

**Congregazione dei Rogazionisti**

Curia Generalizia

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Prot. n. 23/22

Subject: Little Mission for the Deaf and Mute

To Most Rev. Superiors  
of the Rogationist Circumscriptions  
and the Rogationist Religious Communities  
THEIR LOCATIONS

Dear Confreres,

The religious Congregation of the Little Mission for the Deaf and Mute (PMS), of pontifical right, due to the small number of its members and the precarious situation of the path of initial formation, was placed under commission by the Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life (CICLSAL) on June 19, 2020, in view of its merger with another Congregation. For this purpose, the Dicastery appointed the General Councilor, Fr. Matteo Sanavio, as Pontifical Commissioner.

The PMS was founded by Venerable Giuseppe Gualandi (Bologna, 1826-1907) and has as its mission the instruction and evangelization of deaf-mutes.

The Congregation has a house in Rome with 11 religious, 2 of whom are in formation; a house in Londrina (Brazil), with 6 religious; a house in Butembo (Democratic Republic of Congo), with 5 religious, 4 of whom are in formation and a house in Banilad, Cebu (Philippines), with 2 religious.

Fr. Sanavio began to inspect the PMS and its orientation with regard to the project of CICLSAL to lead it toward the merger with another Congregation and verified the willingness of the religious of the houses of Rome, Butembo, and Cebu to merge, and the refusal of the religious of Londrina.

In view of the positive signs that came from the first approaches, on October 4, 2020, in agreement with the Superiors of the two Italian Provinces, two Religious students of the PMS from Congo who are in formation in Rome, were accepted at our Theological Studentate. On November 5, 2020, following the request of Fr. Sanavio and the availability of the Major Superior of the St. Joseph Quasi-Province, Fr. Jozef Humenansky, I authorized the sending of two of our religious of the SJQP to support the formation center in Butembo. Subsequently, in a letter dated September 15, 2021, I suggested to the Major Superior of St. Matthew Province, Fr. Orville Cajigal, that we enhance a certain closeness in Cebu between our Community and that of Banilad.

The aforementioned experiences were positive.

The CICLSAL, in a letter dated July 13, 2021, expressed its deep appreciation for the availability of our Congregation and for the initiatives undertaken. Fr. Matteo Sanavio

will continue on this path of dialogue and mediation towards this merger project if it is in conformity with the will of the Lord.

The choice made by CICLSAL regarding this merger of our Congregation is probably due to a certain closeness of our charism, which moves us to work in the aid and evangelization of the little ones and the poor and, above all, to the experience we have had in favor of the hearing impaired in the centers of the "Serafico" of Assisi and the Institutes for the Deaf and Mute of Messina and Palermo, with several confreres who have dedicated themselves to the formation of the deaf and mute.

We are at the beginning of a journey that requires careful discernment and precise stages, laid down in regulation of the CICLSAL, for preparation at the spiritual, psychological, and juridical planes.

This journey, if everything proceeds favorably, should conclude with the fulfillment foreseen in the part that concludes the aforementioned norm:

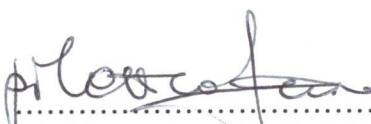
"An Extraordinary General Chapter of the receiving Institute, if the Ordinary Chapter is not close by, will examine the documentation prepared for the merger of the requesting Institute, and possibly approve the request. When all this has been done adequately, the two Institutes will present the documentation requested by the same Dicastery to the Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life, in order to obtain definitive approval for the merger."

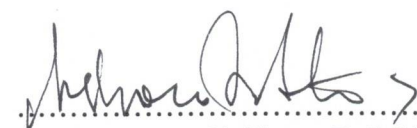
Dear Confreres, at the Council meeting of December 14, 2021, I examined the path that has been taken, and, with unanimous consent, I approved the decision to continue along this path of discernment and convergence, according to the indications of CICLSAL.


At the same time, I invited Father Sanavio to be assisted in this action of mediation and concord, in the choice of initiatives to be undertaken, by the collaboration of a Rogationist religious, identified as Father Silvano Pinato, and by the former Superior General of the PMS, Father Savino Castiglione.

For our part, we will all follow this path, open to accepting the will of the Lord, letting ourselves be enlightened by the light of his Spirit, which we wish to implore through prayer.

As I renew my best wishes for the new Year 2022, I greet you cordially in the Lord.

  
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(Fr. Matteo Sanavio, R.C.J.)  
Pontifical Commissioner

  
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(Fr. Fortunato Siciliano, R.C.J.)  
Sec. Gen.

  
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(Fr. Bruno Rampazzo, R.C.J.)  
Sup. Gen.

