

Roma, 30 January 2010
PROT. NO. 0000 028/2010

Dear Confreres,

Greetings in the Lord!

The XXIV General Chapter decided two questions which will have a direct impact on elections in the (Vice)Provinces and Regions of the Congregation. As the General Council is preparing all the documents of the Chapter for publication and distribution, it became clear to us that these two decisions need to be communicated as soon as possible because of their direct impact on all the (Vice)Provinces and Regions in this coming year.

The XXIV General Chapter decided **to amend General Statute 0153d to establish a period of four years for the mandate of (vice)provincial Superiors and regional Superiors, as well as their respective Councils and for local Superiors of the Congregation.** This four year mandate will begin in **January, 2011** at the start of what we will now call the next **quadriennium**.

The XXIV General Chapter also decided **that all (vice)provincial and regional Superiors will take office during the month of January of the new quadriennium.** This means that all elections must take place in a way that will allow the new (vice)provincial or regional government to assume office in January, 2011.

For many (Vice)Provinces and Regions, these decisions will require changes in their present practices. Some Units elect by mail ballot. These elections must begin early enough to allow sufficient time for completion by January, 2011.

In some (Vice)Provinces and Regions the election takes place at a Chapter, but the new government does not take office immediately. The Chapter in these Units must be scheduled so as to allow for the new government to take office in January, 2011.

In other (Vice)Provinces and Regions, the new government is elected at a Chapter and takes office immediately. These Units will need to schedule their Chapter for January, 2011. In these Units, the Chapter members must be elected in the period from September to December 2010, in order to assure that all capitulars can attend the Chapter without impediment.

I ask each (vice)provincial and regional Government to carefully examine the electoral statutes of their Unit and to make the necessary arrangements so that the elections for the 2011-2015 quadriennium can take place in an efficient and appropriate manner. Any requests for dispensation from a particular electoral statute should be sent to the General Government as soon as possible. Please begin to prepare any revisions to your (vice)provincial statutes which may be necessary in light of this decision of the XXIV General Chapter.

In the Redeemer,

Michael Brehl, C.Ss.R.
Superior General