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La Curia Generalizia

Fr. Francesco Bartoloni, cpps

Moderatore Generale

Rome, December 27, 2012

Dear brothers in the Blood of Christ:

On February 15, 2011, with the consent of my Council, I appointed a Commission for the Vicariate of India. To go outside the instruction of our Normative Texts for governance and to appoint leadership from outside of the Vicariate was an extraordinary event. The reasons for doing so were stated in the Official Decree establishing the Commission. (This remains available on our website for your review.) In short, we believed that a leadership team of confreres from outside the Vicariate was necessary to lead a process of revitalization of the Vicariate and reconciliation within the membership of the Vicariate. In appointing the Commission, the General Curia assuming a role of direct oversight of the Vicariate. This too was an extraordinary event, in that it removed the Italian Province from their defined role as the “mother Province” of the Vicariate.

It was never the intention that the work of the Commission was to be a long term project. It was my hope that the Commission would begin the process of renewal and then, with the cooperation and shared commitment of the members of the Vicariate to the continuing task of renewal, the Vicariate of India would be returned to a governance structure that is defined in the Normative Texts and the Italian Province would assume their rightful place of oversight and support of the Vicariate.

In October of the year I convened a meeting of the General Council, the Italian Provincial and his Council; and representatives from the Commission for the Vicariate of India. The purpose of our meeting was to review the work of the Commission, to evaluate the current situation in the Vicariate and to make plans for the continued process of revitalization of the Vicariate and reconciliation among the members. The purpose of this letter is to communicate the results of that meeting.

First of all and very importantly, we recognized and acknowledged the good work of the members of the Commission. Frs. Gianni Piepoli, Emanuele Lupi and Angelo Anthony accepted their appointments motivated by a love and personal commitment to the Congregation and out of concern for their brothers in the Vicariate. Fr. Matthew Perumpil, a former Superior of the Camillian Fathers brought to the Commission a deep understanding of the local culture and a necessary knowledge of the expressions of Consecrated Life within India. They encountered a situation with greater than expected complexity, yet have responded through personal sacrifice, with great integrity and commitment. We are deeply grateful and indebted to them for their work. The Commission has worked diligently and with great faithfulness as agents of reconciliation and renewal. Because of the administrative problems that were discovered, a significant amount of time and great efforts has been spent addressing these concerns; sometime to the detriment of their primary purpose of effecting renewal and

reconciliation. It is not overstating to say that their work has been to bring about a refounding of the Vicariate.

Secondly, we acknowledged that the work of revitalization and reconciliation is far from completed. The urgency of grave administrative and financial concerns, concerns that were not known previous to the appointment of the Commission, required the attention and efforts of the Commission. While progress has been made and issues are being systematically addressed, this will remain a pressing area of concern for leadership. The more important renewal work has proceeded cautiously. The Commission acknowledges a need for the continued formation of the members and has been responding with concrete action. This work will need continued effort and they believe it to be a priority for the future.

Finally and specific to the plan for moving forward, decisions were made about the governance and oversight of the Vicariate. While it remains our goal to return Vicariate governance and oversight of the Vicariate to the manner in which it is proscribed in the Normative Texts, we decided that an interim step is necessary. That interim step will be the appointment of a Vicariate Director and Council by the Italian Provincial and his Council. Fr. Emanuele Lupi, a member of the Italian Province and a current member of the Commission for the Vicariate of India, will be appointed to a three year term as Vicariate Director. Through an election process, the members of the Vicariate of India will propose a slate of possible Councilors, from which 4 Councilors will be appointed. These appointments will occur in March 2013, at which time the Commission for the Vicariate of India will be concluded.

The work of renewal in the Vicariate of India will continue and I ask for your continued prayerful support for our brothers in the Vicariate.

Sincerely, in the Precious Blood of Christ,



Fr. Francesco Bartoloni, cpps
Moderator General

