



Newsletter from the Definitory
***** of the Olivetan Benedictine Congregation *****

YEAR XIX n. 1

19th February 2012

Dearest Confreres,

the first Diet of 2012 was held at the Abbey of Monte Oliveto Maggiore between the 1st and 3rd February. Following a detailed examination of the Communities and the Congregation as a whole, the Diet has made the following decisions:

DECISIONS

Community of Ghana

The Definitory feels it is impossible to continue the foundation in Ghana and has decided to close it.

The Definitory feels it is dutiful to thank all those who devoted so much commitment to this foundation, namely dom Giacomo M. Ferrari, Bursar General, dom Sergio M. Livi, Prior of the Community of Bologna, the Community of Bologna itself, the Community of Monte Oliveto Maggiore and, more recently, the Community of Abu Gosh particularly the Abbot and dom Jean Michel M. Claudon. The Definitory points out that this decision does not mean a definite closure to Africa, but it is necessary to start off in a very different way.

Examination of the work of the Capitular Commission for the Olivetan Charism

The Definitory has appreciated the work carried out by the *Capitular commission for the study of the charism* and finds that this work will be presented to the *Congregation for Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life*. It also feels an **extraordinary General Chapter should be held in September 2013** so that the changes to the constitutional corpus presented by the Capitular commission for the study of the charism may be discussed and eventually approved.

Since, according to our Constitutions the extraordinary General Chapter does not have legislative power (see *Const.* 154 [153]), a dispensation will be requested for this number of the Constitutions as was done for the 2001 extraordinary General Chapter. (see ACG A.D. 2001-2002 *Capitulum generalis extraordinarium*, pg. 5-6).

Community of Bologna-Ferrara

Considering the situation created in the single Community residing in Bologna-Ferrara, the Definitory has made the following decision:

- The Monastery of Santo Stefano in Bologna is constituted as a “Domus religiosa” depending directly on the Abbot General and the Definitory and will count not more than three solemn professed monks.
- Ferrara is constituted as a “non-formed house” for which the Abbot General will nominate a Superior for a year.
- The “Domus religiosa” in Bologna will have as Superior, the Superior of the “non-formed house” of Ferrara, being a delegate of the Abbot General, and who will nominate, with the Abbot General’s approval, one of the monks residing in Bologna as responsible.
- The Bursar General will be the administrator responsible for handling all problems regarding finances and the economy of the “Domus religiosa” in Bologna.
- Consequently, the novitiate of the Monastery of Bologna is now suspended.

Farming enterprise of Monte Oliveto

The Definitory has decided to hand over the farming enterprise of Monte Oliveto to the Community of Monte Oliveto Maggiore.

The Definitory feels it is dutiful to thank the Bursar General, dom Giacomo M. Ferrari, for all his commitment.

Norm *ad experimentum*, regarding the so called “cells”, until the next General Chapter

The Definitory feels it necessary to add «both the Monastery and the Cell depending on it, have to at least belong to the same continent, enabling real, effective and easy communication, and not just a nominal fake relationship between the Monastery and the Cell» to the constitutional change “ad experimentum” regarding the “Cell” approved by the Diet held at Monte Oliveto between the 16th and 23rd May 2011 (see *Asterisks* 18/1 [2011] 3).

FROM THE CHANCELLORY (2011-)

RECIEVED THE HOLY ORDER OF PRESBYTERATE

(02-10-2011) d. Leo M. Kiskinis (Bologna).
 (05-11-2011) d. Eliseo M. Pinti Moran (Guatemala).
 (20-11-2011) d. Teodoro M. Muti (MOM).
 (14-12-2011) d. Aidan M. Gore (Pecos).

RECIEVED THE HOLY ORDER OF DEACONATE

(05-02-2011) d. Eliseo M. Pinti Moran (Guatemala).
 (17-06-2011) d. Aidan M. Gore (Pecos).
 (20-11-2011) d. Cristoforo M. Zajchowski (Lendinara).

HAVE MADE THEIR SOLEMN PROFESSION

(01-01-2011) d. Grégoire M. Calmettes (Maylis).
 (02-01-2011) d. Bruno M. Pérez Cabrera (Guatemala).
 (13-03-2011) d. Jean-Pierre M. Ndjee (Bologna).
 (01-07-2011) d. Gideon M. Awuku Sechi (MOM).
 (01-07-2011) d. Kizito John M. Ampofo (MOM).
 (01-07-2011) d. Mark M. Ntrakwah (MOM).
 (09-07-2011) d. Piero M. Mastroviti (Seregno).
 (03-09-2011) d. Antoine M. Darroux (Maylis).
 (01-10-2011) d. Gabriel M. de Olivera Bispo (S. Paulo).

HAVE MADE THEIR SIMPLE PROFESSION

(01-01-2011) d. Michael John M. Rodgers (San Luis Obispo).
 (16-01-2011) d. Tommaso M. Pedditzi (Bologna).
 (21-03-2011) d. Bernardo M. Bergamin (Ribeirão Preto).
 (08-05-2011) d. Edward M. Pushparaj (Bologna).
 (14-05-2011) d. José Bartolomé M. Miranda Alfaro (Guatemala).
 (15-05-2011) d. Benedetto M. Toglia (Lendinara).
 (19-07-2011) d. Gabriel M. Wadlington (Opelousas).
 (12-09-2011) d. Mauro Savarino (Bologna).
 (01-01-2012) d. Benedetto M. Vichi (MOM).
 (17-01-2012) d. Todd Allan M. Barvinek (Pecos).
 (02-02-2012) d. Franco M. Paderni (Rodengo).

HAVE STARTED THEIR NOVITIATE

(16-01-2011) d. Franco M. Paderni (Rodengo).
 (17-01-2011) d. Todd M. Barvineck (Pecos).
 (12-11-2011) d. Eustachio Ilario M. Colucci (Picciano).
 (12-11-2011) d. Michele Giovanni M. Pantone (Picciano).
 (14-01-2012) d. Manuel M. Pecoraro (Lendinara).
 (14-01-2012) d. Francisco M. Iñiguez Padilla (Lendinara).