



CONGREGATION OF THE FRANCISCAN HOSPITALLER SISTERS OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION XXVII GENERAL CHAPTER JULY 12 TO AUGUST 12 2019

Newsletter Nº 6

FRATERNITY

Fraternity is “a life style that implies ability to live together and in communion. Jesus reminded us that we have God as our common Father and that this makes us brothers and sisters. Fraternal love can only be gratuitous; it can never be paid for to the other, for what he has done, nor paid for in advance for what we expect the other to do.” With this regard, “it is necessary to feel once again that we need one another, that we have a responsibility towards one another and the world.”

Economy at the service of the
charism and mission, pg. 30, nº 31

JULY 24

The whole day was dedicated to the study, reflection and sharing of Part I of the Six Yearly Report: Member, Life and Mission.

At the end, we concluded with the evening prayer, in the garden of the Mother House. We were invited to contemplate nature and to praise the Lord for the Franciscan Hospitaller seed which He sowed in each of us. Like Francis of Assisi, as we contemplated the dome of the Shrine of the Mother House, we sang in two languages: “ *We adore you Lord Jesus Christ, here and in all the churches in the whole world and we bless you because by your Holy Cross, you have redeemed the world.*”



“ *We without house, without means, very mortified with an epidemic that led us to our dear Sisters, obliged to leave our dear home, without knowing where to find open arms to receive us; all this afflicted us, but the mercy of the Lord, remedied everything, everything and everything.*” (Circular without date, Fr. Beirão)

JULY 25

The day began with the Eucharistic celebration presided over by the Parish Priest of Queijas, Fr. Alexandre Francisco Ferreira dos Santos, scj,. The day's liturgy invited us to celebrate the Apostle St. James. The one who is great in the sight of the world, but whom Jesus called to journey to be a minor. A challenge for us, Franciscan Hospitallers, who are daily faced with a society that proposes to us just the contrary.

Then, the Chapter Sisters got in touch with the II Part of the Six Yearly Report: the Economic-Financial situation. It was presented by the General Treasurer, Sr. Maria Catarina da Silva Ávila and assisted by Dr. Patrícia Santos, Accountant of CONFHIC.



JULY 26

The day was spent in praise and thanksgiving for the Sisters who preceded us, just like the memory that we celebrated of St. Joaquim and St. Anne, the grandparents of Jesus.

Fr. António Leite, svd, gifted us with a beautiful presentation on the topic: Planning the future - Administration of Goods in consecrated life. During this presentation, he made us reflect that as consecrated persons we have to be witnesses of simplicity, austerity and sobriety. This style of life points to a true encounter with the poor.

