

Thy kingdom come!

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To the Regnum Christi members
of the territory of Western and Central Europe

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ:

It is my pleasure to announce to you, on the Solemnity of St. Joseph, that Fr. Valentin Gögele, L.C. has been named the new Territorial Director of the Legionaries of Christ and Regnum Christi in Western and Central Europe. Fr. Valentin comes from South Tyrol in Italy and is currently the Rector of the apostolic school in Bad Münstereifel and the Local Coordinator of Apostolate of Regnum Christi in North Rhine-Westphalia.

According to our Constitutions, territorial directors are named for a three-year period. They can be renewed in their charge for a second term, but only exceptionally for a third. In addition, our Constitutions state that an adequate consultation should take place before such a nomination (cf. Constitutions n. 182 §1).

As you know, Fr. Andreas Schöggel, L.C. started his mission as Territorial Director in April 2012 and was renewed in this post for another three years in April 2015. For this reason, during the past months, we have performed the consultation to collect names of possible candidates to substitute him. After an initial written consultation, Fr. Juan José Arrieta, our General Vicar, visited Bad Münstereifel during the Christmas break to personally speak with all the religious of the territory.

Since the Territorial Director of the Legion of Christ is also by office the Territorial Director of Regnum Christi, I have also consulted the consecrated women of Regnum Christi through their Territorial Director. In addition, I took into account the qualities for territorial directors mentioned in the Constitutions,

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especially “the capacity to promote unity” (n. 147) and the “capacity to collaborate with the other directors of the Movement Regnum Christi” (n. 185).

I have also named Fr. Paul Habsburg, L.C. as the Territorial Vicar. Fr. Paul is German and is currently a member of the community in Paris. The territorial counselors will be Fr. George Elsbett, L.C., Fr. Henri Duc-Maugé, L.C., and Fr. Martin Baranowski, L.C. Fr. George is originally from Germany but grew up in Canada. He is a member of the community in Vienna. Fr. Henri is French and is a member of the community in Paris. Fr. Martin is German and is a member of the community in Neuötting-Alzger.

This new government will start functioning for a period of three years on the 1st of August 2018. Until then, Fr. Andreas and his counselors will remain in office. In the upcoming months we will introduce the corresponding changes to the national and regional committees of Regnum Christi.

I would like to thank Fr. Andreas Schöggl for his work as Territorial Director during the past six years, especially for his closeness and availability for everybody, despite the great distances he had to travel between the localities. I would also like to thank him for his spirit of collaboration and communion. As of August, he will start a new position outside of the territory. This will be announced in due time.

Let us entrust Fr. Valentin Gögele and his counselors in our prayers to the intercession of St. Joseph. May the Lord illuminate and strengthen them in the mission which he has entrusted to them. I assure you of my prayers.

Yours in Christ,

P. Eduardo Robles-Gil LC