FIRST PROVINCIAL CHAPTER
Day 2 – Saturday 10th December 2022

Session 1: The Provincial Council – Its Structure and Organisation

One of the main tasks of the Provincial Chapter is to decide the size and membership of the Provincial Council. With the elections to take place tomorrow (Sunday), it was necessary for the Delegates to make some decisions in relation to this matter.

The Steering Committee put forward the suggestion that there be six (6) Brothers elected to the Council. There were a few questions and observations:

➢ If the Provincial Council feels there is a need to have additional Brothers on the Council can that happen? This is not allowed for in the Constitutions. The Chapter decides the maximum number.
➢ The Chapter can decide not to elect the full membership of the Council at the Chapter and delegate the remaining places for the Provincial and Council to decide.
➢ If it emerges after the Chapter that there is a special need for an additional person with particular skills, the Council can apply to the Superior General to have such a person appointed as a Vicar-Provincial.

➢ Some of the Delegates have succumbed to Covid. They have been participating remotely via Zoom. Can they participate in the election process tomorrow? The Vatican does not permit electronic voting.

There then followed time for group discussion on what was raised above and then a formal vote was taken. Both motions were passed unanimously.

1. The Chapter resolves that there will be six Brothers as Provincial Councilors.
2. Brothers with Covid who are on site, will be allowed to sit separately outside the main meeting room and take part in the election process.

The rest of this Session was given over to group discussion on the question of the three levels of Leadership that are emerging for due consideration. The three levels are:

1. Community Leadership
2. In-country Leadership
3. The Provincial and Council

How do we see these three levels functioning?

**Session 2: The Election Process for the Provincial Council**

From what arose from the morning reflection, the following is what is needed from the Council:

- A strong team approach. A group that can work together effectively, where the Brothers help, support and encourage each other.
- It is not expected that all the Brothers elected will be engaged full-time in the work of the Council.
- However, the Brothers elected must make time for Province matters and commitments.
Skills are important. Collectively, those skills will ensure a competent and capable group. A group that is adaptable.

It is not essential that all areas of the Province be represented on the Council. But we do need complementary people with a diversity of perspectives and skills.

Those elected will need to be energetic. Energy for the work ahead. They need to be reliable and willing to take up what is being asked.

A team that will learn and discern together during the changing context in which we find ourselves.

During the rest of the afternoon, the delegates formally considered a document titled, ‘Process for Discernment and Election of the Provincial Council.

The Process was formally adopted and the elections will take place tomorrow morning (Sunday).

Anthony Robinson.

Please note the following links:

Br Ernesto Sánchez’ keynote address: Click here

Br Peter Carroll’s keynote address: Click here

The Chapter Website: The website has all the links to the videos, photos and podcasts that have been shared and created. View the website here.

The Galley Podcast: The podcast is a conversation with different Brothers from around the Star of the Sea Province. You can listen to each episode here.

UPDATES ON SOCIAL MEDIA

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