

COMMUNITY AND GOVERNMENT

GENERAL COMMUNITY GOVERNMENT

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Profession of vows initiates membership in the Congregation. Those in temporary vows share in the spiritual life and goals of the Congregation and participate on the local level in those discussions appropriate to their stage of formation.

Members are fully incorporated into the Congregation by perpetual vows. They enjoy the following rights: to share in local deliberations, to elect the provincial or regional superior and his councillors, to elect delegates to the provincial or regional chapter. They may be elected to any office in the Congregation unless the law of the Church, the Constitutions or the Statutes require specific qualifications for particular offices.

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The Congregation of the Resurrection is a clerical congregation of pontifical right. It is composed of ordained and non-ordained members of both the Latin and Oriental rites.

All the provinces, the regions and those houses directly dependent upon the superior general form the full Congregation of the Resurrection.

The Congregation as a whole, as well as its provinces,

regions and houses are juridical persons.

Apart from the Congregation, there are also lay communities in whom the Congregation recognizes an authentic expression of its charism and mission. They are guided by their own statutes.²⁹

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The general government of the Congregation is exercised extraordinarily by the general chapter and ordinarily by the superior general assisted by the general council and by the extended general council.

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The general chapter is the highest authority in the Congregation and it exercises its authority collegially. It is convoked by the superior general every six years. The procedures which are to be followed to convoke, prepare, and conduct a general chapter are contained in the Congregation's

²⁹ “But we believe that it is also the will of God that this Community have other branches of brethren. We believe that God has inspired certain men with his Spirit to be one with Christ in this Community. Therefore we shall have a branch of spiritual co-operators and another of lay co-operators.”
(Rule of 1842 § 20).

General Directory on Chapters. The principal tasks of the general chapter are: Concern for the general welfare of the Congregation, the promotion of unity, the stimulation of cooperative progress within the Community and the evaluation of the Community's fidelity to its charism.

It is within the competence of the general chapter:

- a) to elect the superior general and council,
- b) to authorize changes in specific articles Constitutions to be submitted to the Holy See for approval,
- c) to compose and authorize changes in General Directories,
- d) to establish and change the boundaries of provinces and regions,
- e) to determine which houses depend directly upon the superior general,
- f) to suppress a province, a region, or a house directly dependent upon the superior general, and to determine the disposition of the temporal goods of the suppressed part. In the suppression of a house, consultation with the local ordinary is required.

During the general chapter, the superior general and his council continue to carry on their ordinary functions.

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The superior general is the father of the whole Congregation and has personal authority and ecclesiastical jurisdiction and governs it according to the Constitutions and their spirit. He serves the entire Congregation through formal visitations and frequent contacts; and he promotes unity, fruitful community life and fidelity to the Congregation's charism.

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The purpose of the general visitation is to offer support for the religious life of communities and individual members and to address abuses.

By his visitation the superior general will strive to reinforce the unity and fruitfulness of the common life and see to it that the members remain faithful to the charism of the Community. Therefore, he will share the joy of the achievements of the Congregation with the religious and he will inform them of the Congregation's needs. He will foster the conviction that they are members of a single, loving Resurrection family and, therefore, they are to be sensitive to the needs of members of the Congregation in other provinces and regions.

In individual interviews the superior general will call to the attention of the members matters that pertain to the religious, priestly and apostolic life and discipline.

The visitation should take place in an atmosphere of fraternal love and confidence, and lead to spiritual and apostolic growth. The religious will strive to be sincere and

open, accepting the superior general as the father of the entire Congregation.

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The general council is composed of the assistant general and two other councillors. They assist the superior general in governing the entire Congregation. The superior general with his council is responsible for the entire Congregation and its individual members. They implement the decisions of the general chapter and possess the administrative competency to transact affairs assigned to them by the legislation of the Church and of the Congregation.

In cases where a fourth councillor is required for validity, the superior general will appoint a fourth councillor ad hoc with the consent of the regular general councillors.

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The extended general council is composed of the members of the general council and the provincial superiors. The purpose of the extended general council is to assist the superior general in his concern for the unity and development of the entire Congregation. The extended general council is primarily an advisory body, but specific deliberative powers can be assigned to it by the Constitutions. The extended general council acts collegially under the chairmanship of the superior general when it elects a general councillor in the event that this position becomes vacant outside the time of the general chapter. The method of election is the same as the

method in a general chapter.

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The following compose the general chapter with the right to vote:

- a) the superior general,
- b) the members of the general council,
- c) the superior general's predecessor who completed his term at the previous chapter,
- d) the provincial superiors or their substitutes,
- e) the regional superiors or their substitutes,
- f) elected delegates from each of the provinces and an elected delegate from each region, or their elected substitutes according to the rules of order established by the general chapter,
- g) one elected delegate or his elected substitute for all those houses directly dependent on the superior general. He who participates in the election of a delegate for a general chapter in his home province or region does not enjoy active voice in this election.

An elected delegate can be any member who has been perpetually professed at least five years.

The number of elected delegates must be at least equal to the number of all other members who compose the general chapter with the right to vote. If, however , the total number

of all non-elected members who compose the general chapter with the right to vote is greater than that of the elected number, then the province with the most perpetually professed members elects one more delegate. If an additional delegate is required, the province with the next highest number of perpetually professed members elects the additional delegate, and so forth.

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An absolute majority of its lawful members must be present for valid composition of any session of the general chapter. However, all those with a right to vote must have been summoned.

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The general chapter begins with a day of prayer. The superior general is the president of the chapter. He will outline the principal items of the chapter agenda. The agenda includes the following items:

- a) the rules of the order to be approved by the chapter,
- b) the superior general's report on the spiritual and temporal welfare of the Congregation and the implementation of the resolutions of the previous general chapter,

- c) the report of the procurator general,
- d) the report of the secretary general,
- e) the report of the economist general,
- f) the report of the promoter of the Community patrimony,
- g) the report of the coordinator of formation,
- h) the reports of the provincial superiors regarding their provinces,
- i) the reports of the regional superiors regarding their regions,
- j) the propositions to be considered at the general chapter,
- k) a review of the life of the Congregation and an indication of directions for the future,
- l) the election of the superior general and the general councillors.

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Changes in the Constitutions are effected by a two-thirds majority of those having active voice in the chapter and voting “yes” or “no” and the approval of the Holy See. Authentic interpretation of the Constitutions is reserved to the Holy See.

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The election of the superior general and councillors is conducted in the following manner: he is considered elected who receives an absolute majority on anyone of the first two

ballots. Failing an absolute majority on the first two ballots, the two leading candidates on the second ballot (a tie is resolved by using seniority by first profession) become the only candidates on the third ballot, but do not vote themselves. In case of a tie vote on the third ballot, he is considered elected who is senior by first profession; if both are equal by profession, he is considered elected who is senior by age.

The order of the election will be: superior general, assistant general and two other councillors.

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The election of the superior general is announced by the person who presides over the chapter. After his valid election and acceptance, the elected superior general takes office immediately and makes his profession of faith. If the elected superior general is not present he should be informed immediately, and must, within eight canonical days from the receipt of notification of the election, inform the person who presides over the chapter whether or not he accepts the election. If he arrives after the conclusion of the general chapter he makes his Profession of Faith before the members of the Roman house.

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The general chapter can establish a new province when:

- a) there exist at least three juridically established

- religious houses of the Congregation,
- b) there are at least thirty perpetually professed of the Congregation belonging to these houses,
 - c) there exists the possibility of living the common life among the members of these houses,
 - d) there is actual self-sufficiency with regard to personnel and material support,
 - e) the establishment of the province will allow for a more efficient administration and more effective development of the Congregation.

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The general chapter can establish a new region when:

- a) there exist at least two juridically established religious houses of the Congregation,
- b) there are at least ten perpetually professed members of the Congregation belonging to these houses,
- c) there exists the possibility of living a common life among the members of these houses,
- d) there are reasonable prospects for self sufficiency with regard to personnel and material support,
- e) the establishment of the region will allow for a more efficient administration and a more effective development of the Congregation.

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The general chapter is adjourned by the president of the chapter, or if he is absent, by the person whom he has appointed to preside over the chapter, with the consent of the majority of the members of the chapter. The general chapter will conclude with a liturgical service.

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An extraordinary general chapter must be held when the majority of the extended general council requests it.

**THE SUPERIOR GENERAL
AND HIS COUNCIL**

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The superior general is a priest, perpetually professed at least ten years and no less than thirty-five years of age. His term of office is six years. He may be re-elected once.

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The superior general will make a visitation, either personally or through his delegate, to every house of the Con-

gregation at least twice during his term of office. He is obliged to visit the following persons: professed, novices and candidates in the pre-novitiate programs. He has the right to assess:

- a) houses, living conditions,
- b) property (investments and endowments),
- c) apostolic works and institutions (schools, seminaries, parishes, churches, etc.),
- d) financial books and documents,
- e) libraries,
- f) archives.

Following the visitation, he is to present a public report to the members of the province, the region or those houses directly dependent upon the superior general.

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The superior general is empowered:

- a) to dispense, for a time, individual houses and individual religious from observance of a prescription of the Constitutions in disciplinary matters, with the obligation of informing the provincial or regional superior,
- b) to approve the permanent or temporary transfer of religious from one province or region to another, following arrangements agreed upon by the province

- or the region involved. The act of transfer will be registered in the general archive
- c) to allow the religious to change their will or the administration of their property,
 - d) to grant faculties to a priest, whether a member of the Congregation or not, to hear the confessions of all those who reside in a house of the Congregation.

With the consent of his council the superior general can delegate prerogatives (c) and (d) to the provincial superiors. Further, prerogative (d) is able to be delegated by the superior general with consent of his council to regional superiors and local superiors.

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The law of the Church and the Congregation requires that the superior general seek the advice, and in some cases the consent, of his council. If the law requires the consent of his council, he acts invalidly if he does not have that consent. If the advice of the council is required, the superior general is not obliged to follow the majority opinion. He may follow his own opinion if, in conscience, he judges it to be better. However, he should value the opinion of the council, especially when it is unanimous, and not act against it except for very serious reasons. The principle outlined in this article applies to all superiors in the Congregation.

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With the exception of elections, which are settled according to the formula described in article 95 all voting that results in a tie in the sessions of the general chapter, or in the meetings of the general council or the extended general council is resolved by the decision of the superior general.

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In order to act validly, the superior general needs the consent of his council for all the cases determined by common or particular law, especially:

- a) to hear and to decide on appeals from members of the Congregation,
- b) to remove provincial superiors, regional superiors, or their councillors from office,
- c) to appoint a visitor for the entire Congregation or for an individual province or region,
- d) to grant permission for acts of alienation (other than objects mentioned in Canon 638 §3) when the sum involved exceeds the amount set down in the General Directory on Temporal Goods but is within the limits established by the Holy See for the respective country,
- e) to grant permission for acts of extraordinary administration which do not involve alienation (nor objects

mentioned in Canon 638§3) when the sum involved exceeds the amount set down in the General Directory on Temporal Goods,

- f) to grant dispensation from temporary vows,
- g) to erect, transfer or suppress a novitiate,
- h) to allow, in special cases and by way of exception, a candidate to make his novitiate validly in some house of the Congregation other than the novitiate, under the responsibility of an experienced religious acting as novice master,
- i) to re-admit a member who has completed the novitiate or has legitimately left the Congregation after the profession of vows without the obligation of repeating the novitiate. The superior general and his council will determine the period of probation to be observed prior to temporary and per-perpetual profession for the member re-admitted,
- j) to give permission to a province or region to open a new religious house outside the country where the provincial or regional headquarters is located,
- k) to suppress established houses after consulting the local ordinary,
- l) to grant dispensation from a deficiency in canonical age up to one year for candidates for holy orders,
- m) to authorize a third term for a local superior,
- n) to dispense priests from irregularities *ex defectu* and *ex delicto* in accord with common law so that they may celebrate the Eucharist,

- o) to permit a religious to renounce part or all of his patrimony,
- p) to grant, for grave reason, an indult of excommunication to a perpetually professed member for a period of not more than three years. If the member is a cleric, the prior consent of the local ordinary where the member is to reside is necessary.

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With the consent of the extended general council, the superior general can:

- a) remove any single member from the general council, but always with the approval of the Holy See,
- b) decide what financial contributions should come from the provinces, the regions and those houses directly dependent upon the superior general to the generalate, and what financial help should be extended from the generalate to needy houses, regions and provinces,
- c) convoke an extraordinary general chapter,
- d) determine which houses will depend directly upon the superior general, in cases of necessity outside the time of the general chapter,
- e) transfer a member from one province or region or house directly dependent upon the superior general to another province, region or house directly dependent upon the superior general if the need is urgent

and agreement cannot be reached with the provincial or regional superior whose member is involved in the transfer.

In all other matters concerning the welfare of the Congregation, the role of the extended general council will be consultative, safeguarding article 90.

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The extended general council meets at least once a year. Two-thirds of its members are required for a quorum.

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Whenever the consent of the full body of the general council is required by law, votes may be sent in by mail or by message. This may not become the usual practice but must be limited to urgent cases.

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The superior general can resign his office only with the consent of the Holy See. When the office of superior general becomes vacant, the assistant superior general becomes the superior general and remains in office until the next regularly scheduled general chapter.

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The assistant general is to have the same qualifications as the superior general and is elected for the same term as the superior general. He supports the superior general and shares in his ministry to the Congregation. He substitutes for the superior general in his absence. His role is also to prepare and coordinate the yearly meetings of the extended general council.

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The superior general with the advice of his council will decide the roles assigned to the assistant superior general and the two other councillors. These roles will include: procurator general and secretary general. The councillors may also be assigned the following roles: econom general, generalate archivist, promoter of the community patrimony, coordinator of formation. If considered desirable one person may have several roles. Except for the procurator general and secretary general, the roles may be assigned to non-council members with terms of office that expire at the conclusion of the next General Chapter.

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The procurator general is a member of the general council and is appointed by the superior general on the advice of council for the same term of office as the superior general. He serves as the official liaison with the Holy See when he acts at the direction of the superior general and his council. He prepares reports for the Sacred Congregations.

At the direction of the superior general and his council, he presents to the Holy See requests for permissions, dispensations and indulgences, whether these are for the Congregation as a whole, or for provinces, regions, houses or individual religious. He sends to the provinces, the regions and those houses directly dependent upon the superior general, documents of the Holy See that pertain in any way to the religious life and to the Congregation. He oversees and counsels the Congregation in juridical matters and advises in the updating of the Constitutions and Statutes in accordance with new Church legislation.

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The secretary general is a member of the general council and is appointed by the superior general on the advice of his council for the same term of office as the superior general. He keeps the minutes of the meetings of the superior general and his council, is responsible for the current archives and takes care of the official correspondence. He gathers and disseminates news and information about the Congregation to all members through the official newsletter of the generalate.

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The econom general is appointed by the superior general with the consent of his council for a term which cannot go beyond the time of the next general chapter. He administers the temporal goods of the Congregation under the

direction of the superior general and the vigilance of the general council in accordance with the norms of common law and the civil law of the country. He holds and administers wills and bequests made to the Congregation. He obtains financial reports from the provinces, the regions and those houses directly dependent upon the superior general. He presents a financial report at the meetings of the extended general council and at the general chapter. If he is not a member of the general council, he may be invited into meetings of the superior general and his council when his expertise will prove useful.

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The promoter of the community patrimony promotes research and publishes materials on the history and spirituality of the Congregation. He coordinates the work of the International Resurrection Studies Commission.

The coordinator of formation serves as chairman of the International Formation Commission. As a permanent body, this commission has as its aim the promotion of international cooperation according to the Constitutions of the Congregation, the sharing of information and experiences in the field of formation with specific reference to the history, spirituality, traditions and current formation programs of the Congregation. The coordinator of formation assists in the formulation of formation programs consistent with the charism and mission of the Congregation.

The generalate archivist is responsible for the histori-

cal archives at the generalate.

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Since the superior general is the superior of the entire Congregation, he does not vote in any province or region. The general councillors belong to their respective provinces, regions or those houses directly dependent upon the superior general with the right to active voice.

With the exception of the superior general religious living in the generalate form a distinct religious house. The superior general with the consent of his council appoints the local house superior and the house members may then elect two councillors. Any religious residing in the generalate, with the exception of the superior general, is eligible to be appointed superior. In the matter of electing the provincial or regional superior and councillors in their own province or region, all members, excluding the general councillors, retain active and passive voice in the province or region. The general councillors retain only active voice.

PROVINCIAL AND REGIONAL COMMUNITY GOVERNMENT

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The provincial or regional chapter, which is composed of perpetually professed members of the province or region according to its statutes, is to be so formed that, the entire

province or region is adequately represented. It will meet at least every three years. It represents all the members of the province or region and is the highest extraordinary authority on the provincial or regional level. It reviews and assesses community life and work and it evaluates opportunities for future development. The provincial and regional chapters prepare questions and proposals to be submitted to the general chapter. The provincial chapter which precedes the general chapter, elects the delegates to the general chapter.

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The provincial superior assisted by the provincial council is the highest ordinary authority on the provincial level. He possesses personal authority, is responsible for the entire province and is its official representative. Members of the provincial council are elected from among the perpetually professed members of the province. The provincial and his council will coordinate, direct and stimulate the internal and external apostolate of the entire province through close contact with the individual religious and the local communities.

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The regional superior possesses delegated authority from the superior general. He is assisted by his councillors and has responsibilities as described for the provincial in the previous article.

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A province is a union of a group of houses of the Congregation under one superior. A province is a juridical person, and the provincial superior is a major superior who has ordinary and proper authority.

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A region is a group of houses of the Congregation under one superior. A region is a juridical person. The regional superior is not a major superior; he has delegated authority from the superior general.

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A religious of a province or region duly commissioned to work in an area in which his province or region does not have a religious house but another province or region does, should be assigned to that religious house. In local matters of a juridical or financial nature as well as those of daily routine and religious practices, he will be a member of that religious house with active and passive voice and subject to the local superior. For matters pertaining to provincial, regional or general community levels he retains membership and all rights in his own province or region. However, the religious has the right to petition at any time for permanent status in the new province or region.

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The provincial and regional chapters formulate Statutes for the province or region. These Statutes become binding after a formal decision of the superior general with the consent of his council that the Statutes are not incompatible with the Constitutions or their spirit, and after promulgation by the provincial or regional superior.

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For regions, two councillors will be elected by the religious of the region. These councillors will serve the same function in the region as provincial councillors serve in the province.

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The provincial superior or regional superior is a priest, perpetually professed at least ten years and no less than thirty years of age. He is elected for a three-year term and cannot serve for more than three consecutive terms. The manner of election shall be determined by the Provincial or Regional Statutes. The newly elected provincial or regional superior takes office at the designated time after being confirmed in office by the superior general with the consent of his council. Before taking office he must make a profession of faith before the superior general or his delegate.

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It is the competency of the provincial superior, after con-

sulting his council:

- a) to accept and dismiss pre-novitiate candidates and to dismiss novices,
- b) to authorize the interruption of the period of the novitiate,
- c) to extend the period of the novitiate, but not beyond six months,
- d) to allow, for a just cause, anticipation of first profession, but not beyond 15 days; and perpetual profession but not by more than three months,
- e) to allow first profession to be made outside the novitiate,
- f) to approve candidates for the rite of admission and for ministries in the Church,
- g) to grant permission to publish writings,

- h) to designate or appoint ordinary confessors for houses of formation after consultation with the community. Members, nevertheless, have no obligation to approach them.

The above powers can be delegated by the superior general to the regional superior, who may implement them after consulting his council.

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The provincial and regional superiors will report

regularly to the superior general relating the major decisions and actions of the province or region.

[129]

Official visitations are made annually to all the houses of the province or region by the provincial or regional superior or by one of his councillors. The purpose and scope of the provincial or regional visitation is analogous to that of the general visitation. The provincial or regional superior is to present a report to the members of the house visited at the conclusion of the visitation. A report on the results of the visitations will be sent to the superior general. Provincial or regional visitations are not required in the years when the general visitation takes place.

Visitation to houses in the missions can be made by a representative of the provincial superior, who need not be one of his councillors.

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In promoting the spiritual and temporal welfare of a province or region, the provincial or regional superior will be directed by the provincial or regional chapter, the Provincial or Regional Statutes and the advice or consent of his council.

The provincial or regional superior is to respect reports of the provincial or regional commissions.

[131]

It is the competency of the provincial superior, with the consent of his council:

- a) to approve or reject candidates for the novitiate, for temporary and perpetual vows, for holy orders, including the granting of dimissorial letters for the diaconate and presbyterate,
- b) to establish houses within the country in which the provincial headquarters is located, with the written permission of the local ordinary,
- c) to make appointments of personnel and remove the same according to the Provincial Statutes,
- d) to nominate pastors and administrators of parishes and present them to the local ordinary for approval,
- e) to permit acts of extraordinary administration of temporal goods within the limit set down by the General Directory on Temporal Goods provided they do not involve alienation of a restricted object (Cf. Canon 638§3) or alienation of a sum which exceeds the limit permitted by the Holy See for the respective country.
- f) to petition the superior general and his council for the dismissal of members,
- g) to grant a leave of absence of up to one year, mindful of the common law restrictions,
- h) to submit for both the provincial and general archives the details of an automatically dismissed religious in accordance with the law of the Church,

- i) to act in all other cases in which the consent of his council is required by common or particular law,
- j) to provide for the disposition of the goods of a house that has been suppressed.

The above powers can be delegated by the superior general to the regional superior who may implement them with the consent of his council.

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The provincial superior shall attend all the meetings of the extended general council. For a serious reason, he may designate one of his councillors to replace him at anyone meeting; if this is also impossible, he may designate some other representative, who must be knowledgeable and empowered to act in the provincial superior's place.

THE LOCAL COMMUNITY

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The strength of the Congregation is dependent upon the intensity of the spiritual life and the fruitful apostolic life of each local community. Therefore, individual houses must be vital Christian communities, where the faith, hope and love of each religious is both expressed and developed. Faith is expressed and developed as they share their Christian values, celebrate the Eucharist together and pray together.

Hope is expressed and developed when they share one another's sorrows and joys and when they encourage and support one another in pursuit of their spiritual and apostolic goals. Love is expressed and developed by their efforts to bring the care, compassion and forgiveness of Christ to one another and by their efforts' to become signs of the unrestricted quality of his love, by the sincere manifestation of their love for all of the religious with whom they have been asked to share their lives in this particular local community.

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The model of every Christian community is the Trinity where the Holy Spirit is the bond of love between the Father and the Son. It is the Spirit who enabled the early Christians to form a community where they were of "one heart and mind" (Acts 4: 32). Local communities must give witness to the presence of the Spirit as the bond of love among the religious. For this love to be present relationships must be based upon openness, trust, understanding and acceptance. Through the power of the Spirit the religious can become visible signs that it is possible to live together in love, guided by Gospel principles. Community life will serve as a model for the other Christian communities which result from apostolic efforts. These Christian communities will serve as models for other similar communities within the local Church.

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Bogdan Jański founded the Congregation on the belief that society can be resurrected only through the establishment of Christian communities where the truth that was revealed by Jesus is lived out in love. The realization of his vision calls for the establishment of vital and highly visible local communities as an essential element of the Congregation's mission. This view of its mission helps the religious to understand that the time and energy required to establish vital Christian communities in local houses does not deprive the apostolate of fruitfulness; on the contrary, this expenditure of time and energy is an expression of that apostolate.

[136]

Each house will pursue its spiritual program and apostolic mission on the basis of local decisions, but always in accordance with the spirit of the Congregation and the prescriptions of the Constitutions and Provincial and Regional Statutes. This calls for leadership on the part of the local superior, even while stressing the observance of a collegial spirit.

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The local community meeting was an important element in the life of the community of believers which Bogdan Jański gathered together. At such meetings the religious evaluate their life and mission in the light of the Gospel, of the charism of the Congregation and of the signs of the times.

Moreover, they must support, encourage and affirm each other and call each other to conversion through a more faithful response to the values of Jesus. When they trust one another enough to speak the truth in love, the tensions which arise out of their daily living situation are reduced or eliminated through the experience of reconciliation.

[138]

Each local house is to establish a degree of order by setting aside times for prayer, meals, relaxation, celebration and silence. The observance of this order should be carried out in an atmosphere of ease and flexibility. A balance should be maintained between the needs of community life and legitimate personal needs.

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Hospitality for guests is an important value and is a way of giving witness to Christian community living. This hospitality should always be carried out in a spirit of cordiality and, at the same time, in a spirit of prudence and sensitivity to the needs of the religious in order to maintain a degree of silence and privacy allowing for areas strictly reserved to the religious.

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The ill and the aged enjoy a special claim on personal and communal concerns. The ill are an appeal to all for

brotherly service within the Community. The aged should always be accorded the gratitude, respect, and care they deserve in their place of residence.

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The established religious houses with their members constitute the basic juridical units in the Congregation. At least three members are required to establish a religious house. In case of necessity, the major superior, with the consent of his council, can group the members of two or more residences to form a religious house.

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Houses ordinarily belong either to a province or to a region. However, there might be houses which should be under the immediate jurisdiction of the superior general, for the sake of more efficient administration.

[143]

A priest of the Congregation can become a local superior five years after perpetual profession. The tenure of office of a local superior should not go beyond two terms (six years). With the consent of his council, the superior general has the authority to confirm him for a third term of three years. He cannot be appointed a local superior again, even in another house, until at least one year has elapsed. In the same manner, major superiors and regional superiors are not to be

local superiors until one year after the expiration of their term of office. The Provincial or Regional Statutes determine how members of a house participate in the selection of the local superior. If elected, he must be confirmed by the proper major superior with the consent of his council; if appointed, there should be suitable prior consultation with each member of the house.

The local superior may be removed or transferred to another office by the major superior with the consent of his council for the good of the Congregation, the good of the superior in question, or because of the superior's failure to fulfill the duties of his office.

[144]

Juridically established houses are to elect two of their members to serve as house councillors. The first councillor elected serves as the substitute for the superior and replaces him in his absence. The house councillors serve the house and the superior according to the prescriptions of the provincial/regional statutes. The elected councillors are confirmed in office by the major superior with the consent of his council.

[145]

A religious should reside in some religious house of the Congregation in which he can share in common prayer and participate in the life of the local community. If he is unable to reside in a religious house, he is to be affiliated

with a religious house of the Congregation. He is subject to the superior of that house in matters pertaining to religious life.