

2025 – February (No. 1)



Bishop Chaima interrogating Bro. Gerrard Nyakulama during his first profession, November 2024

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Herewith we present to you the first issue of IGC in 2025, which will inform you about the following:

✝ **The Human and Divine Love of the Heart of Jesus Christ**

✝ **General Council Appointments**

✝ **God is Love: A Journey of Gratitude**

✝ **First Profession and Ruby Jubilee Celebrations in Malawi**

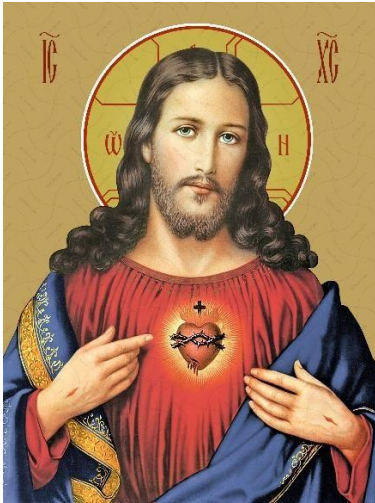
✝ **Provincial Day Celebration in Indonesia**

✝ **In Memoriam**

✝ **Special Birthdays**

The Human and Divine Love of the Heart of Jesus Christ

Dilexit Nos (“He Loved Us”) is an encyclical issued by Pope Francis on October 24, 2024, during the 12th year of his pontificate. In this document, the Pope invites us to deepen our devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, highlighting its transformative power for personal spirituality and the Church’s mission to serve a divided, materialistic, and heartbroken world.



Pope Francis reflects on the significance of the heart as a symbol of divine love, especially through devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus: “Let us turn, then, to the heart of Christ, that core of his being, which is a blazing furnace of divine and human love and the most sublime fulfilment to which humanity can aspire. In that heart, we truly come at last to know ourselves and learn how to love”.

He emphasizes that the heart represents the core of human identity and sincerity, much more than just a physical organ. It is where our desires, decisions, and relationships are formed. Without the heart, modern society becomes alienated, preoccupied with technology and distractions, losing sight of the deeper heart-level questions of life: “Who am I? What direction do I want for my life?” The Pope invites us to reengage with our hearts, seeing them as the foundation for spiritual growth, authentic relationships, and societal renewal. Christ’s intense love for humanity is seen through some Saints such as Margaret Mary Alacoque. Christ’s Sacred Heart burns with love but often meets indifference. His cry, “I thirst,” is a plea for love in return, especially through the Eucharist. Francis calls the faithful to respond to this divine love not out of obligation but out of a deep desire to console Christ’s heart.

He invites us to embrace a life of love and service, especially to the poor and marginalized, to offer love for love. Francis explains that this devotion is not just about personal piety; it has always been linked to service. Saints like Augustine and Bernard stressed that our union with Christ enables us to become fountains of love for others. This love manifests itself in humble acts of charity and service, transforming the world and building a civilization of love.



The Heart That Loves

Pope Francis also emphasizes the theme of reparation—healing the wounds caused by sin and injustice. Acts of reparation go beyond personal piety to include concrete actions of social justice and mercy. He challenges us to repair the damage done by selfishness and indifference by actively engaging in love, service, and solidarity. Through this mission, Christians participate in Christ’s redemptive love, healing and transforming the world.

(from: Catholic Blog by Richard Collin, October 2024)

General Council Appointments



The General Council (GC) announces the following appointments:

1. General Council and Staff Organs

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------|
| a. General Secretary: | Br. Raphael Besigrinee |
| b. General Treasurer: | Br. Michael Sidharta |
| c. Executive Secretary: | Br. Paul Sabogu |
| d. Executive General Treasurer: | Br. Florencius Widya Rianto |
| e. Assistant Executive General
Treasurer: | Br. Lo Koeleman |

2. GC Donation Committee

- a. Br. Agustinus Marjito (Convener)
- b. Br. Raphael Besigrinee
- c. Br. Paul Sabogu

3. Contact Person for Africa-Europe Faith

and Justic Network (AEFJN): Br. Agustinus Marjito

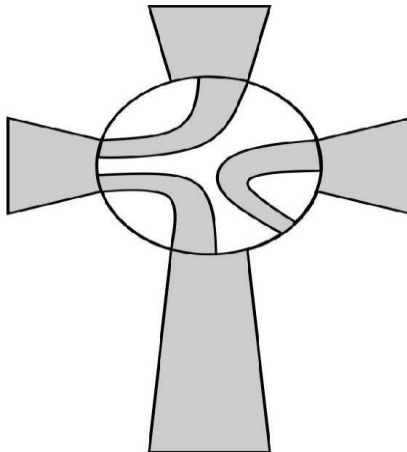
4. Constitutional Review Committee (2025 – August 2030)

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| a. Chairman | Br. Remy Nyukorong |
| b. Member | Br. Petrus Suparyanto |
| c. Member/Secretary | Br. Joachim Naah |

5. Committee for Implementation of Resolution Seven (7) (November 2025 – 2027)

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------|
| a. Coordinator & Representative
of the GC | Br. Remy Nyukorong |
| b. Representative of PCC | Br. Eustachius Ekowayanto |
| c. Representative of PCG | Br. Aaron Nee-eru |
| d. Representative of PCI | Br. Petrus Anjar Trihartono |
| e. Representative of PCM | Br. Joe Muliya |

Note: Both the **Constitutional Review Committee** and the **Committee for the Implementation of Resolution Seven (7)** have been given clear terms of reference to guide their work.



We are deeply grateful to the Provincial Councils for their cooperation and for submitting the names of Brothers appointed to serve in various capacities and committees for the good of the congregation. Likewise, we sincerely appreciate all the brothers who have generously made themselves available, despite any perceived challenges or limitations, to accept these appointments. The congregation calls each of us to be wholeheartedly dedicated and exemplary in the roles entrusted to us. The General Council assures you of our unwavering support as we journey together in this mission. May the Holy Spirit continue to guide and bless our efforts in fulfilling the mission of our congregation.

Acknowledgement and Gratitude

The General Council expresses its profound gratitude to all Brothers who have supported the functions of the previous GC in various capacities. A special word of thanks is extended to:

- **Br. Johan Muijtiens**, former JPIC Coordinator
- **Br. Remy Nyukorong**, former Executive General Treasurer. Your dedication and commitment to the congregation are deeply appreciated, and we remain eternally grateful for your service. May the Holy Spirit continue to guide and bless your efforts in serving our congregation's mission.

God is Love: A Journey of Gratitude

On March 24, 2013, I embarked on a journey to the Netherlands to live and serve as a member of the General Council for the 2012 to 2018 term. A day before my departure, the Provincial Council of Indonesia held a prayer service for the success of my mission at the General Council. It was my 50th birthday when I arrived in my new community in Maastricht, popularly called “Emmaus Community”, and I was surprised the Brothers knew it was my birthday. After warmly welcoming me, they were still prepared to celebrate my birthday that day. I felt delighted and accepted by the brothers. As I settled into my new role, I worked diligently to adapt

to my community and surroundings, striving to fulfil my responsibilities as a General Council member.

I started to work out how to be a good and supportive member of the General Council. I usually adapt to new situations quickly, so I had no significant difficulties living in the community and working as a member of the General Council. My only challenge was using the Dutch language in my daily life. It was not an easy task for me and my colleague Bro. Raphael, who also arrived from Ghana to begin work as a General Councillor. We both scored high in the theory, but practising the language was, I think, too huge for our age.



Bro. Theo Suwariyanto

While living in the Netherlands and serving the Congregation, I learned to be as helpful and supportive as possible. I worked according to my skills and capabilities. I experienced spiritual upliftment living in the Emmaus community, trying to make meaning of my encounters with my fellow brothers and co-workers in various provinces and RHN (Religious House Netherlands). My knowledge of the Congregation has since grown and deepened. I learnt to love the congregation more than ever before. I have been through moments of happiness as an FIC brother. I was able to use my time and talents to write and publish some books. In this way, I shared my ideas and experiences with many readers. For me, books are like a vehicle for education, fulfilling my love for the world of education as a teacher. I am grateful that, as General Council members, we managed to form a solid and supportive

team. I am grateful to Bros. Martinus Handoko and Augustine Kubdaar, under whom I served, and my dear fellow brothers because I learned to be a brother to all people, including our lay collaborators.

As my second term as a Councillor came to an end, I felt that I had given my best to my service at the General Council. A strong desire emerged within me to return to Indonesia, where I could continue contributing to those in need. I am fortunate to still have the energy and enthusiasm to engage in new apostolic work and form new connections with people. I am glad to be back in Indonesia. Currently, I reside in St. Joseph Community, Semarang, and work in the Apostolic Spirituality team of the Province. I am also the Chairman of Pangudi Luhur Foundation, Semarang branch and chief editor of Pangudi Luhur magazine, BIANGLALA.

I want to thank all those who have supported me in carrying out my duties as a member of the General Council. The list includes my fellow brothers of the Religious House, Netherlands, Associate members, and members of the Emmaus Community who have coloured and nourished my vocation and mission for approximately 12 years. In short, I thank everyone for their personal and working relationships, especially our co-workers, secretariat staff, the General Council members of CMM Fraters and Carolus Borromeus Sisters for our warm and cordial relationships. Lastly, In the spirit of synodality, let us renew our way of life and mission together by the call of the times. I will miss you all. Thank you very much.

Bro. Theodorus Suwariyanto
(*Immediate past General Council member*)

First Profession and Ruby Jubilee Celebrations in Malawi

On November 23, 2024, the Brothers of the Malawi Province gathered at St. Patrick's Secondary School—Mzedi to celebrate a momentous occasion: Bro. Andrew Makochi's Ruby Jubilee, marking 40 years of religious life, alongside Bro. Gerald Nyakulama's first profession of religious vows. This joyous event was a significant milestone in both brothers' spiritual journeys.

Bro. Andrew Makochi, born in Phalombe on September 15, 1959, was called to religious life from a young age. He made his first profession in the FIC Brothers Congregation on September 30, 1984, dedicating his life to service with unwavering commitment, compassion, and kindness.

On the other hand, Bro. Gerald Nyakulama, born on August 7, 1998, in Thyolo, joined the congregation as a postulant on April 1, 2021. He demonstrated zeal and courage throughout his formation, eager to serve in God's vineyard as a religious brother. His first profession marks a significant milestone in his journey, embracing the spirit of the congregation's founders.



From right: Bro. Makochi, Bishop Alfred Chaima, Bro. Nyakulama and Bro. Sitima

The celebration commenced with a solemn Eucharistic Mass presided over by Rt. Rev. Alfred Mateyo Chaima, Bishop of the Zomba Diocese. In his homily, Bishop Chaima reflected on the significance of Bro. Makochi's Ruby Jubilee and Bro. Nyakulama's first profession of vows.

He emphasized the virtues of perseverance, humility, and devotion in religious life. The bishop encouraged Bro. Gerald Nyakulama to embrace his new chapter with a deep commitment to the congregation's charism and mission. He also urged all the brothers to remain actively engaged in their service, ensuring their presence brings hope to society.

Bro. Lawrence Nkonde, Vice Provincial Superior, extended his heartfelt congratulations to Bro. Makochi, urging him to remain steadfast in prayer and commitment rather than focus on the number of years served. He praised his dedication to the congregation and encouraged him to be a guiding example for younger brothers, especially as the first Malawian brother to join the congregation. In his speech, Bro. Nkonde also commended Bro. Gerald Nyakulama for responding to God's call and encouraged him to stay focused, eager to learn from his fellow brothers, and live a life filled with joy and love for God and humanity. He emphasized that making religious vows requires unwavering commitment, resilience, and perseverance, as exemplified by Bro. Makochi's 40 years of dedicated service.

This event was a testament to the enduring power of faith and the importance of a life dedicated to purpose and service. As we celebrate this milestone with Bro. Makochi and Bro. Nyakulama, we are reminded of the transformative impact of religious life and the profound difference it makes in individuals and communities. We extend our warmest congratulations to Bro. Andrew and Bro. Gerald on this special occasion. May their example inspire us all

to deepen our faith and commitment to lives of service, compassion, and love.

Bro. Gasper Kalisto

Provincial Day Celebration in Indonesia

In our FIC community and apostolic life, collective reflection is essential in strengthening our brotherhood and reaffirming our mission.

The FIC Constitution, particularly in Articles 41 and 42, emphasizes the importance of open communication, honest deliberation, and meaningful mutual contact in fostering unity and reinforcing the spirit of service. In this spirit, the Brothers organized the 2025 Provincial Day, providing an opportunity for Brothers and candidates to gather, discuss, and plan the future direction of the province and the congregation.



Provincial day Indonesia

This significant Provincial event was organized in several locations to accommodate different groups of Brothers. The first gathering took place in Muntilan from January 25–26, 2025, with 65 Brothers and candidates in attendance. The event was facilitated by Bros. Alberto Suwanto and F.A. Galih Sih Hartanta. The second session was held in Semarang from February 1–2, 2025, attended by 54 Brothers and facilitated by Brothers Petrus Anjar and M. Hans Gendut Suwardi. At the time of writing this report, three more gatherings remain scheduled: Jakarta (February 8–9), Timor Leste and Sumatra (February 15), and Kalimantan (February 22–23).

The two-day Provincial event in Muntilan was filled with anticipation and enthusiasm. The first day began with an opening prayer and introduction, followed by discussions on congregational governance. The Provincial Superior, Bro. Agustinus Giwal Santoso, presented a roadmap outlining the implementation of the event's theme for the next six years: *"In the spirit of Brotherhood, Actualizing the FIC Identity in Accordance with the Times."* This theme was further divided into five sub-themes corresponding to some essential aspects of the FIC way of life: community life, apostolic work, spiritual life, consecrated life, and devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary.

On the first day, the Provincial Council also delivered a presentation on the province's asset and investment management, as well as internal communication strategies through magazines and digital platforms. A Question-and-Answer session followed, allowing for deep reflection on the presentations. The day concluded with evening prayers.

The second day commenced with a Eucharistic Celebration, during which each Brother and candidate renewed their commitment and sought God's grace for their respective apostolic missions. This was followed by sessions on apostolate and spirituality, focusing

on the challenges and opportunities within the Congregation's primary apostolic areas, including education, social work, and pastoral care. The event provided a valuable platform for Brothers to share their ideas and aspirations, which were later reaffirmed in the closing session by the Provincial Superior.

The atmosphere during the meeting was one of enthusiasm and engagement. The Brothers actively participated, posing thoughtful questions to the Provincial Council members. Overall, the participants expressed satisfaction with the presentations and regarded the event as promising toward an inspired future for the province and the Congregation.

In Memoriam



Brother Agustinus Sakiman

Agustinus was born on May 15 in Klaten, in 1963. He made his first profession on July 2, 1989 and his final profession on July 2, 1992. He passed away on Januari 21, 2025 in Klaten, Indonesia.

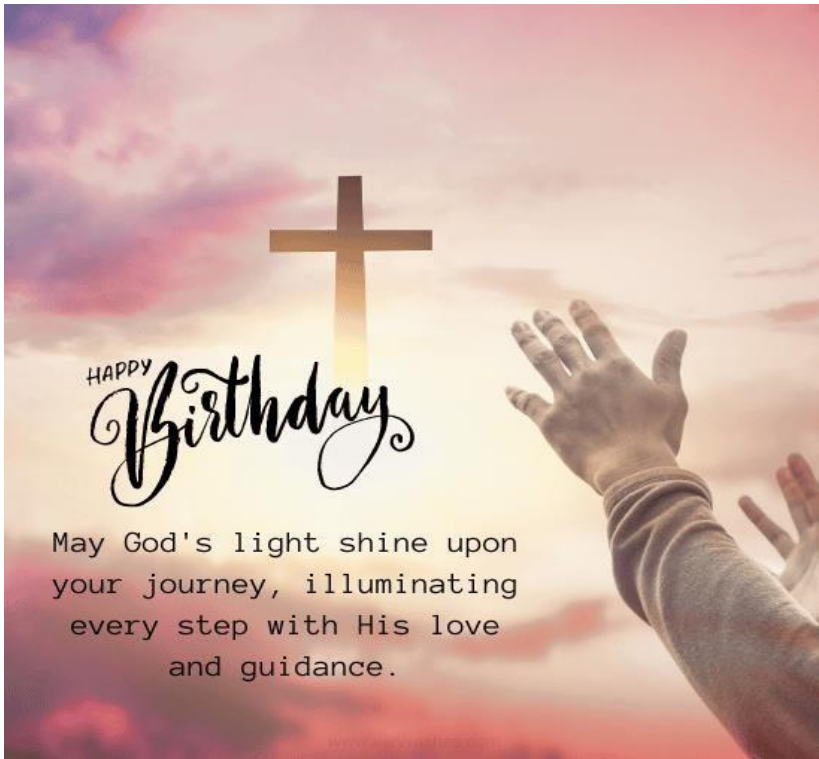


Brother Yosaphat Sukosuwito

Yosaphat was born on Februari 2 in Djitar/Bara, in 1940.

He made his first profession on July 2, 1963 and his final profession on July 2 1965. He passed away on January 28, 2025 in Semarang, Indonesia.

Special Birthdays



Februari

28 Jos Bom (75) – Maastricht - Rooden Leeuw

28 Felicio Gyeyir (60) - Wa-St Louis Community

March

10 Fabian Bezel (60) - Kaleo

19 Marianus Sumardiyana Martoseputro (85) – Bara

April

5 Agustinus Sumarmadi (60) - Klaten

15 Yohanes Sumardi (65) - Wedi

21 Conrad Nakuma (50) – Kaleo