Oblate Gathering in Pozuelo, Madrid, Spain
19th – 23rd November 2012

"REVITALISING OBLATE LIFE AND MISSION IN EUROPE"

AIM:

- Space to share faith and life, listen, reflect and discern together how and where God is calling us as Missionary Oblates in a rapidly changing Europe.
- Provide an opportunity for Oblates to explore and identify common and particular needs, projects and priorities that could bring us together in community for mission.
- To commit ourselves to the 'non-negotiable' aspects of our life as Oblates in Europe and our commitment to mission.
- Be renewed and encouraged in our life and mission as Oblates in Europe.

Participants:

- Oblates who are between five and twenty years in ministry with representation from every European country in which Oblates minister.
- Participants are able to communicate in one of the three languages we will employ at the gathering (French, English and Polish) and consideration be given to having a varied ministerial representation as possible from the Province.
- Presence of Provincials from the European Region – to listen and reflect on what is being said/shared in the gathering among the younger Oblates of Europe.
- Presence of General Administration: Fr Louis LOUGEN, Fr Gilberto PIÑON and Fr Chicho ROIS.

Preparation for the November Gathering:

- Get participants to read and reflect on: Fr Steckling's presentation to the last Chapter on the "State of the Congregation" and his presentation on "Religious Life in Europe"; 35th General Chapter document – "Conversion"; Vatican II Documents; the conversation and dialogue on the October 2013 Synod on the "New Evangelization"
- Oblates reflect on the "joys and hopes" and the "anxieties and challenges" they face personally and in mission. The same in terms of their Province mission and also in terms of what people are experiencing in their missions.
- Find a Scripture text or image that speaks to the Oblate Unit/Country about Oblate Life and Mission today.
- Find an image, expression or symbol that captures best their reality as an Oblate Unit today.

Process: SEE-JUDGE-ACT methodology. Over three full days we will listen and reflect on our lived experience, discuss and pray together using Oblate material, Scriptural references Church documents and theological resources. On the third day opportunity will be provided for Oblates to suggest and explore priorities or projects for future collaboration in Europe.

Facilitator & Guide: Adriano TITONE and Daniel CORIJN as theologian presenter and listener.

Sponsors: The event is sponsored by the Provincials of Europe (CIE) and coordinated by the European Commission for Mission (CEM)

May the Lord Jesus and St Eugene de Mazenod bless our work

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for the good of the Oblate Mission in Europe.