



The Redemptorist Provincialate,
St. Mary's Monastery, Clapham,
SW4 7AP

22nd January 2022

Dear Confreres, Sisters, Lay Associates and friends,

As this is the Year of the **General Chapter**, “possibly the most significant one since Vatican II” I would like to begin this letter by asking you all to resolve to keep this intention to the forefront of your prayers, asking that the Holy Spirit be truly present to guide, inspire and embolden all the capitulars who will take part in this 26th CSsR General Chapter. Phase One of the Chapter, at which I will attend alongside Fr Charles Randall CSsR as our elected Provincial Vocal, is to be held on the 20th March until the 2nd April in Poland. By way of preparation the OPC and the Vocal have been visiting our communities to hear first hand what the confreres think and feel about the issues that will be dealt with at this stage of the Chapter. Many notes have been taken and I hope you know that Fr Charles and I will do our best to represent all of us. This coming week there remains one more community to visit and that is the Abbey in Erdington, Birmingham.

The steering group for the **North Western Europe Provinces** have been having meetings with a Jesuit in Rome, Fr David McCallum SJ, as we seek ways to overcome the blockage we have encountered in our planing to move forward. I would like to share a thought that the Jesuit Father gave us from Pope Francis, he said the Spirit wants overflow, to allow that to happen we need to remove all the small stones to allow the natural currents to carry the water forward. I invite all of us to think about the stones that lie in our paths and prevent us from moving forward confidently and in the way the Lord wants.

I think I can easily say without fear of contradiction that each one of us is filled with a deep sorrow when we call to mind our **three novices in Zimbabwe** who went home to the Father's house on Christmas Night. As this letter goes to Zimbabwe, I would like to express again to our confreres in Harare the love and prayer with which you are being held by each one of us here in the Province. You will know by the many messages, including from the Holy Father himself, that everyone around the world shared in your sorrow and grief. With this letter comes a strong provincial embrace from your brothers this side to you in Harare.

Requiem mass was celebrated in Erdington Abbey on the 3rd of January with many confreres and **Fr Elias Gweme CSsR** was the preacher who preached a moving and sincere homily for that occasion. The mass can be viewed here

[youtube.com/watch?v=L_fWE8n13KE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L_fWE8n13KE)

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We remember our confrere **Fr Charles Corrigan CSsR** who sadly buried his sister Patricia Gallagher at the end of 2021. We pray for him and his family and we ask the Lord to grant Patricia eternal repose.

As a Province the end of last year was particularly sad in that we lost two Fathers here in England our three novices in Zimbabwe. **Fr Jack Clancy CSsR** and **Fr Kevin Callaghan CSsR** RIP both died quicker than we had expected and so we were all in a state of disbelief when these good men went home. The homilies preached at their funerals are available on our website redemptorists.co.uk. *God grant them eternal peace and a crown above.*

I came across this article on the internet the other day and so would like to recommend to you for your own personal usage or to introduce our Spirituality to anyone who may be interested. I have already received the Provincial of Denver Province's permission, so please pass this around. Many of you may have come across this in the past but it has since been updated - including 'our' Ven Bernard Łubinski CSsR!

Living Redemptorist Spirituality - PiM Redemptorist Conference of North America
[http://love.maryprayforus.org/site/DocServer/
Living_Redemptorist_Spirituality.pdf](http://love.maryprayforus.org/site/DocServer/Living_Redemptorist_Spirituality.pdf)

Fr Maurice O'Mahony CSsR has kindly accepted an appointment to the Bishop Eton community in Liverpool where he will be a valuable member of the community and a capable addition to the Parishes that we have care of in Liverpool. Needless to say he will continue with his other ministries, especially the Lay Associate Ministry.

Following on from that I would like to draw our attention to the **CSsR Lay Associate Ministry** and the many dedicated people who are engaged in this endeavour. At this time there is a programme currently taking place to accompany and educate all who go along. All of us are invited to these zoom meetings.

Session One: Saturday 22nd January at 10.30am.

Theme: Being a CSsR Lay Associate, what difference has it made in your life?

Session Two: Thursday 27th January at 2.30pm

Theme: Revisiting the 'pillars' of Alphonsian/Redemptorist Spirituality

Session Three: Thursday 3rd February at 2.30pm

Theme: Living an apostolic life.

Session Four: Thursday 10th February at 2.30pm

Theme: Mary, our mentor, and Prayer.

We continue to hold all our Lay Associates, who are part of our CSsR family, in a place in our prayers. I know this is reciprocated!

Rev'd Br Adam Mukabva CSsR is to be ordained to the **Priesthood** in a couple of weeks on the 12th February 2022 in St Clement's Church, Eastview, Goromonzi, Harare. Let us keep Br Adam in our prayers especially as he is in preparation to receive this wondrous sacrament. Fr Casper Mukabva, (Br Adam's big brother)

plans to travel home to Zimbabwe to help with all the arrangements. I too plan to travel to Zimbabwe to see the confreres, do other bits of business and participate in the ordination celebrations. The Ordination will be a time of great joy and celebration for the Church in Zimbabwe, for ourselves in the Province and for the whole church world wide.

Jubilees 2022

Religious Profession within the Congregation of the most Holy Redeemer

75 Years	Rev'd Fr Beverly Ahearn CSsR	15 August 1947
70 years	Rev'd Fr Michael Creech CSsR	15 August 1952
65 years	Rev'd Fr James Casey CSsR	08 September 1957
65 years	Rev'd Fr James McManus CSsR	08 September 1957
60 years	Rev'd Fr Joseph Doherty CSsR	09 September 1962
60 years	Rev'd Fr James Smale CSsR	09 September 1962

395 years of dedicated religious life!

Ordination to the Priesthood

65 years	Rev'd Francis Dickinson CSsR	08 July 1957
50 years	Rev'd Fr Oliver Keyes CSsR	02 July 1972
50 years	Rev'd Fr Denis McBride CSsR	02 July 1972

165 years of Serving the Lord's Church through the Priestly Ministry

Diary Dates 2022

Province Meeting - Kinnoull - Arriving Mon 25th April - Departing Fri 29th April
100 Anniversary of CSsR Presence in Erdington Abbey - June 10th, Mass at 7pm.

Canonical Phase of General Chapter, Rome 11th September - 9th October

As you may well have intuited by now, the **Clapham community** is yet still out of the monastery and I have little more to say than that! The workers, who work diligently and conscientiously, tell me that by the end of February they certainly hope to leave the monastery and hand it over to us; we will wait and see. In the meantime I attach some photos for you.

As always I want to assure you all that I hold you in prayer every single day, please pray for me and for one another as we try our utmost to walk in the footsteps of our most Holy Redeemer! Never let us forget - ***Copiosa apud eum Redemptio***

Peace,



Richard Reid CSsR
Provincial Superior

20-1-2022

Attached: Up to date Necrology including the names of our novices
& Pictures of Clapham, Erdington Requiem and Zimbabwe notices