



ORDO FRANCISCANUS SAECULARIS

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Prot. n. 3048

Rome, February 8, 2018
St. Giuseppina Bakhita

Dear Sisters and Brothers!

May the Lord give you the peace!

It is with great joy that I send you the documents of the XVth General Chapter. With a grateful heart I give thanks to the Lord for all the good he has granted us during the days we could spend together in Rome. I give thanks for the presence of sisters and brothers from so many countries, representing the national fraternities, for their prayerful, yet active and inventive participation both at the plenary sessions and also in the working groups. I give thanks for the sense of responsibility of all the participants, that we experienced. That made it possible to have a sincere, fraternal dialogue, and to reach a good conclusion, based upon and concluding the work of the last three years, thus allowing us to begin to apply our decisions together.

As a response to some urgent requests we have already sent out some documents from the General Chapter, but now you can find the complete set of the Chapter Documents:

1. Report of the General Minister and the CIOFS Presidency
2. Final message of the General Chapter
3. Concluding document of the General Chapter, including the Decisions of the General Chapter based upon the Instrumentum Laboris and terms of reference

These documents are the ones that the International Fraternity intends to use as a basis of our work during the next three years. Therefore, it is very important, that each and every sister and brother get these documents and has the opportunity to study them. Also, I invite all the councils on each level to study and work on these documents, so that the intentions and decisions of the General Chapter can be implemented.

However, these documents are just a roadmap of our work or a project description. They are not perfect in a technical sense, but reflect the intention of the sisters and brothers gathered at the General Chapter, and show the priorities that these same sisters and brothers think to be the most important. They will help all of us to live our Secular Franciscan vocation in a better way, both individually and in fraternity. They will help to strengthen and renew life in the fraternities on the various levels. They will help gain a better understanding of the world into which we have been sent and to bring about a more fraternal and evangelical world.

May the Holy Spirit help us all to go on the path that has been set ahead of the Order. My prayers will be with all of you when you seek the will of God and keep on this path, following Christ in the footsteps of our Seraphic Father Saint Francis, going from gospel to life and from life to gospel.

Your minister and brother,



Tibor Kauser
CIOFS Minister General

