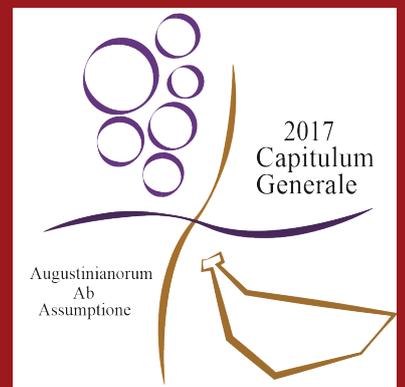


THE NUMBER

35-37 Years: Such is the average age of priestly ordinations at the Assumption.

THE WORDS : World Café

Imported from the United States, the world café is a method of group discussion between people allowing collective ideas to emerge from a group of concrete proposals shared by all. It helps to produce new ideas.



Info 33rd General Chapter of the Assumptionists April 28 - May 17, 2017

Days 15-16 - 12-13 May 2017

THE ESSENTIAL braking or the foot on the accelerator, what counts is the right speed.

Precipitation (rain) outside Lyon and the region, accelerations on some files inside, in the plenary hall, the Chapter is gaining speed. As the last week of his works opens and the time for choices come. Two days “showered with a rain of grace,” according to one of capitulates.



On Friday, the Assembly devoted itself to the study of two capitulary texts prepared by the ad-hoc committees: the Committee on Assets, Resources and their Management (second reading), and the Committee on Formation at the Assumption (For a first reading). In both cases the exchanges were nourished.

Concerning the formation, the Chapter heard the proposal of the Father General to create a general secretariat to the formation to face the magnitude of the task. The statistics show an increase in the number of young religious in formation (see graphs below). The idea of a secretariat was inspired by the example of the White Fathers, neighbours of the Generalate in Rome. In the case of the Missionaries of Africa, there is a non-clergyman assistant responsible for linking the different places of formation, preparing the appointments for the superior general, having a concern to prepare young people appropriately, their mission in constant dialogue with the trainers, the

provincials and the General Curia. At Valpré, the Assembly debate on a possible secretariat for formation for the Assumption showed that this would be a necessary achievement. The outline could be determined at the next CGP (General Plenary Council).

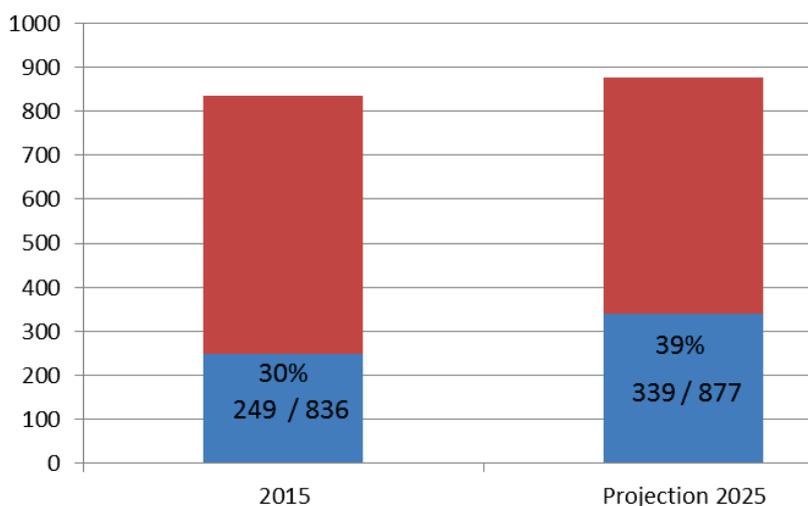
Next, on property, the debate continued on the pooling of resources and autonomy. Father Benoît GRIERE called to re-situate the debate in its perspective: to protect the Congregation and the capital that belongs to it.

The day continued with the election of two general assistants (out of the four expected), including the general treasurer. A highlight presided by the Superior General. Not without first invoking the Holy Spirit to enlighten the choices of the Chapter. At the request of the Superior General, the election took place on the first assistant who will also be general bursar. Br. Didier Remiot was elected. He accepted his election. The Chapter then proceeded to the election of a second assistant general. Fr Marcelo Marciel. He accepted his election.

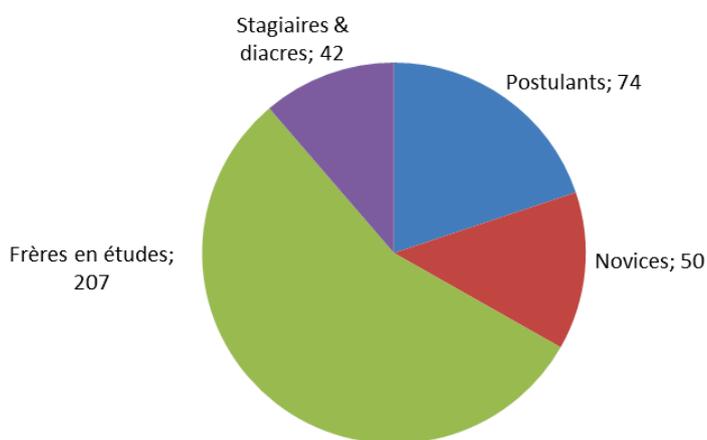
The President, Fr. Benoît Grière, thanked the Chapter for this act of government, which will continue on Saturday. The two assistants will necessarily be new, since Fr. Emmanuel Kahindo of the two other outgoing assistants is completing his second term and Fr. John Franck has expressed his desire not to hold a second term.

Saturday was rainy and stormy. The capitulates are seated at table. Not in the usual dining room, but in the small rooms provided for practicing a method that proved its worth at the first session of the Chapter of Europe: the world of the cadé (See the Word of the Day). Moving from table to table, the linguistic groups have alternately exchanged, from half-hour to half-hour, on topics proposed

Part des frères en formation (études + diaconat) / total congrégation



Répartition des jeunes en formation en 2015 (frères + novices + postulants)



by the Coordination. The Spanish group dealt with the postulation, the Anglophones with justice and peace while the three francophone groups tackled parishes, mobilizing works and new foundations. A facilitator and a secretary ensured that the tour of table was running smoothly. Each capitulate had the opportunity to express himself on each of the subjects, writing his point of view on the tablecloth of each table. It is then up to the co-ordinator to define the status of what has been collected as well. The menu looks rich!

On the menu again this day is the study of the community organization of the Congregation. There is first the review of the text. The idea of vicariates is strengthened but the modalities of their implementation are not yet fixed.

A third assistant general was out of the polls that day: Fr. Thierry KAMBALE KAHONGYA. 47 years. He is the first Provincial Assistant of the Province of Africa. The Chapter pauses to select the fourth assistant. The follows time to recharge the batteries!

F. Robert Migliorini, a.a.

robert.migliorini@assomption.org



Fr. Thierry Kambale Kahongya

The Chapter in Good Voices Echoes of the capitulates



P. Cezar Andrei, Romanian of France (Province of Europe), taking up the words of the philosopher Pascal, applied to the General Chapter: there comes a time for "rest" - in prayer and silence, but also relaxation and meal; of "research" - sometimes complex, but always sincere, in awareness of our poverty - and "truth" - Christ, our new wine, which makes us free in obedience. He sees a real community of life in this Chapter Assembly. Cardinal Barbarin quoted Saint John: "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and peace on earth! "Let's live this chapter as a time to give glory and make the Kingdom come, then peace will come between us and around us.

P. Paul NGUYEN Van Hung. 45 years old (Province of Europe)

Arrived at the General Chapter as the only Vietnamese religious, and for the first time, I am a little lost! But thanks to the Assumptionist "atmosphere," I quickly found myself at home.

The Chapter is already in the final phase. I'm so happy to live this strong experience! As shared in his opening words, Father General, a Chapter is celebrated. The days are punctuated by times of prayer, meditation, retreat and pilgrimage.

The chapter is guided by the Holy Spirit. That is my belief. I also have the joy of discovering the Assumptionist reality in the world by listening to presentations made by brothers from other Provinces. Despite the small size of our family and our weaknesses, I want to give thanks to God for all that He allows us to realize and live.

We are, as I see, very different by the colour of the skin, nationality, culture, language ... but we are all Assumptionists. I find myself fully in the simplicity of relationships and shared fraternal life. The Superior General is re-elected.

I have retained in his word of acceptance the great responsibility of animating the congregation, the expression of his love of God, the Church and the Assumption. He acknowledged his limitations, while ensuring to move forward with confidence. I liked the quote of St. Catherine of Siena "Do your capacity, I will make torrent, source".

I also wish to express my admiration for the departing General Apostles. Thank you for their generosity and their willingness to serve the Congregation. Acknowledging, I pray that the entire Assumptionist Body will be more and more sensitive to personal and community conversion so that we can give a beautiful testimony of the Kingdom of God!



Received in the mail

Marie-Claire ROUQUET: International Commission Lay-Religious alliance.

When one tasted the Chapter (As was my case during the first week), we wait impatiently for the daily chronicles to know the continuation. It's like a good dish after the first bite, when the palate calls to taste the sequel. I like the mention in front of the numbers or the words of the day; they set the tone of the chronicle.

The interviews of the brothers show that with the advance of the Chapter the positions are refined, the remarks adjusted, the joy of meeting brothers who would never have been met because of the geographical distance. It was the same with the laity who, despite the linguistic differences, tried to know what was being done in the Alliance outside of its connecting province. With success!



Sunday program:

**Eucharist with the Christian community.
Continuation of work**