

PHASE II OF THE 25TH GENERAL CHAPTER

SOME USEFUL INFORMATION

Dates:

The Second Phase of the 25th General Chapter will begin on the morning of October 31, 2016 and will conclude, at the latest, on the afternoon of November 25, 2016. In this light, all participants are requested to arrive in Bangkok BEFORE mid-day on October 30, 2016. This is to facilitate transportation to the venue on the afternoon of October 30. If you have not already done so, please send a copy of your ticket/travel itinerary to the Secretary General as soon as possible (seg.gen.cssr@gmail.com or seg.gen@cssr.com). This is to ensure that you are met at the airport.

Entering Thailand:

On arrival in Thailand you will be asked to complete a "Landing Card" for immigration purposes. Please note the following information:

Your Contact: Person in Thailand: **Apisit Kritsaralam**

Your Address in Thailand: **6, Ramkhamhaeng 184,**
(Do not put Pattaya) **Minburi, Bangkok 10510**

Telephone Number: **662 791-8900**

Once you leave Immigration/Passport Control and Customs, exit into the Arrivals Hall. Please go to ENTRANCE GATE 3, on the same floor (DO NOT GO UPSTAIRS. DO NOT GO OUTSIDE.) This is where you will be met: Look for someone with a CSSR sign. Please see attached map of the airport. If you have difficulties, please call the following number:

English: (66) 086 778 1626 (Ann) or (39) 328 5555 501

Spanish Italian:- (39) 388 6585 712 (Alberto)

The Venue of the 25th: General Chapter

The venue for the 25th General Chapter is the Redemptorist Center in Pattaya, a city on the east coast of Thailand and about 100 kms southeast of Bangkok (about **1.5** hour-drive from the major airport in Bangkok, Suvarnabhumi International Airport).

Those arriving from October 28 onwards will travel directly to Pattaya. Accommodation in Bangkok for those arriving prior to October 27 will be provided

Pattaya is a beach resort popular with tourists and expatriates. There are numerous attractions in the city and endless possibilities for experiencing Thai culture.

Accommodation will be in individual en-suite rooms. Each room is air-conditioned. Electricity in Thailand is 220 volts, The photo below shows the wall receptacle design usually found in Thailand. They accommodate both flat prongs (like in the U.S. and Japan)

and round prongs (like much of Europe and Asia) . To be safe, it may be wise to purchase an international adaptor. These can be easily purchased in any international airport.



Wi-fi will be available throughout the Center. Laundry facilities are provided. In so far as possible, laundry will be returned within two days. The Center will have money-changing facilities .. However, only US Dollars, Euros, Australian Dollars and Sterling can be accepted. Outside the Center, nearby, there are numerous convenience stores and shopping centers. There is also a small shop within the center where personal items such as toothpaste etc. may be purchased. There is a swimming pool, gym and basketball court in the complex available for your use. At the weekends bicycles may be rented at a small cost.

A variety of cuisine will be available at all meals - Asian and international dishes. Those with special dietary requirements should inform the Secretary General at least one week prior to arrival .. All efforts will be made to ensure that your requirements are adequately met.

During the Chapter a number of common celebrations will be held, normally once a week. On other evenings Bar facilities, will be available where drinks can be purchased at a small cost,

A feature of the celebration of the Chapter will be the Evening Programs. This provides a venue for confreres/Units to share information on various aspects of our life as Redemptorists, If you are currently engaged in a project that you would like to share with others at the Chapter, please bring the necessary material with you. There is a Commission tasked 'With organizing and coordinating these Programs.

Liturgies and Prayer:

During the Chapter, the sacred Liturgy will be celebrated in various ways - together as a Chapter, in language groups, by Conferences. The Chapter Liturgy Commission will determine the times and places. A publication for the common celebrations during the Chapter will be provided for each participant, You will have received information regarding other celebrations such as Morning and Afternoon Prayer from the Liturgy Commission .. We ask that you bring with you any resources you may need for your assigned celebration. Please note that albs and stoles will be provided for the duration of the Chapter.

Chapter Documentation.:

By the time you receive this communication, you will have received the necessary documents for the second phase of the General Chapter. These documents, along with the documents used at Phase I, can also be accessed on the Congregation's website cssr.com in the section XXV General Chapter .. This is a password protected section.

We ask that you share the password with the confreres and lay partners but be discerning as to who else you share it with. You will also receive hard copies of all documents when you arrive at the venue - you do not need to worry about carrying all this material with you. You will also receive a memory stick/pen drive with these documents as well as others such as the documents of Phase I that may be helpful as reference material. It would be advisable to bring with you a copy of the Constitutions and Statutes in your language of choice.

It is our hope to use as little paper as possible during this Chapter. For this reason, it would be advisable to bring with you a notebook/laptop/tablet computer for your personal use during the Chapter. Adequate facilities will be provided in the Conference Room/Auditorium. For those with Apple I pads and phones, please bring with you a USB Adaptor for your product

The Working Week:

The Chapter will be in session from after breakfast on Monday morning until Friday evening. Weekends are free. Various excursions to places of interest will be available at the weekends. Payment for these excursions will be the responsibility of the participant.

On Sunday, November 20, the Chapter will come together in Holy Redeemer Church, Bangkok, to celebrate the Eucharist in celebration of the close of the Year of Mercy. The Eucharist will take place in the morning. The afternoon will be free for those who wish to explore Bangkok and we will return to Pattaya in the evening.

Climate:

Thailand is largely **tropical**, so it's hot and humid all year around with temperatures in the 28-35°C range (82-95°F). For the duration of the General Chapter we will be in what is known locally as the "cool" period, from November to the end of February. The temperatures are at their lowest, although many will barely notice the difference. Light clothing is recommended.

Although we do not anticipate rain at this time of the year, a waterproof jacket is advisable in case of rain.

Health Insurance:

Although the Redemptorist Center in Pattaya has a medical team on-site which can respond to minor ailments, we ask that each capitular secure health insurance before travelling to Thailand. This is easy to apply for and solves a lot of problems if any health issue should arise while in Thailand. Those confreres who are on medication are asked to bring an adequate supply of medicine with them, as availability of such products cannot be assured.

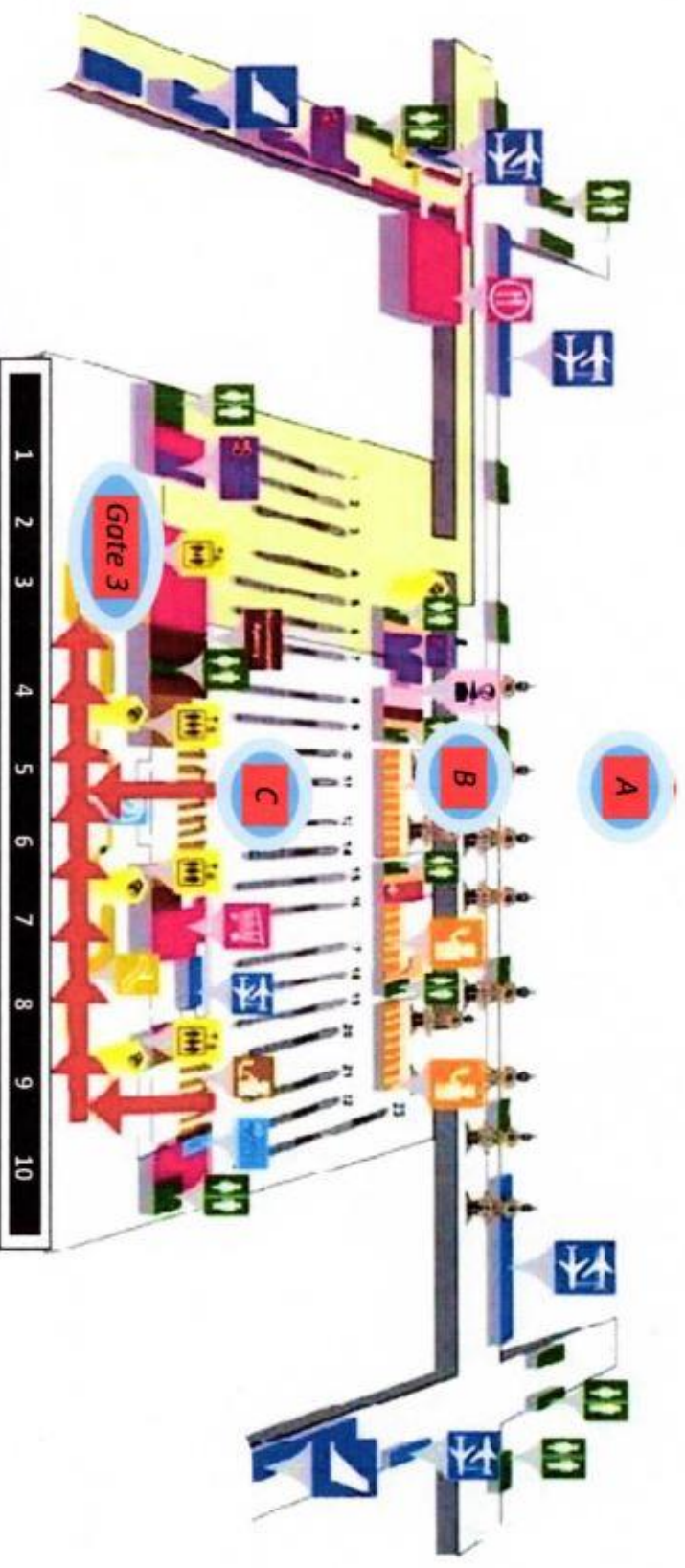
Visits to other Units in Asia-Oceania:

In coming to Thailand for the second Phase of the General Chapter you may wish to take the opportunity to visit other Units in the Conference of Asia-Oceania. While no actual programs have been arranged, all Units have expressed openness to visits from confreres. In such cases, the host Unit will provide a program when requested.

The Province of Thailand is being very generous to us. If you plan to stay for some time before or after the Chapter, a donation to cover board and lodging would be appreciated.

Any further questions you may have, please send them to the Secretary General at seg.gen@cssr.com

Suvarnabhumi International Airport Arrival Terminal Map



- A. Your plane lands
- B. You pass passport control
- C. You pick up your luggage, pass customs and go to Gate 3

Suvarnabhumi Airport (BKK) Meeting Point (Gate 3)