GENERAL ARCHIVES (AGCP)

STATUTES

1. The General Archives of the General Curia (AGCP) is an institution of the Congregation of the Passion of Jesus Christ that collects, preserves, organizes, and makes available for study and research, the historical, administrative and pastoral documentation produced by the central government of the Institute.

2. The AGCP was established in 1779 at the General Curia of the Passionists at Piazza Ss. Giovanni e Paolo n° 13 - 00184 Rome, by decision of the Superior General, Fr. Giovanni Battista Gorresio (of St. Vincent Ferrer).

3. Only the historical section of the Historical Archive of the General Curia is accessible.

4. Within the historical section of the AGCP there is a Collection of the oldest documents of the Institute that concern the life, letters and Processes for the Beatification and Canonization of the Founder and his early documents. The possibility of consultation of materials in this Collection is allowed only after evaluation by the Director of the Archives itself and in some cases with the permission of the Superior General.

5. The Archives also houses the Collection of the complex of Saints John and Paul, a retreat under the direct jurisdiction of the General Curia (Basilica, Community and Retreat House).

6. The historical section, as an institution, is responsible for the collection, conservation and provision of documentation considered of historical and cultural interest for the Congregation. It also houses documentation not properly archival: books, photographic reproductions, etc..., collected at different times and places, mostly intended for consultation as an aid to archival research.

7. The documentation produced by the General Curia remains in the “current section”, located in a reserved room of the Archives, for a period related to the processing of the material related to the activities of the various Offices of the Curia itself. It is periodically transferred to the historical section, on a ten-year basis.

8. In the “current section” of the Archives, with time parameters determined by the Superior General and his Council, the documents produced by the Offices of the General Curia converge: The General Secretariat, the Personal Secretariat of the Superior General, the Procurator General’s Office, the General Postulation, the General Secretariat for Solidarity and the Missions, the General Econome’s Office, and the NGO “Passionists International.” These offices and other secretariats or similar entities operating within the General Curia are required to keep the documentary material produced in its sector and to deposit it periodically or possibly as a result of the change of the director of the Office, in the historical section of the Archives.
9. The transfer of documentary material from the Offices and Secretariates of the General Curia to the Historical Section of the Archives will take place only after consulting the Archivist who will evaluate the matter.

10. In the event that the Archives of a Province of the Congregation must be alienated for contingent reasons, the AGCP has the right of preemption to the documentary collections belonging to the Institute. Similarly, in the case of the death of former Superiors General, or other distinguished religious, the archive has the right of preemption to their documentary collections.

11. The Archives is entitled to receive other Collections of documents as well as any other documentary acquisitions. Those who donate, bequeath, exchange or deposit in perpetuity, documents to the Congregation of the Passion, can place the condition of embargo on all or part of the documents of the last hundred years from the date of their creation. The restriction does not apply to those directly concerned.

12. The Archivist is accountable for his/her work to the Superior General and his Council.

13. In carrying out his/her duties, the Archivist shall be assisted by a committee appointed directly by the Superior General, after consulting his Council. This committee normally meets twice a year and acts as a guide and guarantor of scientific competence in providing general guidelines, as well as evaluating the financial management of the institution, through the examination and approval of the annual proposed budget and the final budget report.

14. In addition to the work of the historical documentation of the Congregation, the Archives also offers a technical-scientific training and consultation service, aimed in particular at promoting the establishment of an archive organized in new entities from their inception. As a cultural institution serving the Church, the Congregation, and general historical research, the General Archives also works in conjunction with similar ecclesiastical and civil institutions.

15. Amendments may be made to these Statutes by agreement between the Archivist and the Commission of the General Archives, with the necessary approval of the Superior General.

Attached: Copy of the Decree of the Superior General Giovanni Battista Gorresio, dated 31 March 1779.

Rome, 20 June 2019

The Superior General of the Congregation of the Passion

The AGCP General Archivist