

HOLY TRINITY PROVINCE

KARNATAKA, INDIA

Saccidananda, Capuchin Provincialate, P.B.No.1060, Rajajinagar, Bangalore – 560 010

PC 05/07

K.101.11

RULE 1209 (4)

Those who wish to adopt this life – 2

This is the reply St. Francis gave to a novice who sought his permission to have a copy of the Psalter for his personal use:

“And when you have a psalter, you will want a breviary; and when you have a breviary, you will install yourself in a chair like a great prelate, and you will order your brother: Bring me my breviary!.” (*Legenda Perugia* no. 73).

When the printing was still in its nascent stage and books were mostly in the form of manuscripts, to request for a copy of the psalter for individual use, could mean asking for the skies. The reply of Francis shows his concern towards the novice who has failed to develop for himself the ‘self identity’ of a ‘Friar Minor’. All formation should therefore help us to form a self identity of ourselves as Capuchins and right attitudes towards life. If Francis were to be here in our times, he would have said: “Dear Brother, know who you are before making such a request.....”. Presently, we have such a long duration of formation of so many years, and at the end of it if we have formees coming out with a false identity of themselves, they will certainly become a problem in the Order rather than an asset.

What is the goal of our formation then? The goal of our formation is to create mature spiritual personalities. For us it means growth in three dimensions of life as Capuchins:

1. The formation should create God-centred personalities: While we experience God’s presence in our lives, we become strengthened in Faith and learn to accept Life, with all the elements of joys and sufferings, successes and failures, ups and downs. We become truly seekers after

God and show this in our regularity for prayer life and interest in spiritual dimension of our Capuchin commitment.

2. The formation should create other centred personalities: As the years go on, we become less and less self centred, and more and more other centred with keen interest in the fraternal, pastoral, and missionary dimensions of Capuchin life. We live our commitment to fraternal life more intensely through our availability and a sincere spirit of service. We show greater adjustability in accepting new life situations with resignation and interior serenity.
3. The formation should create personalities convinced of their vocation. At the level of the self, we show maturity in our response to God's Call as we grow older. We show greater authenticity and honesty in living our vocation. We also show depth in our relationships and commitments. Our life becomes more and more focussed and oriented towards a particular rhythm of life in and through which we live our Capuchin Vocation to the fullest extent. We manifest a gradual blossoming of our personality.

The Rule and the Constitutions give us sufficient insights if we are open to learn. The celebration of the year 2009 be an occasion for us to dedicate ourselves to the study and reflection of the Rule and strengthening of our vocation

- Br. Vincent G. Furtado OFM Cap

Other Communications:

1. **Erection of Sri Lanka Provincial Delegation:**

Br. Mauro Jöhri, our General Minister in his Decree dated September 29, 2007 has declared Sri Lanka as a Provincial Delegation. The Provincial Definitory has been authorized to appoint the Provincial Delegate and two councilors, and also to promulgate the Statutes for the Delegation.

Accordingly the Definitory, having consulted all the Friars in the Mission, appoints following members as the Provincial Delegate and his councilors:

Br. Norbert D'Souza	- Provincial Delegate
Br. William Andrade	- First Councillor

The erection of a new Provincial Delegation is really a feather in our cap. We congratulate all our Brothers working in the Mission and all those who had worked there to bring up the mission. We wish a very fruitful ministry of animation to the new superiors.

2. Erection of Maharashtra Province:

The General Minister of the Order has communicated to us through the letter dated September 28, 2007 that the General Definitory has decided to establish St. Bonaventure Province of Maharashtra and the preparations for this event will begin. The actual erection of the Province will take place on 4th June 2008. While congratulating the members of the Vice Province of Maharashtra, we wish them glorious future and a very meaningful and joyful celebration of the inauguration of the Province on 4th June 2008 in the presence of General Minister. We wish good number of brothers from the Karnataka Province be present for the inaugural ceremony.

3. Inauguration of Choithar Mission in the Archdiocese of Imphal:

The inauguration of the Mission and the Parish of St. Joseph in Choithar on 14th October 2007 was a unique celebration in every way. The entire celebration with a long procession to welcome the dignitaries, the well organized liturgical celebration, then speeches and finally the thrilling tribal dances, sent an important message to us who have taken up the mission. That the people were waiting from so many years to have resident priests in the village which means for them development of educational institutions, parish church, hostel facilities for boys, sisters convent and the girls hostel, so on and so forth. We have three villages consisting of a strong Catholic community of 900. The Archbishop was very generous in offering us the parish on a permanent basis with seven acres of land for us and four acres of land for sisters. Br. Joel Rosario prepared the way as a forerunner for Br. Augustine D'Souza to take charge as the first Parish Priest along with the 'scholastic' Br. John Bosco Gonsalves. Finally, it is Br. Jossy Fernandes along with Br. Alban who negotiated with the Bishop and chose the place and drew up an agreement. Well begun is half done. The remaining half will be left to our missionaries to carry out as the days, months and years go on.

4. Assignment of Deacons:

We have six deacons this year. They have been assigned to the following places for the diaconate ministry:

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| i) | Br. Veerus Concessao | Sri Lanka |
| ii) | Br. Henry D'Souza | Siddapur, Karwar |
| iii) | Br. John Peter | Magge |
| iv) | Br. Arun Kumar | Mudigere |
| v) | Br. Anil D'Costa | Siddakatte |
| vi) | Br. Satish Fernandes | Koppa |

5. Committees to scrutinize the candidates to the Order:

The Definitory has appointed the following committees to scrutinize the vocations brought to the Order by the Vocation Promoters before they are sent to the Initiation Course

Mangalore: Brs. Peter Cyprian D'Souza, Vinod Wilfred Mascarenhas and Robert Lasrado

Karwar: Brs. Santhan Gonsalves and Arthur Prashanth Menezes

Chickmagalur: Br. Victor Crasta and Br. Peter Mendonca.

Bangalore/

Mysore: Brs. Mark Saldanaha, Salvadore Fernandes and Paul Melwyn D'Souza

6. Banakal Parish:

Just before the previous Definitory Meeting we received a letter from the Bishop of Chikmagalur granting us permission to register the land at Palya. Meanwhile he proposed Palya could become a parish later on under the Capuchins, if we are ready to return to the Diocese the Banakal Parish. The Definitory decided to request for three months time to arrive at a decision after receiving the feedback from the Friars on the proposal. Now that we have received sufficient feedback from the Friars and the Definitory has decided to decline the proposal given by the Bishop.

7. Br. Roshan Menezes is transferred to St. Anne's Friary We wish him a fruitful ministry there.

8. Br. Vineet Francis Dhondu has reached Turkey and is working in a Parish. While wishing him successful and fruitful ministry, we provide his address for your information: Br. Vineet Francis Dhondu, Church of St. Paul, Tepebag Mahallesi 10 Sok, No. 31. 10101 ADANA, TURKEY. Tel: 0090 – 534 – 209 -1324.

9. Br. Silvano D'Souza back to the Province:

After several years of meritorious service to our Uganda Mission, Br. Silvano D'Souza has returned to the Province. He will be the member of Asha Kiran Fraternity, Hosa Jedikatte, Bhadravati. We wish him a happy and fruitful stay in the Province.

10. Annual Budgets and Activity Reports:

Henceforth the annual budgets should be furnished to the Provincialate in the month of April each year. This change is made to correspond our budgets to the financial year in India. All the houses should also send the 'activity report' along with the budget. The report is necessary for the annual general body meetings of the Societies.

11. **Retreat in Mangalore:**

The third retreat for the Friars will take place in Bajjodi, Mangalore. And the date earlier announced was from 19 - 24 November. The retreat will actually begin on 19th November morning and end on 23rd November evening. Please note the change made by the preacher.

12. **Condolences:**

- **Mr. Michealappa the beloved father of Br. George Godwin went to his eternal reward unexpectedly due to cardiac arrest. As Br. George could not be contacted to communicate the message due to failure in telephone network in Kanchanpur area, he was not able to reach for the funeral. We convey our hearty condolences to him and to all his family members and assure our prayers that the departed soul may join the company of the saved.**
- **Our Condolences go to Br. Basil Joseph who had to attend a second funeral in his family in the same year. His Brother-in-Law passed away and we assure him of our prayers for the departed soul.**

13. **Next Definitory Meeting:**

The next Def. Meeting will take place on 20th and 21st of December 2007 at Saccidananda Bangalore.

IMPORTANT

Superior's Retreat from 10th - 14th December 2007 followed by Superior's meeting on 15th December 2007.

The Retreat begins on 10th evening 2007. Arrival latest by 6.00 p.m.

Retreat ends on 14th with lunch. At 3.00 p.m. the Superior's meeting begins and ends on 15th December with lunch.

The presence for both the Retreat and the Meeting is obligatory for all superiors.

Seminar for Senior Friars on Rule 1209 from April 1 - 4, 2008 at Kengeri (DITH/DSA) for Senior members in the Ballot paper from Br. Apolinaris to Br. Anthony Vas. The seminar will be repeated two more times for other groups of the Ballot paper next year.

Provincial's Programme:

November 2007

01 - 11	Provincialate
12	Visitation of North East
13 – 14 a. m.	Visitation, Assisi Catholic Centre, Gachirampara
15	Visitation, Mamit
16 p. m	Meeting the Bishop of Aizwal
17 p. m.	Visitation, Sairang
18	Visitation, Durtlong
18 p.m.	Common Meeting
19	To Guwahati
20 a. m.	Dimapur Eve. Kohima Bishop's House
21	Visitation, Atoizu
22 a. m.	To Akuluto
23	Visitation, Lazami
24 p. m.	Lazami Common Meeting
25 eve	Bishop's House Kohima
26	Dimapur - Guwahati
27 - 29	CCMSI Meeting Delhi
29	Visitation, Vianney Sadhan, Bhopal
30 a. m.	Meeting with the Archbishop of Bhopal
30 Eve	Visitation, Itarsi

December 2007

1	To Bhopal: Common Meeting 10.00 a.m.
1 Eve	Mumbai
3 Eve	Provincialate
4 - 7	Provincialate
8 - 9	Chikmagalur-Mysore
10 - 15	Mangalore: Superiors Retreat and meeting
16 - 17	Provincialate
18	Darshan College
19	Provincialate
20 - 21	Def. Meeting - Saccidananda
22	PEC Meeting - Saccidananda.

Place: Bangalore - 10

Date: November 2, 2007

**Br. Vincent G. Furtado OFM Cap
Provincial Minister**