



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

Dear Confreres, Sisters, Lay Associates and friends,

as we are now in the Sacred Triduum I would sincerely like to ask us to pray for one another and our mission during these wonderful holy days. This is a time of deep and searching prayer for each one of us, let us use it sagely.

This letter has just a few points to highlight, given that we have the Province Meeting in a few weeks.

Ukraine

During the Phase 1 of the General Chapter we had the privilege of speaking with the Provincial of Lviv, Fr Andriy Rak CSsR. These encounters were deeply moving as we heard from him first hand accounts of what was happening and how they were being experienced. At one point after an hour of conversation, 40 of us in a hall watching Fr Andriy on the screen, we simply prayed together. I cannot be sure of the number however there were many tears silently shed in the aula where we were all seated in prayer. Fr Andriy spoke about his sincere gratitude from his heart for our prayers. He said how he really felt the power coming through from his CSsR family, so we must never give up with this powerful task. He also spoke about how the people of Ukraine, including our confreres, have no choice but to defend themselves because something they love is being attacked; their country, their home land and their families. *Слава Україні! Sláva Ukrayíni!*

Thanks to all our communities and parishes who have collected money in order to be of assistance to Ukraine at this time. We know where the money is going and can say for sure that every penny is gratefully received. The OPC has also sent funds in the name of the Province.

Phase 1 of the General Chapter

At the Province Meeting there will be much to say and share about that great event that ended a few weeks ago in Rome.

Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice

I am not sure if the Province has ever had this investiture before, however I am proud to tell you that Fr Timothy Buckley CSsR has been given this cross from Pope Francis for all the extremely hard work he has invested into our two Liverpool parishes. There will be a celebration on the 13th May, 7.30pm with Archbishop McMahon OP and Bishop Heskett CSsR presiding. *Congratulations Fr Tim CSsR!*

Province Meeting April 25th - 29th

It was decided earlier on to have a meeting that would be good socially as well as input and for that reason much thought has gone into how we make this a reality! Arrival is for Supper on Monday 25th of April and the departure is after breakfast on Friday 29th. This means that we have three days together, and not one will be the same. We have material to share with you, such as

- Phase 1 of the General Chapter,
- Safeguarding Developments,
- What a Federation might look like,
- Shrine ministry,
- Province Finances Audit,

and one afternoon for the Provincial Chapter.

Added to this there will be recreation and the Jubilarians Festive Dinner.

In order that we might have a Province photograph, please bring your CSsR habit.

Community Input

To begin the meeting in a meaningful way we would like to invite each community to give us some input on how the last couple of years have been, what the community did to survive, to support one another etc... A 10 minute presentation from each community would be very interesting for us all.

Lay Associates

I offer, on behalf of the Province our sincere congratulations to the people who have once again renewed their annual commitment formally as Redemptorist Lay Associates. This brings real joy to us in the province as we see people wanting to share in our dedication, our spirituality and in our life. Let us pray for them as they do pray for us.

My final word goes to Our Holy Father and Founder,

"Let us rejoice at seeing in His risen glory our Saviour, our Father, the best Friend we possess. Let us rejoice, too, for our own sakes, because the Resurrection of Jesus Christ is for us a sure pledge of our own resurrection and of the glory we hope one day to have in Heaven in our soul and body.

O my Jesus, I beseech you by your Resurrection, make me rise glorious with you on the last day, to be always united with you in Heaven, to praise you and to love you for ever. "

St Alphonsus Liguori.

Peace,

Richard Reid CSsR

Richard Reid CSsR
Provincial Superior

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MONDAY THURSDAY