



La Curia Generalizia

Missionari del Preziosissimo Sangue

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Dear Member of the XIX General Assembly,

Enclosed are the proposed revisions to the *CPPS Normative Texts*. These will be discussed and eventually voted on at the XIX General Assembly.

This final draft of proposed revisions of the *Normative Texts* is the result of two years of work. In response to a resolution of the XVIII General Assembly of 2004, a preparatory commission consisting of representatives of the five informal regions of the Congregation met in June 2005 to draft the initial document. This document was then reviewed by the General Council and presented to the members for discussion in district meetings in 2005-2006.

The results of those discussions were then taken into account by the General Council and a second draft of proposed revisions was then presented to the meeting of the major superiors in August 2006. The draft that emerged from that meeting was again discussed in district meetings and the comments and suggestions were considered by the General Council in drafting the present document April 2007.

In order to foster your study of the proposals as well as to aid in the discussion at the assembly, please take note of the following:

The official language of the Normative Texts is English. While accurate translation of the Texts into other languages is important, the focus should be on the English and not on how phrases may or may not be translated into another language.

Changing “Society” to “Congregation” does not entail a change in our status as a society of apostolic life. Our official Latin title is “Congregatio” and other societies of apostolic life are also called congregations, like the Vincentians (Congregation of the Mission).

“Common Law” refers to the universal law of the Church. The term “common law” has a distinct meaning in civil law, but in the Catholic Church it refers to canon law as well as to other binding laws (e.g., liturgical laws) and definitive interpretations of those laws.

Proposed revisions to articles C56, C57, and A4 should be considered together. These articles deal with ex officio members of general assemblies as well as the election of delegates to those assemblies. Because of the need to balance elected and ex officio delegates, they ought to be discussed together. The table “Delegate Projections” (found on the last page) is useful in this regard. It offers a way of looking at the effect of various changes to our Normative Texts on the number of members of a general assembly and the balance between ex officio members and elected delegates.

Note that our own Constitution (C57) and the policy of the Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life require that the number of ex officio members should not exceed the number of elected delegates.

Should you wish to consult any of the materials that were used in the preparation of this final draft, they may be found on the website of the CPPS General Curia, www.mission-preciousblood.org.

Let us keep one another and our CPPS family in prayer during these final days of preparation for our Nineteenth General Assembly.

In the bond of charity,

Jerome Stack, CPPS

Jerome Stack, CPPS
Secretary General

