



Communication No. 7

The Interchapter Assembly sustained its rhythm of work on Sunday, February 24. The whole morning was spent in the revision of the normative documents. In the afternoon, there was a pause, as the participants went down to the capital for a late afternoon tour, admiring the splendid sunset of Manila Bay.

The whole day of February 25, Monday, and the morning of February 26, Tuesday, were again spent on the norms of the Congregation. In the afternoon, the group visited the Saint Paul Seminary Foundation (SPSF) in Silang, Cavite, and met with the 58 young aspirants in a moving and festive atmosphere. In the seminary auditorium, the young people presented four short films which they had produced and directed and had an open dialogue with the Superior General. It was a break that made us experience that the Pauline charism is still able today to arouse in the young people energy and enthusiasm.

The three days — Sunday, Monday and Tuesday — were entirely dedicated to the *Constitutions and the Directory*. Study and discussion were not limited to the articles; in diverse moments, these became reflections on the meaning and impact of our *Constitutions*. From among the proposals for revision, there came out some orientations that have deep implications on our Congregation. Among these are the proposals of the Commission that refer no longer to “instruments of social communication” but rather to the “culture of communication.” Other proposals would put in accord, jointly, the structures of the apostolate and those of formation, having the Pauline mission as their common goal. Part of the discussion also touched on the presence of temporary professed Paulines in the Provincial Chapter.

The presence of Fr. Teófilo Perez, President of the Commission for the revision of the normative documents, proved to be precious and decisive in clarifying the meaning of many proposals for updating. The Assembly saw more and more clearly that reviewing the *Constitutions* means, above all, that we have to update ourselves to the evolution of the phenomenon of communication. We cannot simply put this aside if we want to attune our charism to the “signs of the times”, as our Founder was fond of saying.

Alfonso, Cavite, 27 February 2013

The Central Committee of the Interchapter Assembly