

2009

General Chapter Relict



Starting Afresh from
A Place of Light

RELICT OF THE 2009 CROSIER GENERAL CHAPTER
Biara "Mahaslara Andhik Açirwada," Pratista, Bandung, Indonesia

APPROVAL OF THE RELICT BY THE CAPITULARS

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 - Pierre-Paul Walraet, osc
 - Dieudonné Paluku Kolinzo, osc

Congratulations

The 2009 General Chapter congratulates capitular Heri Kartono, osc, who celebrated the 25th anniversary of ordination during this chapter on 15 August 2009.

APPROVAL OF DECISIONS

The master general and his council acting collegially approved the decisions of the chapter.

- Mgr. Johanes Pujasumarta, Bishop of Bandung, for his brotherly presence at significant liturgies.
- Mgr. John Corriveau, ofmcap, for his invaluable contributions throughout the chapter.
- The Province of Sang Kristus for hosting the 2009 General Chapter.
- The staff and personnel of the Priory and Retreat Center Pratista for their support and service during the general chapter.
- The confreres throughout the world for their accompaniment of us at home by their prayers and expressions of unity in our Crosier life and mission.
- James Hentges, osc for his excellent leadership in planning and carrying out the chapter.
- James Hentges, osc and Pierre-Paul Walraet, osc, co-chairmen of the planning committee.
- Rein Vaanhold, master general emeritus, for presiding over chapter elections.
- Lambert Graus, master general emeritus, for his witness through video about the meaning of the Constitutions in his personal life as a Crosier.
- Paulus Hidajat, for his helpful presentations and facilitation.
- Pre-chapter Election Discernment Committee
 - Anton Subianto Bunyamin, osc, chairman
 - Steven Henrich, osc
 - Joe Op de Kamp, osc
- Financing Religious Life Committee
 - Peter Snijkers, osc, chairman
 - Katembo Ngazi Maha Herbert, osc
 - Wilson Burato Dias, osc
- Group Leaders
 - Anton Rutten, osc
 - Heri Kartono, osc
 - Henri Muhumira, osc
- Canonical Commission
 - James Hentges, osc, chairman
 - Olivier Mbusa Machozi, osc
 - Crispinus Budiman, osc
 - Dan Ward, osb
- General Chapter Staff
 - General Secretary F. de Paula Mammouth, osc
 - Translation

CAPITULARS

Elected Capitulars

Willy De Bolle, osc (Province Bl. Theodore de Celles)
 Steven Henrich, osc (Province Saint Odilia)
 Kermit Holl, osc (Province Saint Odilia)
 Jeannot Kalyana Tavahola, osc (Proprovince Martyrs de Bondo)
 Charles Loyak, osc (Proprovince Wahyu Salib)
 Henri Paluku Muhumira, osc (Proprovince Martyrs de Bondo)
 Joe Op de Kamp, osc (Province Bl. Theodore de Celles)
 Júlio César E. Resende, osc (Province S. Bom Jesus)
 Robert Rossi, osc (Province Saint Odilia)
 Anton Rutten, osc (Province Sang Kristus)
 Leonardus Samosir, osc (Province Sang Kristus)
 Peter Snijkers, osc (Province Bl. Theodore de Celles)
 Anton Subianto Bunyamin, osc (Province Sang Kristus)
 Laurentius Tarpin, osc (Province Sang Kristus)
 Wilson Burato Dias, osc (Province S. Bom Jesus)

Ex-Officio Capitulars

Glen Lewandowski, osc (Master General)
 Heri Kartono, osc (Councilor)
 Pierre-Paul Walraet, osc (Councilor)
 Huub Wagemans, osc (Prior Provincial – Councilor)
 Thomas Carkhuff, osc (Prior Provincial – Councilor)
 Agus Rachmat Widiyanto, osc (Prior Provincial – Councilor)
 Virgil Petermeier, osc (Proprovince Administrator)
 Olivier Mbusa Machozi, osc (Prior Proprovincial)
 James Hentges, osc (Councilor elected 13 August 2009)
 F. X. Rudiyanto Subagio, osc (Councilor elected 13 August 2009)

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Rein Vaanhold, osc, master general emeritus

Mgr. John Corriveau, ofmcap

James Hentges, osc

Dieudonné Paluku Kolinzo, osc

Paulus Hidajat

Translator

Robert Stigter, osc

General Chapter Secretaries

Hadrianus Tedjoworo, osc

Yohanes B. Rosaryanto, osc

CHAPTER COMMITTEES AND ASSIGNMENTS**Steering Committee**

Master General, chapter chairman

James Hentges, osc, committee chairman

Laurentius Tarpin, osc

Mgr. John Corriveau, ofmcap, consultant

Paulus Hidajat, facilitator

Henri Muhumira, osc

Proposal Writing Committee and Group Secretaries

Pierre-Paul Walraet, osc

Kermit Holl, osc

Júlio César E. Resende, osc

Anton Subianto Bunyamin, osc

Communication Committee

Dieudonné Paluku Kolinzo, osc, coordinator

Willy De Bolle, osc

JUBILEE EVENTS

1. The 800th Jubilee Year of the Order was opened with the Eucharist in St. Helena Chapel. About 200 people were participating, including the Bishop of Bandung, confreres of the Province of Sang Kristus and invited guests. The celebration included elements reflecting the various cultures in which the Order lives. At the conclusion of the Eucharist, there was a procession to the terrace of Grha ILSKI, during which confreres carried candles symbolic of the four continents where the provinces and proprovinces are. At the terrace, a large cross permanently fixed was unveiled in commemoration of the Jubilee. The capitulars then introduced themselves to the guests. A festive dinner closed the celebration.
2. The master general announced that he has received the consent of his council to convoke an extraordinary general chapter in September 2010 especially to mark the 800th Jubilee of the founding of the Order. The extraordinary general chapter and jubilee celebration will conclude with the celebration of the Eucharist on 14 September 2010, the Solemnity of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross.
3. The general chapter received the report about the jubilee project for ongoing formation, scheduled for September – October 2011 in St. Agatha, that was previously approved by the master general and his council in April 2008.

OTHER ACTS OF THE CHAPTER**Remembrance**

The general chapter commends to the Lord our confreres who died while this general chapter was in session:

- Albert Wieërs (Province of Blessed Theodore de Celles)
- Joseph Heuvelmans (Province of Blessed Theodore de Celles)
- Robert Zylla (Province of St. Odilia).

May God give them and all our deceased confreres peace and life eternal.

Gratitude

The 2009 General Chapter expresses its appreciation and gratitude to:

- Glen Lewandowski, osc, Heri Kartono, osc and Pierre-Paul Walraet, osc, for their service of leadership for the past six years.

As provinces and proprovinces develop fundraising offices they will need to think globally and of the fraternal economy rather than focus solely on the needs of their own provinces and proprovinces. The General Econome will accompany the training and coordinate and monitor the progress of these offices. In the first years the provincial or proprovincial appointees need to meet together regularly.

Long-term Planning

The general chapter directs the priors provincial and priors proprovincial to develop in the coming six years, long-term plans for a viable future for Crosier Religious Life. Those plans should include:

- analysis of projected income and expenditures.
- analysis of sustainable support already available.
- development of the communities of the province or proprovince.
- training of administrators for the communities and their apostolates.
- accountability and transparency in reporting.
- communication plans.
- the story of the particular province or proprovince including its commitments.

The Master General is to facilitate training for planners in the provinces and proprovinces.

Financial Audit

The general chapter directs each priors provincial and priors proprovincial to schedule in their province or proprovince a professional audit to be completed no later than 31 May 2015.

✠ Other Directives

Review of Provincial Statutes

The general chapter directs the master general to provide for a review of the provincial statutes of each province and to recommend to each province government changes or modifications so that the respective provincial statutes effectively implement the Constitutions, General Statutes and general chapter directives. The review should be completed before and then reported to the next regular general chapter.

Wilson Burato Dias, osc

Virgil Petermeier, osc

Leonardus Samosir, osc

Jeannot Kalyana Tavahola, osc

Moderators

James Hentges, osc

Laurentius Tarpin, osc

Peter Snijkers, osc

Tom Carkhuff, osc

Anton Subianto Bunyamin, osc

Secretariate

Chapter Secretaries

Hadrianus Tedjoworo, osc

Yohanes B. Rosaryanto, osc

Staff

F. de Paula Mammouth, osc (General Secretary)

Handrianus Felianus Halawa, osc

Postinus Gulo, osc

Andreas Dadang, osc

Relict Committee

Huub Wagemans, osc

Robert Rossi, osc

Charles Loyak, osc

Hadrianus Tedjoworo, osc

PREFACE

The members of the 2009 General Chapter gathered from Monday, July 27 to Tuesday, August 18, 2009 under the theme "Starting Afresh from *A Place of Light*." This theme evokes the event of our foundation at *Clairlieu*. It also makes reference to the title "Starting Afresh from Christ" of a document, published in 2002, by the Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life.

The General Chapter reflected on a variety of issues and opportunities facing the contemporary Order. Our time together was a valuable experience of Crosier life. We felt the presence of the Holy Spirit deepening our bonds of fraternity and our desire to know God's call to us at this time in our history. We experienced this call in all our sessions and during the discernment process to elect the master general and the two general councilors.

In our daily liturgy of Hours and Eucharist, as well as in our other moments of prayer, we celebrated our life in God. In our formal sessions, we spoke about our religious call, our identity and our mission. We discussed in depth the State of the Order report of master general Glen Lewandowski, osc, and worked with the proposals presented in the *Instrumentum Laboris*. Our meetings led to the directives and other acts of the chapter found in this relict. As usual with Crosiers, at table and at times of relaxation, our hearts were touched by stories told, perspectives shared and hearty laughter. We felt blessed by the warm and smiling welcome of our Indonesian confreres and their friends.

This chapter's conversation was marked throughout by the dreams and disappointments, the hopes and struggles, the joys and pains of the confreres throughout the world. The capitulars experienced in new ways the challenges coming from the shift of focus to the provinces and proprovinces of Indonesia, Brazil, Papua and Africa. We felt the call to open ourselves again and again to the conversion that makes us all brothers in solidarity with one another.

The chapter affirmed that it is as brothers that we are *starting afresh* from *a place of light*, the gift of our Crosier charism. It encouraged all the brothers in the provinces and proprovinces to meet their respective challenges with faith in the Spirit who calls our Order into its 9th century of life and mission.

Recognized were the significant witness and contribution to the life of the Order worldwide by the provinces of Blessed Theodore de Celles and St. Odilia. The chapter called these provinces to refresh their confidence in the future of Crosier life in their provinces. It encouraged them to deepen their dialogue and solidarity with

formation occurs in communities that live constitutive elements of Crosier religious life.

Living Crosier Life after Initial Formation

In order to maintain continuity of the Crosier religious formation and encourage perseverance in Crosier life, special care must be given in the first assignment of confreres. The general chapter adopts as an order wide policy that after having completed initial formation, these confreres are assigned in a community significantly living constitutive elements of Crosier life.

Integration of fraternal life and the apostolate needs to be a specific part of ongoing formation as local communities promote a renewal of the vision and integrated practice of the apostolate life of the Order.

Ad Hoc Formators' Meeting

The general chapter advises the master general and his council to consider an ad hoc formators' meeting to learn about new ways of experiencing initial formation in priories.

✘ Leadership

The general chapter affirms that the local chapter, along with the prior and his council, share responsibility for the life of the charism.

The general chapter determines that priors and other superiors of local communities prepare regular reports on the spiritual and temporal well being of the communities, which are submitted to the priors provincial and priors proprovincial. The respective chapters review these reports and make needed recommendations and decisions. The reports serve as primary content for the annual reports the priors provincial and priors proprovincial submit to the master general and his council.

1. The general chapter directs priors provincial, priors proprovincial and their councils to organize routine meetings that include ongoing formation sessions about the leadership role of priors, other local superiors, their councils, and other leaders.
2. The general chapter directs provinces and proprovinces to provide in their proper law specific processes for pre-election discernment of priors.

✘ Financing Religious Life

Fundraising

The general chapter directs each priors provincial and priors proprovincial to establish and develop in the coming six years an office for fundraising to generate new income to assure Crosier Religious Life in the worldwide Order.

obligations and responsibilities toward active voting and participation in local chapters.

The general chapter asks the master general to study the issue of the canonical rights and the removal of canonical rights for members and make recommendations to the provinces.

✠ Formation

Strengthening Formation

Affirming that Crosier Religious Life is gift both to those called and through them to the Church, we strongly support continued recruitment of new members and the best of formation for those who join the Order.

Affirming that normative communities ensure an experience of the constitutive elements of the Crosier charism, we foster this vision for strengthening and transforming formation work in our Order.

Vocation Programs

The general chapter directs provinces, proprovinces and communities to develop strategies and initiate new programs to draw young men to the Crosier vocation.

Interprovincial Programs and Resources for Formation

The general chapter directs the master general and his council to explore the issue of cooperation among provinces and proprovinces in providing sustainable quality initial formation, and to evaluate our ability as an order to respond appropriately to the current situation of vocation and formation in the contemporary church.

Crosier Profile and Policies

The general chapter endorses the "Profile of a Crosier Religious at Solemn Profession" and the related policies as normative for the whole Order.

Initial Formation in Priors

The general chapter confirms that Initial formation is to occur in a priory because priory life nurtures older brothers initiating younger brothers through experiences of genuine Crosier fraternal life.

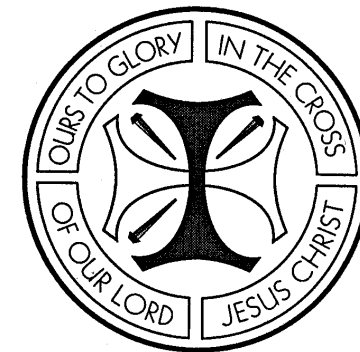
Respecting cultural dynamics, priory chapters ought to look afresh at inter-relational living between candidates in formation and solemnly professed confreres.

Priory chapters should evaluate the role of the solemn professed members in formation. If temporarily formation in priories is not possible, priors provincial, priors proprovincial and their councils must ensure that initial

their Crosier brothers everywhere and especially to accompany, with fraternal generosity, the growing provinces and proprovinces of the Order.

The enthusiasm and conviction of the brothers in Sang Kristus, Senhor Bom Jesus, Wahyu Salib and Martyrs de Bondo, were recognized. The chapter encouraged them to refresh their vigor in playing a significant role for the future of our charism. The chapter invited them to continue their deep and fraternal dialogue with all the provinces and proprovinces. It called them to persevere in developing and living the Crosier charism in their own cultures and situations.

We share this relict with the members of the whole Order, with the hope that these decisions will move us all toward **Starting Afresh from A Place of Light**.



ELECTIONS

Master General

On Saturday 8 August 2009, the general chapter elected Glen Lewandowski, osc, the 57th General of the Canons Regular of the Order of the Holy Cross, for a second term of six years.

General Councilors

On 13 August 2009, the general chapter elected James Hentges, osc, and Franciscus Xavier Rudiyanto Subagio, osc, as general councilors for a period of six years.

Blessing

The master general and the two elected councilors were recognized at a Service of Blessing on 14 August 2009. The capitulars, confreres of the Province of Sang Kristus and friends of the Province participated.

CANONICAL ACTS

Constitutions

The Constitutions are a spiritual document, grounded in Trinitarian theology. Three chapters in particular accent the activity of the Spirit in relationship to the Father and the Son. In the chapter on prayer, the Spirit, who dwells in our midst, opens us to transformation into the likeness of Christ, thus enabling us to call God *Abba*, Father. In the chapter on the vows, the Spirit calls and empowers us to follow Christ in his total service to the Father and others. This is a call to be first religiously dedicated men. In the chapter on community, the work of the Spirit is to unite us, to make us one spirit in the one Christ on the way toward the one God. Or in the words of our father Augustine, *unus in uno ad unum*.

Second Approval of the Constitutions

The General Chapter approves the Constitutions of the Order. This action constitutes the second approval as required by the privilege granted to our Order, the Canons Regular of the Order of the Holy Cross, in *Religiosam vitam eligentibus*, the 1248 Papal Bull of Innocent IV to our Order.

- Offer local community as a liturgical school for Crosiers and the local Church.
- Remain committed to the reforms of the Second Vatican Council, the traditions and experience of the Order, and liturgical inculturation.
- Use Order resources to study and intensify their liturgical formation.

Conventual Eucharist

While priories currently celebrate a daily conventual Eucharist, the general chapter finds that further work at understanding of conventual Eucharist is needed. Therefore:

The general chapter directs the master general to undertake a study on the role and importance of the conventual Eucharist in the life of the local Crosier community. This study should be made available to local communities for their reflection and enrichment and should be reported to the 2015 general chapter.

✠ Local Community Chapter Revitalization

Local Chapter Development

Community chapters assure that all members share in the opportunities and responsibilities of Crosier life. In their deliberations, they also assist the superior in realizing the vitality of the charism. There seems to be a growing sense of the importance of chapters within the Order as fundamental to fraternity and religious living.

The general chapter directs all provinces and proprovinces to develop a six-year pastoral plan of action to establish and / or solidify and strengthen community chapters. This plan includes the following actions:

- Coming to a shared understanding of the constituent elements of a community chapter.
- Assessing strengths and weaknesses in actual community chapters, and addressing the deficiencies.
- Continued monitoring and evaluation.

The general chapter advises the master general and his council to consider the benefit of an international ad hoc committee to articulate a vision of Crosier local community chapter.

Chapter Membership

The general chapter directs provinces and proprovinces to include in their statutes clear and careful norms for dispensing or relieving members of their

DIRECTIVES

✠ Normative Community

Priories in Provinces

Provinces are required to have at least 3 priories which fulfill the expectations included in General Statute 26.x.

If in the course of two consecutive ordinary general chapters a province is unable to maintain at least three priories its status will be redefined.

A province needs three priories to become established as a province.

Three Priories in a Province

Provinces that currently do not have three priories are directed to develop one additional priory in the coming six years.

✠ Liturgical Prayer in Community

Liturgical Prayer

The general chapter holds before us afresh our liturgical life as Canons Regular and calls us to communal expression of the public prayer of the Church.

The chapter directs communities to daily celebrate common prayer, open to the public, centered in the conventual Eucharist and Liturgy of the Hours with Morning and Evening Prayer as essential moments of that rhythm.

Our celebrations of common prayer will welcome others into worship, give witness to our fraternal unity, and provide those assembled with the expectation of an encounter with Christ in their midst. The public nature of canonical liturgy requires worthy space.

Liturgical Formation

The general chapter directs liturgical formation afresh in the Order. Community chapters are to:

- Study liturgy as a constitutive part of our charism.
- Embody liturgical prayer as witness to the transcendence of God.
- Be attentive to a contemplative dimension in community that fosters the depth of personal and communal prayer.
- Have good preparation for liturgical prayer and evaluation of liturgical roles.

General Statutes and Related Legislation

Amend the General Statutes

GS 19.1 Shortly after the death of a confrere, each community shall remember the deceased confrere at the conventual Eucharist or in another liturgical service.

Add to the General Statutes

GS 26.x A priory is a public juridic person. The degree of autonomy of a priory is determined in the provincial statutes.

Add to the General Statutes

GS 26.x In order to bring to life ever-more the Crosier charism of fraternal living in service to the Church and world and to support the well-being of individual confreres in living their vocation as Crosiers, normative community life in the Crosier Order includes the following constitutive components:

- A genuine commitment to fraternal life by being brothers to one another, actually living together in the love of Christ.
- A daily and dynamic conventual liturgical life, open to the public.
- A functioning chapter which deliberates and makes decisions, assures ongoing formation of members, elects the prior, exercises responsibility for finances.
- A communal witness of fraternal charity is our most immediate Crosier apostolic service to the Church and society. Other works of the apostolate which the Gospel requires of us receive their energy from Crosier life.

The priory chapter should have at least eight solemnly professed members, with at least six of them actually living together. Other forms of community life also need to serve our fraternal charism in the world. Major superiors assure a sufficient number of confreres to accomplish this goal.

GS 30.a A provincial chapter by a two-thirds majority vote may request the master general to appoint an administrator.

GS 30.b For serious reasons, the master general with the consent of his council may suspend fully or partially the right of governance of a province. This means that he may suspend the provincial statutes, the provincial chapter, and the right to elect a prior provincial and provincial council. This suspension

should not exceed more than three years without renewed evaluation by the master general and his council in consultation with the province.

GS 30.c The term of an administrator is from 1-3 years. The administrator may have limited jurisdiction.

Add to the General Statutes

GS 35.x The provincial statutes provide for the methods of the selection of delegates to an ordinary general chapter and to an extraordinary general chapter.

Revoke GS 44.0 through 49.0 [all].

Add to the General Statutes

GS 44.x Only the general chapter can establish a permanent commission. Members of a commission are appointed, in a timely fashion, by the master general after consultation with his council. Membership on a commission extends through the next ordinary general chapter. The duties and responsibilities of a commission are defined by the master general after consulting with his council, respecting the resolution of the general chapter. Each commission reports to the master general and his council, and to the general chapter.

GS 44.x There is a permanent commission on finance to assist the general econome according to the norms of law.

GS 44.x There is a permanent commission on spirituality and liturgy.

GS 44.x The master general after consultation with his council may appoint ad hoc committees and define their duties and responsibilities.

Revoke GS 41.0, 42.0, 43.0

Add to the General Statutes

GS 36.x A secretary general, procurator general, general econome and general archivist are appointed by the master general with the consent of his council. The master general may appoint, with the advice of his council, persons to other general positions as are appropriate and needed. The terms of office, duties and responsibilities for all general positions are approved by the master general. All persons appointed to a position with the consent of the general council may be removed only with the consent of his council. A resignation does not need consent.

Simple Majority

The general chapter interprets authentically the term “simple majority” in the Constitutions to be equivalent to “absolute majority.” It would be a reversal and violation of the intention of previous chapters to interpret simple majority in Constitutions 31.6 and 35.5 to mean other than “absolute majority” (for example to mean “simple plurality” would not be correct). This clarification is especially important in regard to the decisions of the provincial chapters and general chapters. This change in the text is one of interpretation and historical refinement of meaning rather than an amendment. It is an issue of fine-tuning historically conditioned language, not a change of the intention of the original lawgiver.

Glossary

Add to Glossary

Normative

Normative describes that which constitutes the expected model or pattern embodying our shared convictions, values and ideals.

Simple Majority

The “simple majority” in the Constitutions is equivalent to “absolute majority”.

master general from office. A two-thirds majority is required to remove the master general.

6. If the vote to remove is in the affirmative, the senior by written decree shall notify the master general that he has been removed from office. The decree shall state, at least in summary form, the reasons and the proofs for the removal.
7. The master general shall have ten available days to appeal the decision to the Apostolic See. If the decision is not appealed within ten available days, the removal becomes effective.
8. The provisions of the Constitutions governing the election of a master general shall then apply.
9. If at any point the master general is unable to exercise his rights, the senior appoints a procurator to exercise the rights of the master general.

Amend the General Statutes

GS 37.2 All members of the council of the master general should be present at its meetings. For serious reason, however, a prior provincial may send a member of his council as a proxy. A majority of members of the council must be present to act.

Add to the General Statutes

GS 35.x The determination of the number of elected delegates per province and per proprovince is on the date of the convocation of the general chapter by the master general.

Add to the General Statutes

GS 35.13 Membership with its right and obligations in the general chapter ceases at the close of the general chapter.

Add to the General Statutes

GS A province may enact statutes governing the publications of written materials.

Official Interpretation

Normative

The general chapter interprets the word "normative" as used in Constitutions 26.2 to mean: normative describes that which constitutes the expected model or pattern embodying our shared convictions, values and ideals.

Amend the General Statutes

GS 35.3 The body of delegates chosen by election to the general chapter are as follows:

1. From each province: three delegates for the first fifty professed members or fraction thereof, and one delegate for each additional fifty members or fraction thereof (not counting those belonging to a proprovince).
2. From each proprovince: two delegates for the first fifty professed members or fraction thereof, and one delegate for each additional fifty members or fraction thereof.

In calculating the number of members in each province or proprovince, those confreres who are assignati are to be included only in the province or proprovince to which they are assigned. The provincial statutes should provide for possible alternates for delegates and major superiors.

Amend the General Statutes

GS 35.4 On his own initiative or at the request of a prior provincial and his council, the master general can invite experts and interpreters to the chapter. The current master general invites to the chapter former masters general.

Amend the General Statutes

GS 35.5 By virtue of his office, the incumbent master general is chairman. The master general with the advice of his council appoints a committee to assist in planning the general chapter.

GS 35.6 The general chapter is opened by the celebration of the Eucharist, to which all communities of the Order are to unite themselves.

GS 35.x After invoking the Holy Spirit, the master general addresses the chapter and proposes an agenda which includes the items to be considered and discussed at chapter, as well as the proposed course of elections during the chapter.

GS 35.7 Among the elements always presented at a general chapter is an address by the master general which includes a report on the spiritual and temporal welfare of the Order and provinces, a necrology of members who have died since the last chapter, as well as other pertinent items.

Amend the General Statutes (including sub-norms)

GS 36.7 The master general may be suspended temporarily from office according to procedural norms adopted by the general chapter.

Move to the Handbook:**Procedural Norms for Temporary Suspension of the Master General**

The general chapter adopts the following norms [previously GS 36.7] as procedural norms which are to be followed when a general council undertakes the action of temporarily suspending a master general.

The following procedure shall govern the temporary suspension from the office of the master general:

1. A majority of the general councilors shall sign a petition requesting the temporary suspension of the master general from office. The petition shall state the specific reason(s) for the suspension. The petition shall be given to the senior by office of the general councilors (senior). The senior shall send the master general a copy of the petition.
2. The master general shall have the right to self-defense including the right to submit written documentation and supporting testimony. He shall have the opportunity to defend himself before a meeting of the general councilors.
3. The senior shall call a meeting of the general councilors to be held within thirty days of the receipt of the petition. The senior shall chair the meeting.
4. If necessary, the general councilors may establish rules for the gathering and examining of evidence. After gathering the evidence, the general councilors shall meet in secret to examine the evidence.
5. After examining the evidence, the general councilors, acting collegially, shall vote by secret ballot whether or not to suspend the master general from office. A two-thirds majority is required to suspend the master general. If the vote is in the affirmative to suspend the master general, the senior shall notify the master general by written decree that he has been suspended from office. The decree shall state, at least in summary form, the reasons and the proofs for the suspension.
6. The master general shall have ten available days from the receipt of the decree appealing the decision to the Apostolic See. If the decision is not appealed within ten available days of receipt of the decree the decree shall become effective.
7. The general councilors by a majority vote shall elect by secret ballot a member of the general council to be the acting master general.

8. The suspension is effective until the general councilors, acting collegially, shall vote by secret ballot to remove the suspension. A suspension after one year becomes invalid. The general councilors must either renew the suspension observing the above requirements and procedure, or initiate the removal of the master general from office.

Amend the General Statutes (including sub-norms)

GS 36.9 The master general may be removed permanently from office according to procedural norms adopted by the general chapter.

Move to Handbook:**Procedural Norms for Permanent Removal of the Master General**

The general chapter adopts the following norms [previously GS 36.9] as procedural norms which are to be followed when a general council undertakes the action of permanent removal of a master general.

The following procedures shall apply in the permanent removal of the master general:

1. A majority of the general councilors shall draft a petition proposing the removal of the master general and stating the precise reasons. The petition shall be given to the senior by office of the general councilors (senior). The senior shall send the master general a copy of the petition.
2. The senior also shall issue a decree suspending the master general from office until the issue of the removal is resolved. The senior shall be the acting master general.
3. The master general shall have the right to self-defense including the right to submit written documentation and supporting testimony. He shall have an opportunity to defend himself at a meeting of the special council for removal.
4. The senior should establish the special council for removal of the master general. The special council shall consist of the general councilors, one confrere chosen by the master general and one chosen by the senior. The special council shall meet within thirty days of the receipt of the petition by the senior. The senior shall chair the meeting of the special council. If necessary, the special council may establish rules for gathering and examining evidence.
5. After gathering evidence, the special council shall meet in secret to examine the evidence. After examining the evidence, the special council, acting collegially, shall vote by secret ballot whether to remove the