



CONGREGATIO
PRO INSTITUTIS VITAE CONSECRATAE
ET SOCIETATIBUS VITAE APOSTOLICAE

Vatican City, June 2, 2017

Prot. n. 51376/2009

Dear Father John and Members of the Chapter,

This comes in response to yours of 25 March last, with which you notified this *Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life* regarding the celebration of the forthcoming XXIX General Chapter of the *Society of Mary*, which will take place on September 20 to October 11 of this year.

General Chapters are most important events in the life of religious institutes. They provide the opportunity to seriously reflect upon the current status of the congregation and to set the goals for the immediate future taking into consideration the realities and exigencies of the contemporary times in the Church and in the world. It is my sincere hope then that your Chapter will provide a moment for serious reflection upon the most urgent needs of your Society, including the issue of vocation promotion and the administration of goods in light of the guidelines recently issued by this Dicastery

As a Chapter of Elections, may you choose leaders who are deeply committed to the core values of religious life in general, and of your institute in particular. May they be holy men who will lead by example and will be able to animate and challenge all the members to give witness to their consecration to the fullest.

Rev. Fr. John HANNAN, sm
Superior General
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Via A. Poerio 63
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With assurance of my prayers that the Holy Spirit will inspire all of you and that Mary, your Patroness, will guide all the members of the forthcoming General Chapter, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,



João Braz Card. de Aviz
Prefect