



CONGREGAZIONE DELLA PASSIONE DI GESÙ CRISTO

P.ZA SS.GIOVANNI E PAOLO, 13

00184 ROMA - ITALIA

Il Superiore Generale

Prot.n.2007.0171

Rome 17 August 2007

Provincial Superiors, Vice-Provincials and Regional Vicars.

RE: World Youth Day in Australia, July 2008.

Meeting of Young Passionist Religious in Melbourne, 5-9 July 2008: Information and appeal for collaboration

Dear brothers,

I am writing to request your assistance in reference to the plan to organize a meeting of the young religious of our Congregation on the occasion of the World Youth Day in Australia, July 2008.

In fact in July 2008, at our monastery of the Holy Cross in Templestowe, Melbourne, the General Council and I would like to meet with the young religious of the Congregation for a period of three days. It will be an important meeting and it will offer a unique opportunity for extensive dialog with our young religious about the Restructuring process of the Congregation and thus address and act upon one of the ten priorities of the recent General Chapter, i.e. the Preferential Option for Youth.

The General Council has named a Commission to program this meeting. It is composed of Frs. Paul Francis Spencer (NECP), Enzo del Brocco (CIPI), Ramiro Ruiz (COPAL), Orven Gonzaga (PASPAC) and Denis Travers as a representative of the General Council. For the past six months the Commission has been preparing and organizing the meeting so that these days will be meaningful for our young religious and for the Congregation. The three days of the meeting will begin on the evening of Saturday, July 5th and will conclude on Wednesday morning, July 9th. The events will be multi-lingual and there will be opportunity for special liturgies as well as major presentations on the topics of Passionist charism, presence and missions in today's world. There will also be specific opportunities for dialog with the General Council. The meeting will also have the added dimension of enabling personal relationships, fraternity, friendships, and communal experiences of prayer, dialog and sharing. It will be directed and facilitated by Passionists from different parts of the Congregation.

A) THE YOUNG RELIGIOUS WHO SHOULD PARTICIPATE IN THE MEETING

I ask that you send at least one member of your Province/Vice-Province/Vicariate to this meeting. For those Provinces/Vice-Provinces/Vicariates who have more than ten young religious who are less than 35 years of age, it is possible to send an additional delegate for every 10 young religious. For those Provinces/Vice-Provinces/Vicariates who do not have religious who are less than 35 years of age it is possible to send a representative from among those who have professed vows or who were ordained within the last ten years. It is my hope and intention that in addition to the presence of clerical students there is also representation from among the Brothers.

In order to assist the international Commission that is preparing this event, I am asking you to communicate the name of the representative or representatives of your Province/Vice-Province/Vicariate to the Secretary General, Fr. Ramiro Ruiz (segretariogen@passiochristi.org) within the next three months, however no later than November 21, the Feast of the Presentation of the Most Blessed Virgin Mary in the Temple. Together with the name(s) of the religious that you send to Fr. Ramiro I also ask you to send the following information:

- **Name(s) of the young religious**
- **E-mail address**
- **Mailing address**
- **Target language**

B) COST FOR THE MEETING

The Province of the Holy Spirit (SPIR) will assume the cost of the organization, the room and board and what is needed for the meeting of the young religious in Melbourne, as well as for the days following attendance at the World Youth Day in Sydney.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the SPIR Province (Australia, New Zealand and Papua New Guinea) for their great generosity.

The Provinces/Vice-Provinces/Vicariates are responsible for the following costs:

- ❖ Travel to and from Australia
- ❖ Registration for World Youth Day.

The General Council is working so that the every sector of the Congregation may participate. I have set aside special funds to assist those areas of the Congregation who have need of assistance in order for their young religious to participate. Those who require financial assistance are asked to contact Fr. Battista Ramponi, the General Econome, to process the request.

I would also like to take this opportunity to ask those Provinces/Vice-Provinces/Vicariates of the Congregation who are financially able to kindly and generously contribute to this fund so that this event may be accessible to everyone.

C) VISA AND REGISTRATION

Practical suggestions about travel and about lodging, etc. in Australia are available from Fr. Denis Travers, First General Consultor. The young religious will be lodged in our Holy Cross monastery of Templestowe, Melbourne. If the number of participants exceeds the availability of rooms, they will be housed in private homes in the vicinity of the Monastery.

It is important to know that the Australian government is guaranteeing a six- week Visa to all those who wish to attend the World Youth Day. Those religious who wish to participate should make the request to obtain this Visa. The request for the Visa is included in the process of Registration for World Youth Day (WYD) and will automatically be

considered by the Australian Department of Immigration and Citizenship. Those pilgrims who intend to go to Australia are asked to register as soon as possible in order to obtain the necessary Visa; the Visa is gratis. Additional information about the Visa can be obtained in English, Italian, Spanish and French on the World Youth Day website: www.wyd2008.org

It may seem that July 2008 is still over a year away; however the registration and the request for the Visa to enter Australia require time to process. Many have already begun the process and therefore I ask for your cooperation so that our young religious may also make their request as soon as possible.

Again I ask you to begin considering and eventually communicating the name(s) of those young religious who will represent your Province/Vice-Province/Vicariate at the Passionist meeting. The prompt communication of the names will greatly facilitate the work that the SPIR Province must now begin in planning the logistics so that this event may bear positive fruits for the religious who participate and for the entire Congregation.

Fraternally,

Fr. Ottaviano D'Egidio, CP
Superior General