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LIOP

International Liturgical Commission of the Order of Preachers - Comisión Litúrgica Internacional de la Orden de Predicadores  
Commission Liturgique Internationale de l'Ordre des Prêcheurs - Commissione Liturgica Internazionale dell'Ordine dei Predicatori

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Before the General Chapter of the Order of Preachers, held in Bogota, Colombia from July 18 to August 8 2007, a report of activities was requested by the Dominican General Curia, from the various heads of commissions or general promoters of the Order.

While the report of the international Liturgical Commission bore the signature of its president, brother Dominique Dye, the document was the object of an important work of collaboration by all the members of the Commission. On this or that point, the advice of other experts was sought, especially on certain matters of current liturgical ruling ( in its relationship to Institutes of consecrated life). The basic text of the document is in French. Translation into English, Spanish and Italian was assured by members of the Commission. For the English version we enlisted the collaboration of sister Marie-Humbert Kennedy, an Irish Dominican .

In this number 4 of INFO/CLIOP, December 2007, is to be found all that concerns the work of the Commission, together with its various projects, whether it be publications, or again collaboration with the Order's Provinces or communities of the Dominican Family. Certain sections, more directly institutional, and which must be the object of analysis and of the eventual decisions of the General Chapter, are not reproduced in this bulletin. The document in its entirety will be published in the *Analecta O.P.*

As we draw near to the feasts of the Lord's Nativity, the Commission members offer to the Dominican communities their wishes for joyful celebrations and assure them of their prayers.

- R. *The One true God, begotten of the Father, came down from heaven into the Virgin's womb. In order to be visible to us, he clothed Himself with flesh of the first Adam, and came forth through the closed door of the Virgin's womb, God and Man, Light and Life, Creator of the world.*
  
- V. *As a newly-wed spouse, the Lord came forth from the nuptial chamber.*

**REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES  
OF THE LITURGICAL COMMISSION OF THE ORDER  
(JULY 2004- JUNE 2007)**

“As mendicants we would like to live our “not belonging to the world” in a way that is always new, by living a regular life of the “conventual” type, characterised by spaces and times that offer a framework or rhythm that are proper to our *separation mundi*. The solitude of our cells and fraternal life in community, intimacy with the Lord in personal prayer and community celebration (Liturgy of the Hours and Eucharist); community meetings; a common table; our schedules and observances; the necessary silence and the different spaces reserved in enclosure; all of this in a way, puts itself at the service of the word that is contemplated, studied and is announced outside the boundaries of the convent, in the immense “cloister of the world”. In fact, the desire to be near people in order to share their joys and hope, their sorrow and anguish, impels us to link community life with the apostolic and missionary ministry.”

Christmas message 2006 of Brother Carlos A. Azpiroz Costa, O.P. Master of the Order.

This report follows on that which was forwarded on 4 July 2004, for the General Chapter of the Diffinitors (Cracow, Poland). It is presented in similar fashion.

The international Liturgical Commission of the Order of Preachers (CLIOP) is composed as follows: Brother Dominic DYE, Province of France, president; Raffaele QUILOTTI, Province of Saint-Dominic in Italy; Brother Miguel Angel Del RIO GONZALEZ, Province of Spain; Brother Franck BORG, Province of Malta; Sister Elena MALASPINA, of the “Missionaries of Schools” Rome. Brother Franck BORG was nominated on 27.04.2004 to replace Brother Thomas Mc CARTHY; the other members were nominated on 15.11.2001.

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## I. INFORMATION ON REUNIONS AND WORKINGS OF THE COMMISSION

### 1) How the Commission works

As was indicated in the July Report 2004., the Commission is composed of a restricted number of members. On occasion, the President may invite one or other expert, be it brother, sister or lay person. Work can be carried out at a distance either by e mail or by ordinary post. It happened at times that Brother Miguel Angel DEL RIO GONZALEZ was unable to be present at the meetings, but one could always rely on his reliable collaboration, sound advice, and willingness to translate documents into Spanish.

The Curia's general secretariat, in the persons of different general secretaries, or in that of the French language secretary, Sophie GUICHARD, offer indispensable aid. On visits to Santa Sabina for the annual or intermediate "plenary" sessions, the Commission members likewise perform important work in the issuing of documents.

Italian is the usual language employed at Commission meetings, though invited persons are free to express themselves in their mother tongue. As to documents sent to the Provinces, as well as introductions to books or "working instruments" that may be produced, English, Spanish, French and Italian, are envisaged. Numerous elements, not alone Liturgical formulae approved as such, but also historical notes or rubrics, are printed in Latin. It is perhaps useful to point out that the various translations are effected by the members of the Commission themselves.

Translation of the Latin texts is the work of Sister Elena MALASPINA and Brother Raffaele QUILOTTI. Sister Marie-Humbert KENNEDY OP Dublin (Ireland) also translates some texts into English at our request.

The annual budget is determined in conjunction with the Syndic of the Order. It has always been respected. Besides, I have managed to obtain certain gifts which are set aside chiefly to defray the cost of economical editions of booklets or work notes.

### 2) Information about the various meetings

#### *Preliminary indications*

Accounts were furnished in the "International Dominican Information" (IDI), and at times reproduced in the *Analecta O.P.* when there is question of more institutional type of texts or documents.

In this section is to be found information concerning "annual" or "intermediary" sessions. As the different dossiers are dealt with in stages, depending on research, consultation with experts in the Provinces, Monasteries of nuns, Congregations of Sisters or Lay Dominican fraternities, several themes recur from one meeting to the other, in particular:

- Analysis of research carried out with the Dominican Family (Provinces, Monasteries, Liturgical formation etc.)
- Preparation of the *Additamenta ad Proprium Missalis et Liturgiae Horarum* (short indication "Additamenta")
- Preparation of the *Liber benedictionum et precum O.P.* (short indication "
- Examination of adaptations into modern languages of the O.P. Proper; Liturgy of the Hours, Missal, Ritual etc. *De Benedictionibus O.P.*)
- Replies to mail sent to the Commission.

- Precisions with regard to the bulletin of the Commission: INFO/CLIOP
- Examination of one or other dossier with the Procurator General of the Order, at present Brother Robert OMBRES, who is always at the disposal of the Commission.

### *Annual Sessions*

- **13 -15 December 2004:** selection of replies to be made to correspondence received by the Commission; the sorting out of Liturgical questions received from Monasteries of nuns; information about the 1995 colloquy on the manuscript of Santa Sabina XIV L.1 (known as the “Prototype of Humbert of Romans”). Continuation of work for the “*Additamenta*”; finalising of INFO/CLIOP No 1 with Letters from the Masters of the Order on the Liturgy; profile of bulletin No 2 – Elaboration of a Questionnaire to be sent to the Provinces on “Liturgical formation”; guidelines for composition of “*De Benedictionibus*” – Information with regard to present adaptations; Relations with the Congregation for Divine Worship; discussion on the theme “Liturgy, popular piety and conventual rites”.
- **30 March – 1 April 2004:** situation of work in progress: dispatch to the Provincials of the questionnaire on Liturgical formation; transcription in the form of cards, of the replies received from the nuns (220 returned out of 245 sent out); technical reply to a Bohemian friar on the reports “Episcopal Commission of Liturgy/ Religious Institutes”; Logo for INFO/CLIOP, and edition of the first number of “Letters of the Masters of the Order on the Liturgy”, soon to be published.; examination of first attempts at typographical composition of the *Additamenta*. Correction of the drafts of the *Additamenta* ; continuation of work on “*De Benedictionibus O.P.*” Examination of some requests: Ritual of Profession of the Sisters of Blessed Imelda; Slovak Proper; some replies to the Procurator General of the Order.
- **13-16 December 2005:** Examination of work in progress: “*Additamenta*” and the last drafts; text of the Letter of promulgation of the MO; account of the questionnaire sent to the Monasteries. Adaptations and perspectives of editions: Ritual of the Sisters of Blessed Imelda; confirmation by the Congregation of the Proper O.P. in Slovakian; Spanish Ritual of Profession, and preparation of a Letter of promulgation by the MO – Other works; state of research for the “*De Benedictionibus O.P.*”; INFOCLIOP No 2: Information on the construction of the *Proprium O.P.* of 1982; Replies to the General Secretary on Dominican Lay Fraternities; project for a Portuguese edition of the Dominican Missal; further examination of the profession Ritual of the Blessed Imelda Sisters.
- **30 May- 2 June 2006:** state of the profession Ritual of the Blessed Imelda Sisters in their report to the Curia O.P ; discussion on “Liturgy : popular piety and conventual rites” – examination of various dossiers: Liturgical formation, formula of B. Ascension Nicol, replies to mail received. “*De Benedictionibus O.P.*”: situation with regard to the collection of texts; examination of a project for the repartition of materials; proposals for a letter from the Commission so as to guide the work of adaptation – with the presence of Sister R. Bjelland, O.P. (Norway) and K.P. Adams O.P./ Australia (but in Rome) both specialists in music, reflection on the “music of the Order and in the Order” – Edition of the Proper O.P. in Slovakian; indication of the funds solicited by the Commission in order to help this Province.

**NB** The “*Additamenta*” were published by the Tipografia Vaticana on 23 May 2006. Their diffusion will be examined at the July intermediary session.

- **12-15 December 2006:** Limited presence of Commission members. Work took on two aspects. First of all, an examination of documents for discussion: “*De Benedictionibus O.P.*” postal replies and contact by email. Secondly, and principally with Brother F. Borg, dispatch of copies of the “*Addimenta*” which the Book Office of Santa Sabina was unable to assure since June. In agreement with the Master of the Order and the General Syndic, the expedition of the volume was effected in the following manner: two copies to each Province, one of which was complimentary; two complimentary copies to each Monastery of nuns O.P.; a certain number of volumes were sent “with best wishes” or for inclusion in special Reviews and Institutes. *IDI and Analecta O.P.* have taken up again the form of “Just published”, with presentation of the volume and conditions for its acquisition.
- **11-13 April 2007** (session with reduced numbers): expedition of INFO/CLIOP No 3 by email to the maximum of Provinces or Monasteries, by ordinary post from either Rome or Paris – Consultation of post received with replies – Examination of “*De Benedictionibus O.P.*”: the Master of the Order confirmed the method, which is to prepare a volume in the collection “*Documenta*” as for the *Addimentata*, publication mandated by the Master of the Order – Adaptation of the Proper O.P.: examination of a request from the Polish Province for its Liturgical calendar ; perspective on the reediting of the Maltese Proper. – With the general Council, discussions with regard to the Commission Report for the General Chapter 2007.

#### *Intermediary sessions*

Between two “annual” sessions, we arrange, according to opportunity, one or two intermediary meetings. This provides an opportunity for moving on the work in its more technical aspect. With the President of the Commission, it regroups collaborators living in Italy or able to come to Rome, without this weighing too heavily on the budget of the General Curia. These number one or per year. Work covered several aspects:

- With Brother R. QUILOTTI, examination of the requests coming from the Provinces, from the Monasteries or the Congregations, transmitted to the Procurator General of the Order. With the assistance of Sister Elena MALASPINA, technical work regarding the Latin version in certain sectors.
- With Sister Isabelle-Marie RIOUX, Dominican, classification of archives of the Liturgical Commissions of the Order. (1973-2006)

In the course of the session of 24 February – 2 March 2007, some particular documents were in a position to be addressed: completion of INFO/CLIOPS No 3, examination of the Proper O.P., *ad experimentum*, in the Vietnamese language (with the help of Brother Joseph Phan Tan, of the Angelicum), contact with Brother Scott Steinkerchner, O.P. USA, who is responsible for the Internet throughout the Order. We also listened to favourable appreciations, Dominican or other, concerning the *Addimenta* volume.

### **3) Works realised by the Commission**

The regular meetings of CLIOP, even if all members are unable to be present at all the sessions; discussions among the Commission’s members, as well as the excellent spirit of collaboration, means that questions are able to be answered. Among the editorial tasks carried out since the 2004 Report, we must name the following:

*Additamenta ad Proprium Missalis et Liturgiae Horarum O.P.(2006)*

After the edition in 1982 of the *Liturgy of the Hours O.P.*; then in 1985 of the *Missal and Lectionary*, several men and women saints have been officially canonised or beatified. At the request of the Master of the Order, this Volume edits official Liturgical texts, with biographical notes. It also includes Appendixes, with notably the publication of certain texts of Meister Eckart, as requested by the General Chapter of 2001.

An updating of the Liturgical Calendar O.P. has been assured so as to take into account changes in dates of celebrations which have been made since the 1985 calendar was edited.

After a general introduction in four modern languages (English, Spanish, French, Italian), the volume publishes the texts in languages whose formulae were approved by the Congregation for Divine Worship. The biographical notes are in Latin.

This volume opens a section of the Proprium O.P. entitled “Documenta” published at the request of the Master of the Order. Strictly speaking, these are not liturgical books as such, but rather “working instruments”, useful in the first place for regional Liturgical Commissions, whose task it is to provide supplements to editions of the Proprium O.P. which have already been published. Secondly, these “Documenta” might serve to edit books of traditional prayers, or to realise certain customs of Regular life inspired by the tradition of the Order.

*Periodical publication of INFO/CLIOP*

In order to answer the letter of institution of the international Liturgical Commission by Carlos A. AZPIROZ COSTA, Master of the Order, (cf. Prot.66/01/1617, of the 15 November 2001), asking for information and that contact be maintained with the Regional Commissions and with the Brothers and Sisters charged with formation in the Provinces, Monasteries and Congregations, as well as with the Assistants General of the Council General, the Commission esteemed it necessary to create a bulletin.

This bulletin has been named INFO/CLIOP, and is destined to appear at regular intervals. It is edited in three languages: English, Spanish, French and Italian. Translations are done by members of the Commission or gratuitously by one or other on request. The number of pages is not determined in a fixed manner. No 3, March 2007, and the last published, had an exceptional 32 pages.

As was mentioned above, the bulletin is dispatched in the following manner:

- For the different languages, we follow General Curia practice
- All Provincials, Vice-Provincials, and Vicars General receive the bulletin by email as do Monasteries on Internet; Congregations of Sisters through the intermediary of the DSI secretary, coord. Internet (Santa Sabina)
- For Monasteries without Internet, postal service is used, either from Paris or from Rome.
- The socii of the Master of the Order, the various Dominican institutions in Rome, receive copies in the most appropriate language.

**NB:** In order that convents, communities etc. are fully aware of this bulletin, this documentation should be forwarded to convents or associate houses. Often, this does not happen.

The numbers of INFO/CLIOP already appeared are:

- No 1- July 2005: *Letters of the MO Fr. Timothy RADCLIFFE:*  
12 pages  
\* Profession Ritual, edition 1999  
\* Ritual for the Sick, promulgation 2001  
\* Ritual for the dead, promulgation 2001  
*Letters of institution of the Liturgical Commission by the MO Fr. Carlos A. AZPIROZ COSTA 15 Nov.2001.*  
*Complementary information*
- No 2- December- 2005 *Some information with regard to the preparation and printing of the Proper O.P. 1982*  
12 pages
- No 3- March 2007 *Liturgical Life, penitential dimension and Indulgencies*  
32 pages  
**NB.** Bulletin prepared in collaboration with the Procurator General of the Order, together with all the texts of the General Chapters (1992-2004) relative to the Order's Liturgical life.

*Liber benedictionum et precum O.P. (v. 2008)*

In the tradition of Religious Orders or of local churches, between the Liturgy and the life of prayer termed devotional or regular, (pious exercises, devotions, traditional prayers etc.) there exist small books with varied titles: *Libellus precum, Formularium.*

The A. DAMATO Liturgical Commission (1973-1974), nominated by the MO Aneceto FERNANDEZ, had touched on the subject, pointing out however, that an inventory and *aggiornamento* of the texts or rites ought to be undergone beforehand, including those in the *Collectarium, the Processionarium, etc* - The General Chapter of Walberberg 1980, (Acta no 61) had requested that an inventory of the Order's traditional prayers be established and published. In order to comply with this request, in the publication of *Liturgia Horarum O.P.* there was added in Appendix, a section entitled: "*Excercpta e Libello precum in Ordine traditarum*"

Following on this, the V. ROMANO Commission (1974-2001), in its work on the Ritual (election of superiors, Religious profession, the Sick, Deceased etc) examined various texts or rites. Some, quite legitimately were inserted in the ritual editing, or in appendix in sections of the Ritual.

Other sectors had not yet undergone examination; many being found in the *Formularium* booklets (last edition: MO GILLET, 1939), or in the books of the Dominican confraternities or the Dominican laity. Thanks to the research done by Brothers Miguel DEL RIO GONZALEZ and Franck BORG with regard to documentation; and to examination of Latin expression by Sister Elena MALASPINA, the Liturgical Commission performed good work. In the course of sessions, we proceed to a discernment regarding opportunity and pastoral actuality. On this point, the experience of Franck Borg, of the Province of Malta, as well as the many requests formulated by the monasteries of Dominican nuns, makes us wary of having a "purely Western" judgement in this regard.

*This Liber benedictionum et precum O.P.* will not be a replica of the *De Benedictionibus* of the Roman Rite. It is inspired by its new method of presentation, but includes texts and usages of our tradition, The volume may appear in 2008, in the collection "Documenta", in a formula akin to that

of the *Additamenta*". The Provinces may make use of it either in toto, or in sections. After the CLIOP session of December 2008, it will be possible to publish in the IDI, the presentation and the whole plan of this *Liber benedictionum*.

## **II. TYPICAL EDITIONS IN LATIN OF THE PROPRIUM O.P AND THE PRESENT STATE OF ADAPTING INTO LANGUAGES**

### **1) Latin editions of the *Proprium O.P.* and relations with the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the sacraments (CCDDS)**

The Order is still waiting for confirmation, or in certain cases for a *recognitio*, of several Documents which have already received the approbation of the Master of the Order. Here below is the list:

- *Messale secondo il calendrio proprio dell' Ordine dei Frati Predicatori e delle Province italiane*: approved by MO Fr. Timothy RADCLIFFE, in a letter dated 04.05.2000.
- *Proprium O.P.; Ordo unctionis infirmorum eorumque spiritualis curae*, from specific elements confirmed in their time (Prot. CD, N. 669/76): dossier presented in its actual form for a final *recognitio*, on 3 May 2001, in Latin, Italian and French.
- *Proprium O.P. Ordo exsequiarum*, based on specific elements already confirmed (Prot. CD, N.669/76): dossier presented in ritual form for the different branches of the Dominican family with a view to a final *recognitio*; text in Latin and Italian.
- With a letter from the Procurator General (22 November 2002. Prot.Gen. 421/02), Presentation in the name of the MO Fr. CARLOS AZPIROZ COSTA: Appendix "*Pro Liturgia horarum seu vigilia apud defunctorum*" in Latin and Italian.

At the end of the mandate of the MO Brother Timothy RADCLIFFE, Brother Vincenzo ROMANO, President of the Commission, deemed it opportune to submit to the CCDDS the liturgy of the Sick and the Deceased O.P., presented in a ritual and regular form, thinking that the Congregation, as it had done in 1983 for the revision of the rubrics of the *Proprium de Tempore* of the O.P. Missal, would proceed with diligence.

The dossiers presented in 2001 to the Congregation, accompanied by the very circumstantial reports of Brother Vincenzo ROMANO, are proof that the texts emanating from our traditional Rite, had been approved by the General Chapter of 1974, then submitted to the Congregation for Divine Worship, and confirmed in 1976. Both men and women experts had worked on the elaboration of these two rituals, in particular, Brother Pierre-Marie GY (+ 20.12.2004), who was an expert in the revision of books of the Roman Rite (*Ordo Unctionis et Ordo Exequiarum*) post Council.

### **2) Relations with the Provinces and with the Dominican Family**

By reason of its responsibility and by its work, the Commission is in relationship with the Provinces, the Monasteries, and in one respect, with the Dominican Family. Briefly we shall state here how things stand.

*Adaptations of the Proper O.P. in course of realisation.*

During the last three years, CLIOP corresponded with the following regional liturgical Commissions:

- Slovakia; Liturgy of the Hours in course of publication.
- Spain, Profession Ritual, in course of publication
- Vietnam, a partial edition *ad interim* of the Liturgy of the Hours.
- Poland, for revision of the Liturgical Calendar of the Province and of its convents.
- U.S.A. reception this month of May, of the *Missal and Lectionary* (ed. typ. Lat., final draft 15 May) for advice of the Council General and the CLIOP.
- Portugal/Brazil: discussions took place about a project for a Dominican Missal *ad interim*.
- Germany: We are late replying to the new person in charge of the Commission, and we offer our apologies.
- France: under the responsibility of fr Philippe de ROTTEN O.P., Switzerland, translation of the *Ordo Professionis O.P.*<sup>1</sup>

Before 2004, certain adaptations and even publications of the Proper O.P. were undertaken without informing CLIOP. This is regrettable as we could have given some advice which would have facilitated relations with the Congregation for Divine Worship. In one or other case, such advice might have avoided excessive printing expenses.

#### *Correspondence and work for the Monasteries and the nuns O.P*

In the domain, we must point out

- Regular replies to correspondence coming from the Monasteries regarding the Liturgy.
- Preparation of synthetic report with regard to the questionnaire realised by the Monasteries . This synthesis will include a dossier with special cards for the Master of the Order and for the Promoter of the nuns; a global account for publication in INFO/CLIOP or partially in IDI.
- Work with the international Commission of nuns: in this context, I was invited to Prouille to speak of the *Proprium O.P.* and of its publication.

#### *Collaboration with the Congregation of Sisters and with the Dominican Laity*

- At the request of the Master of the Order or of the Procurator General, the Commission replied to several questions with regard to the Liturgy.
- Examination and advice for profession Rituals of Dominican Congregations.
- Dominican Laity and Confraternities: preparation of the *Liber benedictionum et precum O.P.*; discussions took place with those responsible at Santa Sabina or in certain Provinces.

### **3) Continuation of the work of translation-adaptation of the Proper O.P. and liturgical Animation**

In its report to the General Chapter O.P. of Cracow (Poland 2004), the Liturgical Commission of the Order expressed several wishes, in particular that of a “translation of the Proper of the Order”, for formation and liturgical animation” and for “life-giving celebrations”. These suggestions remain for the most part extremely relevant. May I draw your attention to two sectors.

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<sup>1</sup> Other provincial Commissions have likewise in the past few years, forwarded to the Commission, translation of texts or of schemas for celebrations, for example, the Province of Australia as well as various communities of nuns and of Dominican sisters.

*Continuation of the work of translation-adaptation of the Proprium O.P.*

With a view to facilitating this work of translation-adaptation of the *Proprium O.P.* in its different parts, (Missal, Lectionary of Masses, Liturgy of the Hours, Ritual etc.) the Commission envisages sending a technical letter to the Regional Dominican Liturgical Commissions. This will not be written in Latin as in 1978, but in English and in French. Twenty nine years after the Curial document “Indicationes quaedam pro adaptatione Proprii liturgici O.P. a Provinciis perficienda (24.05.1978) “which appeared in the *Analecta O.P.* (vol. 44, 1979, pp. 13-30), it is time to suggest new orientations. These ought to be mindful first of all, of the instructions of the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments { *Liturgiam authenticam* of 2001 and other annexed documents) ; in second place, indications given by the Masters of the Order, or the Introductions of the liturgical books of the *Proprium O.P.* (*Liturgia Horarum, Missale et Lectionarium, Rituale*, etc.)

It is also wise to take account of experience in the use and translation of the Dominican *Proprium* twenty five years after the appearance of the first volumes. CLIOP can usefully advise the regional Commissions, the better to understand the structure of our liturgical books, indicate what has been realised by this or that Province and at times give help with an “analogical” translation, when it is not possible to envisage a translation in toto of certain books.

*Liturgical animation of Dominican Family communities*

Several reports or letters from Provinces note an actual deficit in formation or Liturgical animation. INFO/CLIOP No 3, March 2007, transmitted the orientations of recent General Chapters (1992-2004) which should help us to have a better appreciation of Liturgical life for our communities.

In its report to the General Chapter of Cracow (2004), the Liturgical Commission underlined the importance for those responsible for the liturgy in the Order, to be very familiar with the Letters of promulgation of the *Proprium* by the Masters of the Order, as well as with the Introductions to different books. For its part, the Commission, responding to the wishes expressed in the letter of institution, (15.11.2001, nn. 2,3,4), will continue this collaboration with those responsible for the Liturgy in the Dominican Family, especially with the future publication of a number of INFO/CLIOP on “liturgical formation”, and of another which will present “schemas of celebrations” In this way, we shall be replying also to a wish, often formulated by Pope Benedict XVI, of an “ars celebrandi”.

### **III. COMPLEMENTARY REMARKS AND SUGGESTIONS**

In the course of the annual or intermediary sessions of CLIOP, various suggestions or indications were formulated. Some had to deal with the ordinary activities of the Commission, and hardly merit a mention in this report; others however touch on aspects of liturgical life in the Order and are worthy of mention here.

#### **1) Work in progress for the Liturgical Commission of the Order**

Workings of the Commission fall into three categories: short term; middle term and long term.

a) *For short term*, representing dossiers already well advanced, we can cite:

- Continuation of preparation of the *Liber benedictionum et precum* O.P. which could appear in 2008 as volume 11 of the *Proprium O.P./ Documenta*.
- INFO/CLIOP No 4, October-November 2007: “Liturgy, popular piety and conventual rites” which might be postponed till later.
- INFO/CLIOP No 5, March 2008 “Presentation of schemas of different celebrations carried out in the Provinces, Monasteries etc.”
- Followed by correspondence received periodically by the Commission.

b) *For middle term*, certain dossiers which may see the light of day towards the end of 2008:

- Synthesis of replies to questionnaire sent to nuns’ Monasteries O.P. Dossier for the Master of the Order and the Promoter. More general presentation in INFO/CLIOP or in part in IDI.
- INFO/CLIOP: “Liturgical formation in the Dominican Family”
- Typical editions in Latin of both parts of the Ritual O.P.: *Ordo Unctionis et Ordo Exequiarum*.
- Perhaps *short term*: “Letter to the liturgical Dominican Commissions re the adaptation of certain sections of the *Proprium O.P*”
- INFO/CLIOP: “Chant in/of the Order (repertoire, melodies, music in the Liturgy)”

c) *Longer term* (at times, middle term):

- Collaboration with DSI or SDI with regard to liturgical questions from Dominican Congregations.
- Likewise with the Dominican Laity: analysis of celebration schemas, help for preparation of adapted rituals etc.
- Archives; finish classification - already far advanced,- of the documentation of different commissions from 1973-2007.  
**NB.** The work is important. Consultation of these archives has resulted in the writing of several theses, in particular that of Brother Miguel Angel DEL RIO GONZALEZ on “The Liturgy of the Sick and the Deceased of the Order” (13e century and with the Commission A. D’AMATO, 1973-1974).
- Complementary Lectionary for Dominican saints, for spiritual animation.
- Regrouping of different ceremonial orientations for the Liturgy.

## 2) Chant “of the Order” and chant “in the Order”

From time to time, the liturgical Commission of the Order receives questions about Chant, “Dominican Gregorian” or the possibility of editing new Chant books for the entire Dominican Family. The subject has been addressed by various Commissions of the Order since 1973. We sum up here the principal stages, and by way of conclusion to this section, the position proposed by CLIOP.

### “Dominican” Gregorian

We shall find in the *Liturgia Horarum O.P.* (Latin ed. 1992, pp. LXXII- LXXIII), a bibliography concerning chant of/in the Order at the time when the Liturgy was in Latin.

- From 1950 -1965: after the publication of the study by Father D. DELANDE (*Towards the authentic version of the Gregorian Gradual of the Preachers*, Paris, 1949), the Order undertook two reforms of its chant, asked for at the General Chapter of Bologna (1961, Acta nn. 161,162) and then again at that of Toulouse (1962, Acta, n. 136). That resulted in *Tonorum communium iuxta Ritum O.P. Regulae* (ed. A. FERNANDEZ, Rome, 1965).
- The Commission A. d'AMATO (1973-1974) gave some orientations so that Dominican communities might be able to continue using – even after adoption of Books of the renovated Roman rite- Dominican chant books (cf. ASOP 45, a.85, Fasc. III, Iul-Dec. 1977, pp. 228-229).

N.B.: Following on the change over to modern languages, the *Regulae cantus O.P.* of 1965 were scarcely used. Many criticisms were expressed in this regard (rigidity of rhythmic signs, loss of the former background of Lamentations etc.)

- Completion of the books of the *Proprium O.P.* 1974-2001. The method followed was the following:
  - *Liturgia Horarum, Missale, Rituale*: give references to the Dominican chant books in Latin, often with the expression “praesertim in cantu”
  - Compose for all these books an “*Ordo cantus*” indicating references to Dominican Chant books, but also to the renovated books of the Roman rite.
  - In the musical transcription of Prefaces and the Latin modifications of some words advice from the Abbey of Solemnes.
  - Introductions to *Liturgia Horarum* and to the *Missal O.P* include several sections on chant bringing to mind what one terms “music in the Liturgy, Ritual music”. These indications underline the importance of the specific quality of certain pieces or melodies, in Latin, to be sought in modern compositions for specific liturgical seasons and for certain parts of the Dominican Proper.

*What are the perspectives for today?*

Can we envisage the preparation of books with the “Dominican” Gregorian? To answer that question, account must be taken of certain parameters:

- Approaches at present, concerning the Gregorian are varied . Between the Solesmes method, realised in part by the Roman Gradual and, it seems, by the future Roman Antiphonal, as well as by approaches from other schools, we see differences not only of interpretation, but also in the transcription of pieces.
- The Order of Preachers no longer has absolute autonomy in the matter of Liturgical books. The *Proper O.P.* is a substantial supplement, but mainly a complement to the renewed Roman Rite. Several nuns’ Monasteries which still use the Gregorian chant, are progressively adopting the Roman Gradual, and then will use the Roman Antiphonal.
- A basic question must be asked: *is there such a thing as a Dominican Gregorian?* Who at the present moment and with what kind of means, could dedicate themselves to scientific work in view of a very important musical edition?

- Were the exhortations of the General Chapter of Cracow (2004, Acta, nn. 97, 98, 99, 100, 101) relative to chant and music, including old European music, followed up? What interpretation can be accorded to them, including an eventual collaboration with CLIOP?
- Suffice it to recall that in the years 1991-1992, Brother J. LEBRATO, Director of IDI, launched an enquiry into chant in the Order. Some pieces were published in IDI (cf. IDI no. 304, 1992, p. 160). There remains a huge dossier, up to now unexploited.
- The book Office of Santa Sabina contains numerous CDs of chants sent by Provinces, Monasteries, or even Dominican composers. As far as we know, no list has ever been established.

#### *Some suggestions for the immediate future*

In a session of 1 June 2006, some suggestions were offered by the Commission which appear to be realistic.

- a) The establishment of a repertoire containing a list of the principal musical productions in the Order today, together with another list of men and women experts in Liturgical music.
- b) The preparation of a number of INFO/CLIOP, which would include different sections: historical background, inventory and lists, reflections on music in the Liturgy and also with reference to the *Proprium O.P.*
- c) As for Gregorian chant, the Commission's suggestion would be, first of all, to establish an inventory of Gregorian pieces "with a Dominican tradition", which might result in a *modest publication at a reduced cost*. This too would correspond to a request made at the General Council of Walberberg (1980, Acta, n. 60).

### **3) Statute of the former *Ordo Missae O.P.***

In 2006, the Master of the Order, prior to the publication of the *moto proprio* concerning the so-called Tridentine Mass, asked the President of the Liturgical Commission, to prepare for him – personally – a document against the hypothetical case where requests might come to him from Brothers wishing to use the old Dominican *Ordo Missae*. The Master of the Order added that, without for the moment forming a group, I might contact competent Brothers, as well as asking the advice of one or other Counsellor.

In a letter of 21 October 2006, I touched quickly on this matter, noting that previously during his mandate, and further back still under the mandate of the MO Damian BYRNE, a lengthy reflection had taken place, recordings of which are to be found in the Archives of the Council General and in those of the Liturgical Commission of the Order.

Before transmitting to the members of the General Chapter some suggestions, I shall briefly outline the history of use of our *Ordo Missae* after the Liturgical reform of Vatican 11, so that the Capitulars may be aware of the situation, and know the reflexions of the Curia General in this domain.

#### *The Dominican "Ordo Missae" after Vatican II*

- In 1965, with reference to the first orientations of the Liturgical reform given in the Instruction "Inter Oecumenici", and on the advice of some Dominican experts, the Holy See validated the requested modifications: suppression of the "chalice covering" at the beginning of Mass and bringing forward to the Offertory, introduction of the "little elevation" at the end

of the canon etc. At solemn Mass, the suppression of certain ceremonial adjacent usages (abandon of *the* frontal veil before the priest, the deacon and the sub-deacon; no longer carrying the Cross during the Gospel procession etc.) ; application of the Instruction “Inter Oecumenici” (for example, the celebrant no longer reads independently, the parts sung by the choir) . Nevertheless, it is required to *retain the solemn covering of the chalice, on the table in front of the celebrant, and during the Gradual.*

- All during 1965, the experts of the “Consilium de liturgia” point out to the Order, *the interest of the ritual of the Solemn Mass O.P.*, because of several ceremonial aspects. For example, “the covering of the chalice and the preparation of the gifts” ought to be retained, not during the gradual, but always in conjunction with “the first part of the Mass” (Liturgy of the Word)
- In 1969, during one General Council, the Order abandoned its *Ordo Missae*, both for “Low Mass” and for Solemn Mass, and asked for the use of the *Ordo Missae* of Paul VI (cf. ASOP 39, 1970, pp. 572-574).
- In his letter “*Vitae orationis*” of 15 August 1983, promulgating the *Missale et Lectionarium O.P.*, the MO Vincent de Couesnongle, had this to say: “Even after the reception of the Roman Missal, the permanence of an *Ordo Missae* special to the Order can be envisaged. Finally, it was decided to adopt the “new Roman *Ordo Missae*”, in which there are likenesses in many points to our former Rite” (Litt. Cit. No 4).
- In the course of the years 1988-1989, under the Generalate of the MO Damian Byrne, the General Curia was in constant correspondence with the Pontifical Commission “Ecclesia Dei” and the “Brothers of St. Vincent Ferrer” (Chemere, France), reinstating the Church, but formally asking to keep the habit of the Order, the Dominican liturgy of 1962, as well as to take their inspiration from the Constitutions of the MO M. Gillet to write their legislation. An important dossier can be found in the archives of the General Curia, testifying to the great magnanimity shown by the MO Damian Byrne. In his report to the General Chapter of Oakland (U.S.A., 1989), Brother Vincenzo ROMANO exposed the situation, pointing out the richness of the new *Proprium O.P.* and emphasising that the Order always laid claim to its own liturgical tradition. “B Proposte della Commissione di liturgia nei confronti dei “Brothers of Chemere”. (cf. ASOP 50, 1989, pp. 120-124) .

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## GENERAL CONCLUSION

At the conclusion of this Report of the Liturgical Commission of the Order for the General Chapter O.P. of Bogota (2007), I should like to remember certain important points for the Liturgical life of the Order today.

### ***Approval of the Proprium O.P., after the manner of “a former Rite”***

In a note to the General Curia (23 May 1989, 3/89/637) with regard to the “Frères de Saint-Vincent Ferrier” (Chemere), Brother Marie-GY (+) pronounced this judgement on the Proper of the Order, as it was preparing for publication:

“The present *Proper of the Order of Preachers* probably already outstrips the proportions of all the other existing Propers, while it still has to be completed by a third volume, that of the Ritual,

not to mention the books of Gregorian chant. In fact, being juridically a Proper, our liturgical books are halfway between a Proper and a particular Rite, because they have kept in the treasures of our Liturgical tradition everything that is compatible with both letter and spirit of the Constitution on the Liturgy *Sacrosanctum Concilium*. This was recognised by the decree of the Congregation for the Sacraments and for Divine Worship on 25 July 1977”:

“In order to arrive at a deeper communion with the local Church, where its communities are to be found, the Order of Preachers expressed the wish to use the books of the renewed Roman Liturgy. However, it seemed important to conserve in texts and in rites, certain more specific elements, in that they constitute a particular treasure of the liturgical tradition of this Order. In that matter, we followed the principle established by the Second Council of the Vatican in its Constitution on the Liturgy (*Sacrosanctum Concilium*, No 4) which accords equal dignity to particular Rites, legitimately recognised, and wishes to favour their conservation as well as their appropriate renewal (...) (cf. decree CD 671/76, signed by the Cardinal Prefect Iacobus R. KNOX)”.

This appreciation should encourage our communities to discover and appreciate the liturgical and spiritual riches proposed to them, permitting them to link again with the traditions of the Order, even though it be beyond certain changes in ritual

### ***Place and importance of the Liturgy in our Dominican life***

The numerous exchanges in the form of questionnaires to the Provinces, or study of Dominican life, prior to the re-writing of the Constitutions of the Friars of the Order of Preachers, in the years 1967-1968, made it clear to us, that the liturgy is not an observance among other observances, but should be a “celebration of the Mysteries” in harmony with a full apostolic vocation.

For its part, the entire ensemble of the Dominican Family wished and always wishes to associate itself with this great ecclesial dynamism, setting its tradition against the orientations expressed in the texts in the texts of the Council The Letters of the Masters of the Order promulgating the liturgical books of the renewed *Proprium Ordinis Praedicatorum (Liturgia Horarum of 1982, Missale et Lectionarium of 1985, Rituale/ Ordo professionis of 1999, Ordo Unctionis et Ordo Exequiarum of 2001, etc.)* together with divers “General Introductions”, constituting fundamental elements of reference.

On a few occasions, the Liturgical Commission of the Order posed questions:

- How are these texts being referred to for the animation of our Dominican liturgical and apostolic life?
- In the formation of our Brother novices, or students, do we read the Letters of the Masters of the Order on the Liturgy of the Hours, on the Eucharist, on Religious Profession?
- How do communities and the friars situate themselves with regard to the orientations of the Church and of the Order concerning this “duty” of reciting the divine Office, the conventual Mass (cf. LCO, nn. 57-65, but also the Letter of the MO A. FERNANDEZ promulgating the LCO in 1968, a propos of the liturgy in its totality)?

***At the service of living celebrations in our diversified communities***

In INFO/CLIOP No 3, March 2007, we published texts from the last General Chapters (1992-2004) about liturgical life. In Commission it offered many points of discussion, certain if which I note here:

- Many suggestions, for example from the General Chapter of Providence (USA 2004, nn. 214-221) could be placed in perspective with the “Introductio generalis” and the “Adnotationes complementares” of the *Proprium Officiorum O.P.*(ed. Latin, 1982). The importance of the external signs for the Office is very often recalled. (cf. “Introduction” n 80; “Adnotationes” nn. 5-0, 31-36)
- For its part, the “Introductio generalis” of the *Missale et Lectionarum*, edd MO V de Couesnongle and D. Byrne, 1985, provide orientations for the conventual celebration of the Eucharist as well as the ceremonial dimension of our diverse liturgies.
- These texts are very interesting to read as ever living values of our former Dominican rite, even through changes and important renovation. In the present context, this perspective is a very useful one.
- The Commission esteems that, in dialogue with regional commissions, appropriate forms should be suggested for celebration of the Liturgy of the Hours and of the Eucharist in small or very restricted communities, in order that the truth and quality of the liturgy may be assured – even in these circumstances. (cf. “Adnotationes complementares”, LHOP, 1982, n. 21, p. 14)
- Finally, the Commission is very conscious that there are very many liturgical problems which pose themselves to our communities (celebration of the Office of Readings, rhythm and time of prayer etc.) as well as to other branches of the Dominican Family. It believes that in this domain also, Congregations of Sisters and the Lay Fraternities can help with their reflexion and their proposals.

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At the end of this Report, I would like to mention the excellent spirit in which these meetings or work sessions of the Liturgical Commission of the Order take place. Each member brings with him his competence, or /and enriches us with those traditions linked to the sensibilities of his particular Dominican Province or to his place of origin. Through those persons whom we are able to invite now and again, or again, those whom we meet in Rome, or with whom we correspond, we have I think, a very real contact with the whole of the Dominican Family.

Finally, I wish to express my gratitude to Brother Carlos A. AZPIROZ COSTA, Master of the Order for the confidence and encouragement offered to us. I also want to thank the Brothers of Saint-Jacques in Paris, who accept fraternally my absence from the administration of the convent so that I can insure the work of the Commission, and who show a delicate interest in this work for the entire Order.

PARIS, 2 July 2007

Brother Dominique DYE, O.P.  
*President of the Liturgical Commission of the Order*