

47TH GENERAL CHAPTER

*Renewing our Mission-- Gratitude, Prophecy, Hope
Rome 09 October 2018*

Reports of the Configurations.

After invoking the presence of the Holy Spirit, the Capitulars began to listen to the reports of the different Configurations of the Congregation: Charles Houben Configuration (CCH), Fr. Mark Robin Hoogland; Christ Crucified Configuration (CJC), Fr. Francisco Valadez (substituting for Fr. Francisco Murray, absent from the Chapter; Configuration of the Passionists of Africa (CPA), Fr. Vital Otshudialokoka; MAPRAES Configuration, Fr. Luigi Vaninetti; Asia Pacific Configuration (PASPAC), Fr. Gwen Barde; and the Sacred Heart Configuration (SCOR), Fr. José María Sáez.

Today the Capitulars also were informed about the results of the voting for the members of the Central Coordinating Commission (CCC). Those who accepted the nomination were: Fr. Paul Cherukoduth, Fr. Mark Robin Hoogland, Fr. Francisco Valadez and Fr. Giuseppe Adobati.

After hearing each of the reports, there was an opportunity to ask questions and to try to further understand the different realities of the Congregation in so many different places and cultural expressions. It was a very animated and profitable period of sharing.

The questions that guided the work dynamic of this day were:

- Are the Configurations helping to further the life and the development of the Congregation?
- What challenges emerged from the reports that require further study by the General Chapter?
- What questions emerged from the reports of the Configurations that should be addressed to the General Chapter for further study?

Additionally, today the capitulars celebrated the Eucharist together. This time in the Basilica of St. Mary Major [Rome], at the feet of Our Lady. It was here that St. Paul of the Cross, at the very beginning of the life of the Congregation, found solace and the strength to respond [to the Lord]. Following is an excerpt from the homily [of Fr. Paul Francis Spencer]: *"...When Paul came into this chapel, his head must have been spinning. His hopes were not fulfilled and, instead of meeting the man at the top of the ladder, he met the man at the bottom. He must have done a lot of reflecting and discerning in this chapel. What was he to do? Where was the confirmation he wanted going to come from?"*