



POOR-SERVANTS  
OF-DIVINE  
PROVIDENCE



## **A WORD AND A SYMBOL**

### **To say the Prophecy of Communion**

We are on the way to the celebration of the XII General Chapter, which has as its theme the "Prophecy of Communion". The Chapter is always a gift of grace that the Lord offers us. This gift of grace invites us to return to the sources of the Charism that God the Father sowed in the heart of Fr. Calabria and that today is the source of life for many in different parts of the world.

We propose a WORD and a SYMBOL to promote and give a certain unity to our journey of preparation for the Chapter. Word and symbol, together, express that prophecy of communion that we are called to build, live and announce in the cultural, spiritual and social contexts of our time. The Word is light that illuminates, warms the heart and gives rhythm to our steps and our relationships; the Symbol helps to make visible what we wish to live for us to be able to manifest the prophecy of communion.

### **WORD**

The Word that enlightens us on this journey towards the General Chapter leads us to the Cenacle, at the time of the Last Supper, and makes us listen to this Word of Jesus: "It is by your love for one another, that everyone will recognise you as my disciples" (Jn 13:35).



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## SYMBOL



The prophecy of communion, which we are called to live, is graphically represented through the Symbol of the Chapter. The communion that becomes prophecy in history arises from the Easter cross (cross where the white colour dominates, sign of the resurrection), and from the breath of the Holy Spirit, which descends from heaven and embraces the cross and the people (wind represented by different colours remembers the many gifts of the Spirit). The Risen Lord crucified, blowing His Spirit, generates people with the capacity to live as risen ones. People holding hands - Living like resurrected means expressing the communion that comes from above and is embodied in history and in new relationships. Five people and different colours - New relationships have the characteristic of interculturality present in the Opera. New people in Christ open themselves to others and together proclaim the Fatherhood of God, who in Christ and in the Holy Spirit makes us God's children and brothers. But this communion is not closed in ourselves but open and under construction.

This is why the five people who work together do not close the circle but leave the opening that leads us to go towards the wounded life, and the new poverty of our time. Communion as a prophecy brings together mysticism, fraternity and mission.



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## PRAYER FOR THE XII GENERAL CHAPTER

Lord God, merciful Father,  
look with benevolence on us  
members of the Calabrian Family;  
fill us with your Spirit  
to respond faithfully to your call.

Lord, preserve us always in your love,  
through the intercession of the Immaculate Virgin Mary,  
St. Joseph, St. John Calabria  
and all our patrons.

Grant us brothers, sisters and laity with the apostolic spirit  
that united in only one family  
we may believe in you and your Word.

Grant that free from all earthly worries,  
with full trust in your Providence  
and in communion with those who represent you,  
we may be ready to do your will  
and suffer with Christ

so that the souls may welcome your holy Kingdom.

Send, O Lord, your Holy Spirit  
so that we can accept the signs of communion  
which, through the XII General Chapter  
You make sprout in the Opera and in the Church.

Amen.