



Suore di Gesù Buon Pastore "Pastorelle"
Casa generalizia
Via Leonardo Umile, 13
00144 Roma-Eur

**To all the Pastorelle Sisters
At their residences**

Prot. 103/04

Rome, 29 June 2004
Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul

Dearest Sisters,

On the solemnity of the Holy Apostles Peter and Paul, in fulfillment of what article 131 of our Rule of Life prescribes, with the consent of my Council, I am happy to announce to you all the **indiction of the 7th General Chapter** which will be celebrated in the month of July 2005.

* *Duties of the Chapter*

It will be an ordinary Chapter during which we will carry out the duties stated in article 130 of our Rule of Life, according to the Itinerary of preparation sent to you last December and having as its theme: **"Leading to the springs of life: to live and to give Jesus Good Shepherd to humanity of today"**.

* *Venue and date*

The venue will be "Divine Master" House, in Ariccia (Rome).

On 29 June 2005, Solemnity of the Apostles Peter and Paul, with the Chapter delegates and all the Sisters who are able to be present, we will gather around the Urn of our Father Founder, in the inferior Crypt of the Basilica "Regina Apostolorum", for the Family Eucharistic celebration, which will mark the opening of the 7th General Chapter.

The days from 30 June to 3 July will be days of spirituality.

The 7th General Chapter will officially begin on 4 July and its conclusion is foreseen on 20 July.

* *Participants*

Those who take part by right:

The superior general, the general councillors, the bursar general, the secretary general, the provincial superiors, the superior general of the immediately preceding term of office.

Those who take part by election:

The provincial delegates elected according to the norm in article 118.3.

The delegates of the different Delegations elected according to the norm in article 103.1

With regards to Colombia-Venezuela-Mexico Delegation, considering the complexity of its reality, as in the previous Chapter, we consider it appropriate that it be represented by two delegates, with authorization from the Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life.

Therefore, the 7th General Chapter will be composed as follows:

	Members by right	Elected members
General government	n. 7	
Superior general of the precedent mandate	n. 1	
Provinces:		
Brazil-Caxias do Sul	n. 1	n. 2
Brazil-San Paolo	n. 1	n. 2
Philippines	n. 1	n. 2
Italy Central-North	n. 1	n. 5
Italy Central-South	n. 1	n. 5
Delegations:		
Argentina-Bolivia		n. 1
Australia		n. 1
Chile-Perù		n. 1
Colombia-Venezuela-Mexico		n. 2
Korea		n. 1
	n. 13	n. 22

* *Spirit of preparation and prayer*

The first phase of the provincial Chapters and Delegation Assemblies, during which the Chapter delegates and their substitutes will be elected, will be celebrated by all Circumscriptions within the month of January 2005.

The General Chapter marks an important stage in the journey of the life of our Congregation, and it is always a time of grace. The celebration of our 7th General Chapter is inserted in the daily living of our charism and pastoral mission. We are all invited to live our vocation and mission as Pastorelle “*on the one hand as lambs, and on the other <as women-shepherds>, devoted to the Good Shepherd, imitators of the Good Shepherd, collaborators of the Good Shepherd*”¹. Let us ask the grace of acquiring an ever more pastoral heart.

I urge you to continue your preparation according to the Itinerary of preparation you have received, and to pray more intensely, making use of the prayer for the 7th General Chapter which we all have at hand. Let us trustingly invoke the light of the Spirit so that this grace-filled event may find us open and ready to welcome His appeals that will help realize our charism amidst contemporary humanity, and care for the faith of the people the Good Shepherd entrusts to us.

May the holy Apostles be with us in our journey and obtain for us the abundance of the gifts of the Spirit. Let us remain listening to the Word and pray for one another.

With much affection,

Superior General

¹ Blessed James Alberione, AAP 1961, 122