



CONGREGAZIONE DELLA PASSIONE DI GESÙ CRISTO
P.ZA SS. GIOVANNI E PAOLO, 13
00184 ROMA – ITALIA
TEL: (39)-06.77.27.11 – FAX: (39)-06.700.8454

Il Superiore Generale

Rome, June 18, 2016

Dear Brothers,

On behalf of all members of the General Council, I wish to present to you this enclosed document - a statement of the standards and principles that should guide and form our pastoral and personal response to the call of Pope Francis to be vigilant in protecting children, youth and all vulnerable people in our care.

The document before you is written in a style that outlines the principles that each of us, as sons of St Paul of the Cross and professed members of the Congregation of the Passion, can embrace and live.

The inspiration for this document is the decree of our 46th General Chapter which states:

Inspired by the life and witness of the Crucified Jesus, Son of God and Son of Mary, the values and teachings he gave us in His Gospel, the best traditions of the Catholic Church and the Spirituality of our Holy Founder, St Paul of the Cross, the 46th General Chapter declares that: The Congregation of the Passion, an International Congregation of Religious priests and brothers, adheres to the policies of professional standards for priests and religious that have been approved by the Holy See, as well as those set up by regional Conferences of Religious Men and by Episcopal Conferences.

This document does not seek to replace policy documents that may already apply within your Province, Vice Province or Vicariate. I am aware that each entity in our Congregation must comply with specific requirements of civil and ecclesiastical law in each country in which our religious serve.

This document does however seek to remind every member of our Congregation that we live in times where both the Catholic community and the wider civil society rightly insist on high standards of behaviour from clergy and religious.

I ask each Major Superior to provide a copy of this document for each religious and I encourage each community to discuss this document in community meetings.

I further suggest that each member of our staff and those associates of our Passionist family who minister alongside us, should also be aware of these standards and that they too should have a copy of this document.

Finally, my dear brothers, I ask that each Province, Vice Province and Vicariate send a copy of their own relevant policies concerning the protection of children and minors to the Procurator General by the middle of September 2016. As you recall, this too was mandated by the 46th General Chapter.

Let us love those who are entrusted to our pastoral care with the same love that we see in the Crucified Jesus - a love that knew no bounds. Let us uphold the highest standards in our personal and pastoral lives and in all ways, and at all times, live as our Founder St Paul of the Cross would wish.

May the Passion of Jesus Christ be always in our hearts.


Joachim Negro CP
Superior General

