



**ORDINE DEGLI AGOSTINIANI SCALZI**

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Prot. Reg. V; fol. 209/03

TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE ORDER.

**Subject: Best wishes for the feast of Saint Monica and Saint Augustine.**

Dear Confreres,

A year ago, I wrote a letter on the occasion of the Feast of Saint Monica and of our founder the Holy Father Augustine because I thought it convenient not to wait for the distant Christmas holidays to hear from each other. For various reasons, this year 2019, personally for me, is taking on great importance:

- the Indiction of the Year of Charism and the realization of a Conference on this theme that will end at the Vatican on September 12, with a special audience with Pope Francis;
- the accompaniment of the process of approval of our *Constitutions* revised by the 2017 General Chapter and presented for the third time to the competent Congregation;
- the private meeting held at the Vatican with the Pope on April 5, 2019 together with the other two Augustinian General Superiors: Fr. Alejandro Moral (OSA) and Fr. Miguel Miró Miró (OAR), whose goal was to accelerate the process of the ongoing procedure with the Congregation for the Causes of Saints to declare Saint Thomas of Villanova, Doctor of the Church, as soon as possible; on that occasion, a copy of the complete works *Opera Omnia* of the Saint in Spanish was delivered to the Pope;
- the visit to the Província Santa Rita de Cássia do Brasil with the participation in the meeting of the formators (July 16-19, 2019) by the Vicar General Fr. Carlo Moro, Secretary for the Studies and Formation;
- the Canonical Visitation (July 25 to September 7, 2019, still in progress) in the Philippine Province of Saint Nicolas of Tolentino, which, thanks to the help of the Holy Spirit, extends today to Indonesia, Vietnam and recently also to India.

From all these events and experiences, I without any doubt, will get very enriched. My knowledge of every member of our religious family and the responsibilities have all the more increased. All this becomes very important to make the due discernment and to take the appropriate decisions when necessary.

I firmly believe that the current face of our religious family is a multi-ethnic and multicultural face. Precisely for this reason the *Constitutions*, the *Directory*, the *Ritual* and our Traditions, in the light of our Charism, must increasingly constitute the pivot and foundation of the unity in diversity that our Order is called to build. I identify in this the real great challenge of the Discalced Augustinians in the current historical context. Basically, it is about the same challenges as the missionary Church.

May the maternal affection of Saint Monica, the concrete wisdom of our Holy Father Augustine and the painful experience of the holy missionary Ezekiel Moreno support us. United in prayer on the occasion of the upcoming celebrations, I extend my warmest greetings to each one of you.

Da Nang (Vietnam), August 19, 2019, feast of Saint Ezekiel Moreno.

  
Fr. Diones Rafael Paganotto  
Secretary General



  
Fr. Dorian Ceteroni  
Prior General