initiatives promised for the 7th Centennial of the death of Blessed John Duns Scotus.

On September 14, there was a Eucharistic celebration in honor of the Blessed presided by the Archbishop of St. Andrews, Cardinal Keith O'Brien, in the Cathedral of St. Mary in Edinburgh, Scotland. Present at the celebration were also the Archbishop of Glasgow, Mario Conti, Fr. Henry Doherty and many other Friars. The homily was delivered by Fr. Michael Copps OFM, Provincial Minister. On Sept. 6, the international day of study on Duns Scotus was celebrated at the International Franciscan Institute of Studies under the auspices of the Center of Studies of Franciscan History in Canterbury. The speakers were Dr. Thomas Mollenbeck, Dr. Anonie Vos, Dr. Ed Ondrako, OFM Conv., and Dr. Seamus Mulholland, OFM; it was directed by Fr. Philippe Yates, OFM, person in charge of the Center.

On November 13, there will be a Holy Mass at the International Center of Studies celebrated by Fr. James Mc Curry, OFM Conv., who is the General delegate of the Delegation of OFM Conv. for Great Britain and Ireland. Fr. Edward Ondrako, OFM Conv., will preach for that event, whereas Dr. Thomas Mollenbeck of the University of Paderborn will preach at the annual conference on Duns Scotus entitled “1308 – 2008 John Duns Scotus: A Man for All Seasons”.

Belgium – Program of Franciscan Missionary Formation.

On Sept. 1 in Brussels the course of Franciscan Missionary Formation began with the presence of 12 missionaries (4 Conventuals, 6 Capuchins, and 2 Friars Minor). Given the circumstance, the local Fraternity “grew” because of the presence of the secretary of the OFMConv missions, Fr. Jarek (who stayed for more than two weeks) and of Fr. Larry Webber, Capuchin (who is a permanent member of the group of Formators for the duration of the course). In the month of September, the course will focus on building an intercultural Fraternity. Therefore, the lessons will be about intercultural dynamics, spirituality of the missions, the history of Franciscan missions, and the realization between mission and word of God. In October, lessons on Franciscan missionary theology will be offered with themes such as “justice, peace, integrity of the created” and African culture. The month of November will be dedicated to Asian culture, some practical questions, such as management of the economy. For the conclusion of the course of formation, there will be a moment of spiritual high, i.e., going on retreat/a pilgrimage to Franciscan sanctuaries of the Reatine valley, of Assisi, and la Verna.

Initiatives of Permanent Formation of the Brazilian Conference

The ministry for Formation and Studies of the OFM Brazilian Conference has promoted two interesting experiences of permanent formation. The first so called “Experience Reliving the Gift of Vocation” saw the participation of about 30 friars in the month of July and August with a pilgrimage to the Franciscan places in Italy and the Holy Land. The second one occurred from September 7 – 22 in two places inhabited by indigenous people in the regions of the Amazon, where friars less than 10 years of solemn profession had a mission experience. Both experiences have been very positive and have encouraged the friars to have ample time to renew the gift of their vocation and mission.

Teutopolis, USA – Celebrating 150 Years of Franciscan Presence

Many Friars and friends gathered together the evening of September 14, 2008, to celebrate 150 years since the arrival of the Friars Minor in Teutopolis, Illinois; it was the first phase of the foundation of the Province of the Sacred Heart of St. Louis – Chicago in the USA. After the greeting of the Provincial Minister, Fr. M. Perry, and special thanks to the General Minister, Fr. Jose R Carballo and his General Definitor, Fr. F. McGinn for their presence at this important event of the Province, the celebrations were then begun with the intonation of the official hymn of the Jubilee. A moment of prayer then ensued, leading up to the inauguration of a power point presentation on the history of the Province.

September 15 began with a speech from the General Minister who, once having presented the vision of the Order, invited everyone to discern our life and work according to the priorities of the Order. Above all, he encouraged the Friars to embark decisively on the road of collaboration with other Franciscan entities present in the United States in order to face the great challenges of the present and be authentic signs of fraternity.

The celebration of the Eucharist then followed in the Church of Saint Anthony, presided by the General Minister with the participation of more than 100 friars. Present also were the bishops Robert Hermann of the Archdiocese of Saint Louis and George Lucas of the Diocese of Springfield. At the end of the celebration, the General Minister gave each Friar a copy of the rule of the Friars Minor, and he received, in turn, another copy signed by all the Friars of the Province of the Sacred Heart.

Franciscan Bookmark

Vena vivida – Lebendige Quelle. Texte zu Klara von Assisi und ihrer Bewegung (Texts on Clare of Assisi and her movement), Vol. I., Norderstedt 2008, pp. 209.

The very important process of canonization of St. Clare of Assisi has been handed down to us only in an Italian version of XIV century. Because of the unforeseen illness of the editor, the last part of the process is missing. Some texts in German and Dutch can convey some elements of this process and propose very interesting considerations on the first interpretation of Clare, especially in the German language. The series “Vena Vivida” is the first collection and translation of the ancient texts in the German language regarding Clare. All the texts are presented with introductions, bibliographical references, and notes properly arranged, thus offering us a multicolored vision of the early Clarian tradition. Fr. Johannes Schneider OFM (Telfs/Austria) has put together the texts that are foreseen for the new collection of the sources in the German language on Clare of Assisi.

Notes and Suggestions on the prayers of the Saint of Assisi. (Col. Karisma, 2), Fernando Uribe OFM, Colombia 2008, pp. 264. Praying like Francis.

The written or dictated prayers of Saint Francis are the most important points of reference to know what his relationship with God was like. At the same time, they offer us a clear picture of his inner spirit that, if we don't pay close attention, we can miss out understanding him fully. This book has for its aim the study of these prayers through a detailed analysis of them; and they allow us to discover the saint as a true practical master of prayer. After the presentation of the most important elements of each prayer, the author offers a guide on their structure and content in order to ensure a better comprehension of them. At the end of each prayer, there is a space to allow “suggestions” with the aim of provoking a rereading of the text and how to make them more relevant today. Additionally, the “practice of a *lectio divina* of the prayers of Saint Francis” and the bibliography that this book offers, make them a useful tool for a deep personal reflection and a valuable help for courses, seminars, and retreats on the prayers of Saint Francis. To order copies of this book, go to carismaf@gmail.com; carismaf@telesat.com.co

Great and Small News

The sisters of St. Clare of Assisi Federation of the Poor Clares of Umbria – Sardegna have responded to the appeal of the Custos of the Holy Land, Delegate of the Latin Patriarch, ordinary of the Monastery of St. Clare of Jerusalem, to help that community with new sisters. After a careful discernment by each community, on Sept. 22, 2008, the first two sisters departed for Jerusalem. Among them was Sr. C. Cristiana Ianni by decree of CIVCSVA; she will be in charge with the progress of the elective chapter that will take place in Jerusalem when all the sisters are expected to be gathered there. In the upcoming months, four other sisters will also follow suit; among them will be two from the Monastery of St. Clare of Kamonyi – Rwanda.

Ad limina Petri ‘cum Francisco’ post octingentos annos: This is an initiative which we propose to the Friars of the Franciscan family as a concrete sign of restitution- by word and example – to the Lord for calling us to himself, the Church, and the brotherhood. In other words, it will be a way of celebrating 800 years of the birth of the Order and giving back all that we have received from Divine Providence by reaching by foot, through a **poor itinerancy**, *our mother, the Holy Roman Church, and communicating to the Supreme Pontiff what the Lord has done through us (3 Comp 46)*. This project, which will take place around the Chapter of Mats and which foresees a personal encounter with the Pope in Rome in its second phase on April 18, 2009, will last for 40 days (March 10 – April 18). It will be carried out by foot by 12 friars who will be departing from an undetermined, but significant place of Puglia, Italy (e.g. the Grotto of St. Michael the Archangel), while stopping along the way in those communities that will welcome us to announce the Gospel with *few and simple words* (Test. 2). This will also be in tune with *The Year of St. Paul* proclaimed by Benedict VXI with the aim of a renewed form of evangelization.

Aware that this will take place during the seasons of Lent/Easter, yet encouraged by such an unrepeatable proposal, we ask all the brothers willing to undertake this type of journey to send your support of this project no later than November 29, 2008, to establish meetings of formation, programming, and of social contact. In this way, we will be able to relive that itinerant spirit according to the *Legend of the Three Companions*.

With the hope of a joyful support on your part, I wish you every good in Christ Jesus and his servant Francis. Fr. Giancarlo Li Quadri Cassini, the one behind this initiative. Telephone: 0039 349/1516005; frategiancarlo@alice.it

A Meeting of Provincial Ministers and Formators of the Conference of Cono Sur: From September 25 – 30, 2008, there took place at San Francisco Mostazal, Chile, the meeting of a Conference attended by Provincial Ministers and Formators. Following the itinerary planned by the Conference for this year, the thrust of the meeting was the phase of permanent formation, and, particularly, the theme of accompanying – discernment beginning from the Franciscan Sources and with Franciscan methodology. The title of the meeting was “*A Franciscan Pedagogy on Accompanying*”. The theme was presented by Fr. Johannes Freyer, Rector of the Pontifical University “Antoniano”. In the second part of the meeting, Fr. Daniel Fleitas, Vicar of the Province of San Francisco Solano, Argentina, put out the new document on Permanent Formation. The moments of prayer were lead by different participants of the Entities (Provinces). We thank the Friars of the Franciscan Province of Chile for their good hospitality.

New Provincial Ministers

Fr. Fernando Garzón Ramírez was elected Provincial Minister of the Province of Santa Fe in Colombia.

Fr. Saúl Orlando Flores Interiano was elected Provincial Minister of the Province of our Lady of Guadalupe in Central America and Panama

New General Visitators

Fr. Flaerdi Silvestre Valvasori of the Custody of the Sacred Heart of Jesus in Brazil for the Province of the Immaculate Conception in Brazil.

Fr. Lucas Francisco Gololombe of the Autonomous Custody of Saint Clare in Mozambique for the Foundation of the Immaculate Mother of God in Angola.

Agenda of the General Minister

November 3-14: Busy Time in Rome for the Board of General Definitors.

November 7-08: Inauguration of the Academic year of the Pontifical Biblical Institute in Jerusalem, Israel.

November 10-14: Meeting in Rome of the General Visitators of the Provinces.

November 17-20: Participation of the General Assembly of the Conference of the OFM Provincial Ministers in Latin America (UCLAF) in Bogota, Colombia.

November 21-29: Visit to the Provinces of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Salerno, Italy, of the Sacred Heart of Jesus in Naples, Italy, and of Saint Mary of the Graces in Benevento, Italy

FESTI

DIĊEMBRU

BIRTHDAYS

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

01 P. Alfred Sciberras
03 P. Noel Muscat
04 P. Marcellino Micallef
11 P. Ġwann Micallef
17 P. Charles Tonna
17 P. Ray Scicluna
19 P. Godrey Micallef
29 P. Pietru Pawl Meliak
31 P. Sebastian Camilleri

Xewqat qaddisa !!!!!

Nhar it-13 t' Ottubru **P. Pietru Pawl Meliak OFM** mar jghix f id-Dar tal-Kleru ġewwa B'Kara. Hemm diġa' qed jgħexu hutna : P. Ġwann Schranz, P.Arthur Azzopardi u P. Guido Schembri OFM. Filwaqt li niringrazzjaw minn qalbna lid-direzzjoni tal-Fundazzjoni Arka t' Ġhawdex għal dak kollu li għamlu miegħu f'dawn l-aħħar snin, niringrazzjaw lid-direzzjoni tad-Dar tal-Kleru li lqagħat lil dan huna wkoll. Tkun haġa tajba li nsibu xi hin biex inżuruhom !!!!!

F' DIN IL-HARĠA

Novembru 2008

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L - AĦBAR

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