



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

29th 2026

Dear Confreres, Sisters, Lay Missionaries, Associates, Friends and Benefactors,

it is some time since I was last in touch with a formal Provincial letter! That being true, I hope you have felt well kept up to date with numerous emails with notifications of happenings around the Province and the Congregation as a whole!

I trust you are all well established in whatsoever Lenten practices you resolved upon when Ash Wednesday begun. We are weak and yet today in the Gospel Jesus tells us that we are to be perfect as our heavenly Father is perfect! At the moment I am reading a book called, "Rebuilding Trust; Clergy Morale in the wake of the Abuse Crisis." Two passages struck me forcibly as the author quote two priests, permit me to share them here...

"I'm happy in my life. I find true joy. I love what I do. I love the people. I feel like I'm firing on all cylinders. I every day remind myself how I am incapable on my own power to do this. I say, 'God, this is your Church, you take care of it; where you need me, give me what I need.'... I have a great healthy community here. Friends outside the community. ...a regular prayer life... there's growth, there opportunity... what I do is meaningful and impactful."

"I think a huge part of this crisis is this,...this overwhelming sense of need and busyness, which then - not only does it make it a challenge to pray; to get exercise, it also prevents us from being creative...The demands that are being placed on us, as there are fewer of us, can be overwhelming. If we become simply irrelevant, it's hard to help people. That's the biggest crisis."

I believe these two soundings can be part of our own religious life. However let us use this season at hand, Lent, in order to drive far away any feelings of being overwhelmed, irrelevant, or being drowned by the demands that we can feel are being thrown in our way. The way of perfection, which I am afraid I don't believe we will ever achieve in this life, but I do believe it is a way we have all vowed to follow, so let us work towards this goal and see how we feel once we get to the Paschal Triduum this year. My prayer is that it will lead us to feel more in line with the first quote rather than the second, see above!

January Meeting St Mary's Monastery Kinnoull

The Province meeting which we had last month in our monastery in Perth, Scotland, was a great gathering of our confreres in which we had the chance to relax, pray, hear new information and discuss business. Br David Nyamuronda CSsR, the

Provincial Secretary took some notes over the course of the meeting, which I am very grateful and I enclose them with this letter.

Safeguarding Certificates

The only sections that were not included in the minutes were those concerning Safeguarding and Finance. Those who participated in the Safeguarding training will have their certificates for this year and those who missed it must ensure they get a certificate from somewhere offering the appropriate training (ie., Diocese or RLSS).

Finances

I am not certain but I suspect that the Finance report during our January meeting was the first time that all the figures as they stand were giving clearly that afternoon. While the EPC members are the Trustees of the Province and the Financial Secretariat monitor closely all our monies, the Province on the whole tend not to know where we are on a financial standing. A lot of confreres believe we are indeed very wealthy and therefore this leads to thinking we can spend with glee. However, as expressed at the January Meeting, the opposite is more our reality;

“We are property rich but cash poor.”

Day of Consecrated Life

The General Government organised an online meeting with confreres, formation students, Redemptoristine Sisters, and mission partners. The event, broadcast live via Zoom and YouTube, was attended by over 1500 people from various units, countries, and time zones around the world. The meeting was opened by Fr. Rogério Gomes CSsR, Superior General, who expressed his joy for this moment of listening, sharing and vocational renewal:

“It is with great joy that we gather on this Day dedicated to Consecrated Life, a precious time to reflect together on our commitment and the mission entrusted to us.”

After a prayer led by Fr. Ivel Mendanha CSsR, Fr. Piotr Chyła CSsR, moderator of the meeting, presented the biography of Sister Simona Brambilla MC, Prefect of the Dicastery for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life, who gave the well thought through presentation. The text, in English, is attached to this letter. Earlier this month, Pope Leo XIV appointed Sr Simona to the Dicastery for Bishops.

St Gerard's Relics on Pilgrimage

Fr Royston has made a great start with the relic of St Gerard moving around the country. Here I just want to share a message that came to Fr Royston,

“Good afternoon, I attended this lovely mass on 28th January in your church at Wakefield. I went on behalf of two close friends, both of which are struggling to conceive for a long time now. I had the medals blessed and passed them to my friends. I travelled 3 hours to be there, through freezing fog, and often thought, was it worth it? but faith told me this was the right thing to do, even if it wasn't easy or convenient. I want to share with you that one of my friends has confirmed this morning, that

*she is now expecting a baby! I don't know how to contact the priest who accompanied the Relics but Im hoping you can to share the news with them. I can't thank you enough for hosting the Relics and leading the petitioners in prayer that evening. Your parish has given an amazing gift to a desperately sad couple, who were praying for a miracle. IVF repeatedly failed and now they have a baby on the way naturally. God bless you and keep you all, for the kindness, hope and love you bring to the world. Please pass this on, if you can, to the Order of the Redemptorist, on my behalf.
Kindest regards and thanks"*

Proof that even today miracles do happen!

Federation - up to date...

On the 26th until the 29th of January our Federation Council (FC) met in Dundalk and we will meet again on the 4th May until 7th of May in St Mary's Monastery Clapham. It was a good meeting with a great sense of fraternity, fun and deep thought as the meeting went on. The FC dealt with several things, Formation, Finance, Confreres under 50 and the Conference of Africa and Madagascar. A communiqué was sent out after the meeting, however I will attach it to this letter. Please pray for the work of the FC and for the future of our four Provinces; London, Dublin, St Clemens, Vienna-Munich.

Vocations Weekend

This was held just before Christmas here in Clapham. It was a great success and Fr Royston is to be congratulated for all the hard work he invests in this ministry. My thanks also goes to the Clapham community who gave a great welcome to the men who joined us for the time of discernment.

Br Phillip's appeal

Just before Lent began I received a lovely email from Br Phillip, one of our six confreres who recently made their perpetual profession in Harare a few months ago. Part of his email was an appeal for some children in Chiweshe, a large mission territory that we have under our care in Zimbabwe. The details of it can be seen here on our Province Website. If you have friends, parishioners, acquaintances who would like to help with this appeal I shall leave it up to you.

<https://www.redemptorists.co.uk/2878-a-lenten-appeal-2026-chiweshe-zimbabwe.html>

Fr Peter Morris CSsR and Lay Associates

Fr Peter has been asked if he would accompany our Lay Missionaries and Associates, to which he replied in the positive. Our thanks and congratulations go to him and our whole hearted support goes to our lay partners in our joint work and prayer in the Redemptorist family. More news will follow in the next letter.

Ordinations in May - Harare ... First Professions in July - South Africa

On the 23rd of May 2026 we have five priestly ordinations taking place in Zimbabwe. Our men, ordained to the Diaconate by our Bishop Raymond Mupa CSsR in November 2025, will be ordained to the Priesthood by Archbishop Robert Ndlovu, and they are

Rev'd Br Terrence Chigodora CSsR, Rev'd Br Sylvester Kanjiwa CSsR,
Rev'd Br Elvis Chirara CSsR, Rev'd Br Noel Makoni CSsR,
and Rev'd Br Bothwell Chimhende CSsR.

Keep these confreres especially in your prayers.

In July 2026 there will be the First Professions of our men in the Noviciate in South Africa. Fr Kudakwashe Kariviro CSsR, one of our confreres from Zimbabwe is currently the Novice Master and we assure him of our prayers for this important ministry. Keep our young novices close to your prayer intentions.

We also send to Fr Kudakwashe afresh our condolences for the death of his dear mother. Thankfully he was able to travel back to Zimbabwe for her funeral.

Requiescat in pace.

Bishop Raymond Mupa CSsR A word of congratulations must be said here to our dear confrere Bishop Raymond as he is now the President of the Zimbabwe Catholic Bishops' Conference (ZCBC). ***Makorokoto! Congratulations! Auguri!***

Bishop Ralph Heskett CSsR and Bishop Charles Azzopardi

No sooner had Bishop Raymond left us to return home, our other confrere Bishop Ralph arrived with the Bishop of Gibraltar, Charles Azzopardi as both were staying with us as they were attending the instillation of Archbishop Richard Moth, the new Archbishop of Westminster. It was lovely spending time with them.

The Provincial of the Liguori Province

Fr Poly Kannampuzha CSsR the Provincial Superior of the Liguori Province (Kerala, India) recently came to visit the community in Clapham. This was his first time to visit the UK. It was great to see the strong bonds that bind us, even though we were meeting for the first time!

Hosting Sr Veronica Maskinye LCBL, Superior General

This coming week I am playing host to Sr Veronica the Superior General of the Little Children of our Blessed Lady Sisters. I have had the privilege of knowing Sr Veronica for many years now and even predicted back in 2008 that she would be 'Mother General' one day! The LCBL Sisters have many communities in Zimbabwe and only one here in the UK. Now visiting that community in Lancaster she will be our guest in London.

Sr Maria Slepchenko OSsR

At the end of March Sr Maria OSsR from the monastery in Ukraine is coming to London to collect an award for her musical composition. She won the Grand Prix of the American International Youth Music Competition in July 2025. The reason she is being presented with the award in London, rather than in the USA, is due to difficulties with Visas. It will be my privilege to accompany Sr Maria to the award ceremony. Do look at her musical composition on the web site, there you will see the young Sr Maria and hear her outstanding music.

<https://www.redemptorists.co.uk/news/news-items/2819-sister-maria-slepchenko-ossr-wins-the-iyhc-grand-prize.html>

Fr Joseph Musendami CSsR and Br David Nyamuronda CSsR

Our two confreres have formally applied to become full members of the London Province with all the right, responsibilities and privileges. They have written to Fr Kenneth Macharaga CSsR, the Regional Superior, advising him of their decision and therefore asking for his permission. Once this was given I accepted them into the Province and sent the paperwork to our Secretary General in Rome. Our two confreres have now moved from 1103 Zimbabwe to 1100 London. *Titambire!*

Fr Isaac Davies CSsR

Fr Isaac has passed his "Life in the UK" test. *Congratulations! Makorokoto!*

OPC EPC - St Mary's Monastery Kinnoull

The OPC are meeting on the 10th of March, followed by a meeting of the EPC on the 11th of March in Kinnoull. Please keep these meetings in your prayers.

Trilogy Saint Alphonsus

Fr Dennis J. Billy, CSsR., recently completed a brief trilogy on Alphonsian spirituality. Three years in the making, it is addressed to the entire Redemptorist family but dedicated to the Redemptorist Partners in Mission (PIM). Fr. Billy did this because PIM is an integral part of the Redemptorist identity, purpose, and mission and, in many ways, represents much of the future of the Redemptorist apostolate...The books are relatively brief, about 100 pages each, and seek to convey in a popular, easily accessible style some of the main currents of the animating spirit behind Alphonsus's evangelising mission.

They are not expensive and I would urge you to get some copies for yourselves, your community library, your external ministry or for friends or otherwise who wish to know more about the 'Alphonsian' way!

<https://www.redemptorists.co.uk/2874-a-trilogy-on-alphonsian-spirituality.html>

4 Years and still War

Let us hold Ukraine and other places that are at war very much in our prayers. Below find a letter from Sr Alfonsa MSsR, the Provincial of Ukraine, as she marks the 4th year of war. It is a powerful piece for our consideration.

<https://www.redemptorists.co.uk/2881-4-years-on-and-still-the-uncertainty-of-war.html>

As we march on to the beat of Lent I wish you every success in your Lenten endeavours and I pray that what you are hoping and praying for will come to fruition. Let us hold one another before the Lord as we make our quiet meditations each day.

May Mary, our Blessed Mother of Perpetual Succour, pray for us!

Peace,

Richard Reid CSsR

Richard Reid CSsR
Provincial Superior

Attached: Notes from January Meeting 2026, Sr Simona Brambilla's Talk, Communiqué FC



Dates for the Diary - for your Knowledge and Prayer!

March 2026

1st	2nd Sunday Lent - St David
3rd	Sr Veronica LCBL
8th	3rd Lent
10th	OPC Kinnoull
11th	EPC Kinnoull
13th	JP II Academy Retreat Day
15th	4th Lent - St Clement Hofbauer - 2nd Founder
17th	St Patrick
19th	St Joseph
22nd	5th Lent
23rd	Sr Maria OSsR Ukraine
29th	Palm Sunday

April 2026

5th	Easter Sunday
10th - 17th	Vienna Munich Chapter
22nd	Finance Meeting
23rd	St George
22nd - 26th	Brothers mtg Rome/Materdomini
27th - 29th	RLSS AGM
30th	R/P Mtg

May 2026

4th - 7th	Federation Council Clapham London
12th	OPC London
13th	EPC London
14th	Scottish Safeguarding
18th	COREW
18th - 31st	Harare - Zimbabwe - Ordinations
25th - 28th	Merrivale - S Africa - Noviciate

June 2026

14th - 21st	Safeguarding Rome Gregorian Uni
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July 2026

8th	Finance Mtg
13th - 17th	Young Confreres NWE Meeting Kinnoull
21st	OPC
22nd	EPC
23rd	RP AGM
27th	OLPS
28th	Ukrainian Martyrs
30th	Bl Gennaro Sarnelli

August 2026

1st	Solemnity of our Holy Father and Founder St Dr Alphonsus
25th	Bl Methodius Trcka
27th	COREW
28th - 8th Sep	Pilgrimage to Alphonsian Sites - Dublin Province

September 2026

- 8th	Pilgrimage to Alphonsian Sites - Dublin Province
11th	Bl M Celeste Crostarosa
14th - 30th	General Fraternal VISITATION
26th	Bl Casper Stanggassinger

October 2026

5th	Bl Francis X Seelos
8th	RP Mtg
14th	Finance Mtg
16	St Gerard Majella

November 2026

6th	CSsR Spanish Martyrs
8th	CSsR Vocations Sunday
9th	CSsR Rule
16th	COREW
29th	1st Advent
30th	St Andrew

December 2026

6th	2nd Advent
8th	Immaculate Conception
10th	RP Mtg
13th	3rd Advent
16th	COREW
20th	4th Advent
25th	CHRISTUS NATUS EST