

Message 6 / 2010-2016

General Council of the Missionaries of the Holy Spirit
on the occasion of the 16th General Chapter
...LET US BUILD THE FUTURE THAT THE HOLY SPIRIT INSPIRES

To the Family of the Cross
To those to whom we serve in our ministries
To our collaborators
To our families, friends, and benefactors,
To all of you who participate in this celebration

Dear sisters / Dear brothers:

I pray that our Triune God, who lives in your heart, may be manifest to others through you.

1. God willing, on the next 25th of January of 2016, the 16th General Chapter of our Congregation of the Missionaries of the Holy Spirit will begin. We are sending this *Message* six months early so that you might join us in prayer during this time of preparation, as well as during the Chapter itself, with the intention that the Chapter be a *new Pentecost*.

2. In our *Constitution* we read, "*The General Chapter is an ecclesial event that has as its purpose to discern under the Spirit's guidance in order to adequately preserve and update our charism, renew the spirit, mission, and lifestyle of our Congregation at the service of the Church, and preserve up the Order's legacy*". Furthermore, "*another purpose [of the General Chapter] is to hold the elections for all of the members of the General Council*" (CD 364-365).

3. Among the themes that we will address in the Chapter, two stand out: first, to discern and decide upon the congregational Vision for the year 2034, and second, to define a restructured model for the General Council according to the charismatic style of the Congregation's government.

The motto that we have chosen for our Chapter is "**Attentive to the world's needs, let us build the future that the Holy Spirit inspires.**"

Our Congregation didn't spring forth just for its own good. Rather, it exists for the Church and the world, to bring the salvation of Jesus Christ to others, *to you*. That is why, "*it [the Congregation] will stay ever attentive to history, as well as to the signs of the times*" (CD 279), "*seeking to understand its deep theological meaning through discernment guided by the Holy Spirit*" (VC 73).

The future "that the Holy Spirit inspires" isn't only, or even primarily, the Congregation's future. It is a better future for those whom the Congregation serves, for those who collaborate in our apostolate, for the Church and the world, for each person, for all of humanity, and for all creation.

The Holy Spirit inspires and leads us into the future. He gives us dynamism and direction. He is our Strength and our Guide. With us and through us, the Holy Spirit wants to expand his kingdom "*in hearts, in families, and in society*" (ECC 103).

4. 29 religious will participate in the General Chapter. Of these, 8 will attend because of their office (the five from the General Council and the three Provincial Superiors – one of whom also is the ex-Superior General), and 21 will attend by election. Of the 29 religious, four are from the Christ the Priest Province (USA), twelve from the Province of Mexico, and thirteen from the Province of Felix de Jesus. In addition, other MSPS members will participate as invitees, collaborators, or assistants.


5. We prepare ourselves for our General Chapter in the context of a globalized world – a world with an economic system that produces *“wealthy people who are becoming wealthier at the expense of the poor who are, in turn, becoming poorer”* (John Paul II). This is a world where *“peoples en route to development [...] are feeding the development of the wealthiest countries at the expense of their present and their future”* (LS 52). This is a world where, despite many people’s efforts for peace and justice, many injustices continue: violence, war, insecurity, corruption, impunity, discrimination, human trafficking, and other forms of slavery.

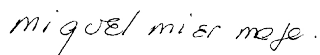
We prepare ourselves for our General Chapter in the context of *a Church* that is celebrating the *Year of Consecrated Life*, and in preparations to begin the *Jubilee of Mercy*. This is a Church that wants all of humanity to become responsible for the world’s ecology – for the *“care of our common home”* – as Pope Francis has asked in his encyclical *Laudato Si*. This is a Church that will celebrate, in October of this year, the Synod of Bishops with the theme, *“The vocation and mission of the family in the Church and in today’s world.”*


6. We thank you for all that you have done for the Congregation and for those Missionaries of the Holy Spirit who have been closest to you these past six years. We ask forgiveness for our failings and for what is lacking in us. And we reiterate our invitation to continue praying for the Missionaries of the Holy Spirit, that we might be transformed in Jesus Christ (cf. CD 6) and that we might expand *“the kingdom of the Holy Spirit, building up the Priestly People, engendering processes of holiness and inspiring commitments to solidarity.”* (CD 13)

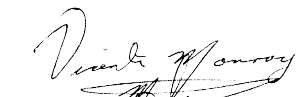
We say goodbye, asking of the Virgin Mary that, just as during her years of solitude she accompanied her Son’s first disciples in the road of brotherhood, mission, and martyrdom, that she also accompany you each day.

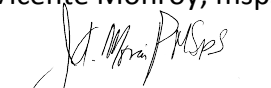
We will be sure to pray for you. Your brothers in the General Council:


 Sup. Gen.
 Fernando Torre, msps.


 Miguel Mier, msps.


 Joaquín González, msps.


 Vicente Monroy, msps.


 Javier Morán, msps.

25 de julio de 2015