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Letter to all the Provincial Ministers, Custodes, and Delegates of Europe
and of some of the Circumscriptions of ASMEN

Prot. N. 00091/21

Re: An aid to be used for a Local Chapter of the European Fraternities

Dear brother Minister,

May the Lord give you his peace!

With this letter I would like to provide you with some information regarding the European gathering at Czestochowa which will take place 11-16 October 2021. The preparatory commission for this encounter is at work and several brothers have already agreed to collaborate in this. We want to thank them ahead of time. A special thank you goes to the brothers of the Provinces of Cracow and Warsaw who will take care of the on-site logistics. Despite the uncertainty caused by the pandemic, we hope that the meeting can take place.

In the hope that this important gathering will help us to “rekindle the flame of our charism” and to plan together our presence on the European continent, we have chosen a motto and a logo for the meeting. The motto is inspired by the letter of the General Minister, *To all the Friars of Europe*, which makes a reference to Pope Francis, and it is this: **The Capuchins in Europe: The dream of the Fraternity**. With regard to the logo, the image has St. Francis surrounded by 12 stars (representing the 12 stars of the flag of the European Union, as well as those recounted in Rev. 12:1 that formed a crown for the Virgin Mary) drawing our focus to the future vitality of our charism on the continent.

A designated internet website will be available (<https://europa2021.ofmcap.org/>) where the friars have access to various documents (e.g., the letter of the General Minister, the booklet on *The St. Lawrence of Brindisi Fraternities*, the *Aid* for the Local Chapter). The site will be updated as more information becomes available.

In addition to this information, by this letter we also want to invite and encourage each fraternity of your Circumscription to celebrate a local chapter in view of Czestochowa 2021. Following the guidelines of the General Minister, it is the hope of the preparatory commission that every single brother and every local fraternity would take a lively interest in this event and have the

opportunity to express themselves and offer their own contribution to an issue that touches us all. To that end, we are proposing a format that can be used by the local chapter to further the prayer and dialogue of the friars. You will find this aid attached to this letter as well as on the internet site. The input of these fraternal encounters will have to be channeled to the curia of your Circumscriptions. We ask that you yourselves or other competent friars send us a summary of the input of the local chapters before the end of June 2021. We understand that we are asking of you a commitment over and beyond the ones you already shoulder, but the success of our European gathering demands serious preparation.

Lastly, one final request regarding the *budget* established by the preparatory commission. To meet the expenses of the gathering, we would ask that, by the end of June, each Circumscription pay in advance €500 to the account opened specifically for this event. Below, please find the details of the account for making a bank transfer, with the specific annotation “Incontro Europa 2021”:

Curia Generalizia dei Frati Minori Cappuccini
IBAN: IT 76 P 02008 05038 000003380827 SWIFT (o BIC): UNCRITMM

Relying on your fraternal kindness, I send you my fondest regards.



Br. Pio Murat OFM Cap

General Councilor and President of the Commission

Br. Onofrio Farinola
Secretary of the Commission

Rome, 22 February 2021