

Movimiento de Seglares Claretianos Secretaría General

Seville, September, 29th. 2003

Dear sisters and brothers:

Since the VI Assembly designed me to continue with the responsability for the General Secretariat, I am sending a greeting to each of you, to all the communities of your Region and the Religious Advisors. I take advantage of this letter to effusively thank you all the messages of support and affection.

I must confess that my firm purpose at the beginning of the Assembly was to open the way to young people, with new sap, to the General Secretariat. However, and God shall know why, the things developed in different way and here I am rendering the service for another four years period of time. Let us hope that I do not defraud to anybody; the only thing that I may tell you is that, after the summer break, I am feeling with much peace, with a lot of hope and courage for continuing puting my small sand grain in favour of our Movement, to which I love and in which I have pinned many hopes. I thank God for it, and I ask him continuously pampers his work. Do not forget ever! The CLM is a precious piece of God.

I guess that many of you shall hear directly from the Assembly through the delegates who were sent by them. Therefore until the first meeting of the Council decides the tasks to he developed during the next four years, for the time being we will inform you on how the General Council has definetively been arranged, the addresses of their members, and about the last news of the Movement.

The General Council is set up as follows:

Vocacional Training Secretariat

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General Secretariat

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We thank the confidence in us deposited and we will to fulfill our tasks in the much better possible way we wish to work as a team but we need the help and collaboration from you all. In this way, we initiate a dialogue that I hope it will be continuous, of mutual enrichment, open and fraternal, since I believe that the key for the effectiveness of our service and your essential participation in the Movement life depends on a good communication.

On behalf of all the Claretian Lays, we want to transmit our feelings of gratitude and recongition, for the tasks carried out, to Aurora Bailón, Julio César Cadima and F. Joseph M. Abella, members of the previous General Council. Their time, dedication and determination have made it possible the functioning, strengthening and growth of the Movement. Thanks a million on behalf of everybody.

The affectionate wellcome that the assemblymen/women had in Vic obliges us to reaffirm here a "thanks a thousand " to the Live Water group from Vic.

To the whole Claretian Family, we deeply thank that with their messages they were present, and above all that with their prays we felt, once more, their closeness, affection and support.

Meanwhile it arrives to you a more itemized information through the Bulletin, I communicate that you can find it in the website of the CLM. I would like to assure you, mainly to those who did not attend, that the Assembly was very valuable.

I transcribe you the feeling of a delegate from Chile, our dear Jenny: "You know, I am very happy because the experiences like the Assembly renew my spirit and encourage me with much hope to glimpse new horizons in our mission as lays, those experiences encourage us to share the life, and above all to feel ourselves so beloved by God that allows us to know each other... I am in high spirits, I feel like to do many things. Bu the most important is that I confirm how I am dedicating to God my work; through the education (as it is my case), we can carry out a lovely evangelization. I pray to God and to Claret in order that they help me

to transmit this energy and fondness to my other brothers, I want to smite and to motivate them to the challenges which the future affords to us". I hope that like to her, the Assembly may benefit to everybody.

Enclosed herewith please find the final document of the Assembly (thinking mainly on those who did not attend) to be sent with this letter to the groups/communities and to the Religious Advisors; do not forget ever to inform them of our process of development.

Another new, or much better a great new, is that on August 18th 2003, the nature of legal entity in Spain has been conceded to the CLM. Further on we will inform you in detail upon the advantages and obligations that it implyis and, above all, how to use it.

I recall you that it has been published the new Commentary of the Thinking of the CLM. You may adquire it by writing to the Publishing Commision (Carmen Espejo Barneto; e-mail: caresbar@yahoo.es; or to her mail address: Guadalimar 5, puerta 7, 41013, Seville, Spain). I encourage you to acquire it to be used as a fundamental source for our permanent claretian training. We wish to deeply appreciate to F. Antonio Vidales the new service that he has given to the Movement; we have evidence he has dedicated many hours to review the Comentary, since the book has been practically make up again. Let us know to make good use of our basic materials of CLM.

The Claret holiday is coming near, and I want to take advantage of this letter to congratulate to us mutually. Somebody will say that I have taken the eve with time, but let me to remember you that we have many brothers who lack many things, among them the email, and therefore the ordinary mail takes some time to arrive them.

Like Claret, let us stoke up the love that convoke us to announce to whom is over the time and the circumstances, to know thorough the coordinates in which we go around, to have a heart so big as the world, to grow up conscientiously that any human being is our brother/sister and knowing to take advantage of so many media, unthinkable few decades ago. I hope that the celebration of October 24, will be a significant step of a renewed commitment wherever we were, convoked to live and to announce the Gospell.

From the Heart of the Mother Virgin, with love

Cristina Martínez Benavides General Secretariat of CLM

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