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29	PEDRO ALONSO	<i>Country technical manager México</i>
30	JOSEBA ALZOLA	<i>Communication Team</i>
31	IRATXE MESEGUER	<i>Training Team</i>
32	BERNA ARRABAL	<i>Management Team</i>
33	JON ANDER ZARATE	<i>Sensitisation Team</i>
34	MARTA MORATONA	<i>Volunteering Team</i>

SCHEDULE

08:00. Celebration of the Eucharist with lauds.
09:00. Breakfast.
10:00. 1st session.
11:30. Break.
12:00. 2nd session.
13:30. Break.
14:00. Meal.
16:00. 3rd session.
17:30. Break.
18:00. 4th session.
19:30. Break.
20:00. Evening prayer, free time, conversations...
21:00. Dinner.

PROGRAMME III ADVISORY COUNCIL

SESSIONS

CONTENTS

- 1 Initial greeting and presentation of the Advisory Council.
- 2 The range of possibilities of Itaka-Escolapios
Exhibition of the President of the Itaka-Escolapios Network.
- 3 What is being contributed, what could be contributed and what is interesting to my reality to be contributed by Itaka-Escolapios.
Dialogue in teams and brief sharing in plenary.
- 4 An overview of the situation by demarcations and countries.
Exhibition from each Demarcation (10) and dialogue.
- 5 An overview of the General Teams: possibilities to go further.
Exhibition from each General Team (6) and dialogue.
- 6 What is being contributed and what could be contributed by Itaka-Escolapios to the Order.
Exhibition of Father General and dialogue.
- 7 What is being contributed and what could be contributed by Itaka-Escolapios to the Fraternity.
Exhibition of the General Council and dialogue.
- 8 Challenges to go further and steps in the next three years.
Exhibition of the Executive Committee and dialogue.
- 9 Conclusions of the III Advisory Council.

Javier Aguirregabiria, *President of Itaka-Escolapios*

INITIAL GREETING AND PRESENTATION

Thank you all for your presence here. We know that we are very busy and that it is not easy to book these days. Thank you for that effort and for all the work that each of you do for the good of the Pious Schools and of so many people who are served from the Piarist mission.

And welcome. Because all of you, and all of us, are highly needed to carry out the Piarist project that unites us and encourages us to continue working.

We want to dedicate this first session to some practical and organizational aspects. But, first, it is convenient to present and situate this meeting that we are going to begin.

We are starting the III Advisory Council of the Itaka – Escolapios Network. We held the first Council in May 2012, the second took place right here in January 2015 and we are now beginning the third one.

We begin by situating this III Council

Although the “**backstory**” begins on October 15, 1985 with the Itaka **Association**, an important step is taken on March 21, **2001** with the creation of the Itaka – Escolapios **Foundation**, by the Province of Vasconia, and of a Fraternity, to have a legal entity in which together we could undertake certain projects and works of the Piarist mission.

On January 28, **2005**, in a meeting of Fr. General, Fr. Jesús Lecea, with the Provincials of Spain in Barcelona, the possibility was raised of opening the Itaka – Escolapios Foundation to other Provinces of the Order as a “**resource office** for cooperation.” This led to the opening in that same year 2005 of **other offices** in Zaragoza, Valencia and other places to serve the Piarist mission in the dependent countries of Vasconia,

On April 16, **2011** the **agreement of the General Congregation** was signed with the Itaka – Escolapios Foundation in Rome to be considered a reality of collective charismatic and juridical integration and to jointly promote the Piarist mission. The Statutes were modified to have a more representative Board of Trustees and for the General Congregation and the General Fraternity Council to become part of it.



And so, we arrived at the **I Advisory Council**, held in Bilbao from May 21 to 25, **2012**, with the participation of Fr. General, all the Provincials that participated at that time, the General Fraternity Council, the Board of Trustees and the coordinators of the different teams from Itaka – Escolapios... as has been maintained in the other Advisory Councils. The objective was to bring together the main people in charge of Itaka – Escolapios to share the moment we were living and to guide the future. It was very interesting and there were a few conclusions that were included in the material delivered.

From January 26 to 28, **2015**, we held the **II Advisory Council** right here. In addition to sharing the moment of Itaka – Escolapios in the different places and preparing the Strategic Plan for the next six years, which you also have in the material delivered, and a few conclusions, an important step was taken with the implementation of the **Programmatic Letter**, signed later in the framework of the General Chapter of Esztergom on July 9, 2015 by Fr. General, the Council of the General Fraternity and the President of the Itaka – Escolapios Foundation. With it, an **International Piarist Network** was set up wherein the Demarcations and Fraternities were invited to participate. This is how a Network began, with some programmatic lines and a strategic plan.

Now, we are starting the **III Advisory Council**, fulfilling the commitment to convene it every three years to follow the rhythm of the Pious Schools and with the aim of continuing to advance as an international network.

Following this Council **another gathering** will take place with the General Congregation, the General Fraternity Council, the Participation Secretariat and the Major Superiors who have a Fraternity in their demarcation. We will coincide enough people in both moments. It's not by chance. Itaka – Escolapios has a lot to do with the Fraternity. In this systemic vision in which we are advancing in the Pious Schools we discover that the keys to life, that the different areas of our life and mission are deeply interrelated, that it is necessary to work all the elements and to do it together to be able to advance more. From our Itaka – Escolapios Network we want to collaborate in this direction.

This is the framework in which we find ourselves and from where we have to set off.

Objective of this III Advisory Council

In these days we intend to share the moment that the Itaka – Escolapios Network is living and mark some **future steps**... as we have done in the previous Councils.

We will start with a session to present the **different possibilities** offered by Itaka – Escolapios. One of the features of our entity is the flexibility in the way we participate in it: some Provinces and Fraternities are sharing many projects and actions, while others are doing it in a more limited way. It will be good to know these potentialities, not only as information or for each of them to see where they can continue to travel, but also to enrich them all and to mark steps that we should follow from Itaka – Escolapios to serve the Pious Schools and their mission more and better.

We will dedicate some time to inform about the **march of Itaka – Escolapios** in the different countries and Demarcations, as well as in the General Teams. Having this general overview will help us to know each other more, to value more what is done in different places, to share with others and to learn from everyone, to design our joint action and the individual action of each one of us here.

After this situation analysis, it is up to **Fr. General** to help us reflect on what we are already achieving in Itaka – Escolapios and how we could continue walking together to respond to the keys of the Order's life and to continue advancing as Pious Schools in the Piarist mission.

The **Council of the General Fraternity** will also make its contribution in this line, from their responsibility, presenting the value they find in Itaka – Escolapios and what they think could be achieved in the coming years.

With all these ingredients, it will be time to define together the **future clues**, the concrete actions that should be implemented... and everything that we consider advisable as an Advisory Council.

We have a good Advisory Council

To carry out this task we have a good Council. We have the complete list with this information in the material delivered. But it is good to be aware that in this group of people we present a few Piarist realities.

We are here

- the General Congregation,
- the ten Major Superiors participating in the Network,
- the Council of the General Fraternity,
- the members of the Board of Trustees,
- the Executive Commission,

- people with special responsibility in the teams and in the Network.

This Advisory Council that we make up offers an interesting opportunity to reflect together on the Pious Schools that we need now and in the future, to see possibilities for those areas in which each one of us has more responsibility and to mark some guidelines for the whole of our Itaka – Escolapios Network.

These days also offer us a good **opportunity** to talk with each other, for more personal interviews, to ask each other, for more specific meetings (some are already scheduled and others can also take place).

In this group there is a lot of experience, a lot of knowledge, many possibilities, many responsibilities... and these days are perfect for sharing them.

We begin this III Advisory Council

I invite you to begin this Council in an **attitude of discernment**. I hope it is not just a pleasant Piarist encounter. Hopefully it is an opportunity to ask the Lord, to ask ourselves, what more can we do to live as Piarists, to carry out the mission to which Jesus calls us through Calasanz and so many people who need us.

That is why we need an attitude of **communion**, of “Order mentality” as we usually say, thinking together as Piarists, religious and lay men and women, in this path we are doing as Itaka – Escolapios.

That is why we need an attitude of listening, of openness, of **communication**.

That is why we need an attitude that is also contemplative and **prayerful**.

I invite you now, before moving on to the most practical aspects of organization, to have a moment of prayer.

PRAYER

Luke 12, 54s

Jesus also said to the crowd: “When you see a cloud rising in the west, immediately you say, “It's going to rain,” and it does. And when the south wind blows, you say, “It's going to be hot,” and it is. Hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of the earth and the sky. How is it that you don't know how to interpret this present time, how can you not judge for yourselves what is just?

Reflexion (The video of the Pope here

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nMq2CRHwRU>)

The time in which we live requires us to develop a profound ability to discern... Discern, from all voices, which is the voice of the Lord, which is the voice of Him that leads us to the Resurrection, to Life, and the voice that frees us from falling into the “culture of death.” We need to “read from within” what the Lord asks of us, to live in love and be continuators of this mission of love. Let us pray together so that the whole Church recognizes the urgency of training in spiritual discernment, on a personal and community level.

We pray with the prayer of Jesus the Lord’s Prayer.

Javier Aguirregabiria

ITAKA-ESCOLAPIOS, A RANGE OF POSSIBILITIES

An example to begin

We all know those multi-purpose knives that can do many functions... and that are normally used for only one. The same could be said today of many devices: the clock, computer programs...

Maybe we find a good example with cell phones, smartphones, which can do many tasks... and most people take advantage of them minimally and perhaps in the least profitable possibilities.

Today we carry in our pocket, in a small device, a telephone, a photo machine, an agenda, e-mail, all the news we want, access to all the information offered by the Internet, entertainment of all kinds, music, reading, GPS, an ever increasing offer of new possibilities... and even many resources to pray.

Some people have, in addition to a “smart phone” that could do everything, a photo machine, a paper diary, a player to listen to music... and who knows how many more devices. And we could do without all of them with that phone that does all that and maybe even better.

It is true that such a capable device can be misused or make us waste time... but not knowing it well or closing ourselves to approaching its possibilities is a way to stay anchored in the past. It is necessary that those of us who have a special responsibility to educate future generations and who are responsible for preparing the Pious Schools of the future, know the possibilities that are already among us and that we use them properly.

Some people still resist the cell phone: “I do not need to carry it on. When I want to make a phone call I find a way...” And they forget that it also serves to locate themselves, which is a service for others as well. Something like this happened with computers and those who resisted using them... or with many of the inventions that change our lives. Maybe it’s not so much what you think you need, but the potentials that we have close to us and the opportunities we can lose.



Something like this can happen with Itaka – Escolapios

These examples can help us to deepen in Itaka – Escolapios and the possibilities it opens up. Our Network has many possibilities, it can respond to many needs, it can open many paths... and we risk staying with a minimum use.

A note that should be taken into account: we do not intend to present a manual of Itaka – Escolapios functions. The objective of this presentation is to open a reflection to complete it among all and enrich us all. Itaka – Escolapios is not a finished reality. It is a path that we are doing every day. Just look in our short history to see the changes produced, the new insights discovered, the initiatives that we continue to implement, the discoveries we continue to make... These days can and should be a good opportunity to open new horizons.

I invite you to write in your notes the questions and doubts that arise... and also any insights and proposals you may come up with. They will be very useful for the next session and to continue advancing in Itaka – Escolapios.

Some possibilities of Itaka – Escolapios

We are going to present some of these possibilities.

1. It serves to get money

What first catches the attention of Itaka – Escolapios is that it serves to get money. And it's true. Each year, on average, almost **one million euros** goes out for Piarist projects from different countries from where they were obtained. Logically it's even more, another **three million euros**, what is achieved and destined in the country with the data from last year.

This amount **could be much higher** if we worked with more time planning, with more clear and defined projects, with a better preparation of those responsible for designing and implementing them. Unfortunately, we have many needs and few projects. We see many calls and challenges, but it is difficult to define the project that could respond to those needs. Today we are missing opportunities to ask for help because we do not have these projects defined and with enough time. It would be good to dedicate people, both religious and lay men and women, to be trained in this field and to work in the Network from each place.

Getting money is something very necessary, colourful... and it's not always the best function of Itaka – Escolapios. Because it is necessary to complement it with a good use

of those resources: I prefer not to put examples of money wasted in projects that have not had continuity nor have achieved the desired objectives. Surely we know all those “white elephants” we have in our countries.

The money we get has an **added value** (we’ll talk about other added values later on). I will explain myself.

There is money that is obtained for a **specific project**: a construction, materials, a vehicle, a concrete action (a well, for example). The most significant ones are those destined for new buildings. **The list here is long:**

- Bolivia: improvements to the four schools and three internships
- Brazil: construction of two social centres, purchase of lar house
- Cameroon: CTC of Bandjoun, school of Bafia, of Yaounde, agrarian school in Menthe, improvements in the other eight primary schools
- Chile: self-construction of housing in Barrancas
- Spain: purchase of a flat, furniture, vehicle...
- Philippines: San Vicente school
- Gabon: Malibe school
- India: collaboration in Aryanad and Kamda
- Indonesia: collaboration in Atambua
- Dominican Republic: cultural centre and school expansion in La Romana
- Venezuela: almost all the Piarist work in Lomas, much in El Trompillo...
- And also other minor projects, where we can highlight vehicles for Bolivia, Brazil, Cameroon, Congo and India.

I couldn’t say now how much money all of this has meant, but it has been a few million euros in recent years (around **15 million in the last ten years**). Undoubtedly, it is a great help and perhaps the most visible of Itaka – Escolapios.

We are referring here to the budgets that we call extraordinary and that depend on whether we get them or not. Here it is necessary to work with time and, if the project is good and falls within the priorities of the funders, it has more possibilities to obtain those resources. It is a type of money that we are getting... and that is very significant. But there is another type of money that we consider even more important: the one that helps sustain those initial projects, year after year, with **regular budgets guaranteed by the Network**. I repeat, guaranteed by the Network, once they have been approved.

This is a very big commitment and a very significant contribution of Itaka – Escolapios. There is little point in starting a project, building a work, if we do not manage to sustain it in time... and we already know that some projects in some countries are not sustainable by themselves now and perhaps in many years.

This is one of the biggest challenges of our Network: **to ensure each year more than one million euros** for the works shared on the Network and to sustain the team of people on the Network that makes them possible. It is money that we have to try to get within the country... and secure it from the whole of the Network if it is not obtained.

The challenge is to try to increase the level of self-financing of the project itself and of the country itself (with the creation of teams, training, accompaniment) by working together and simultaneously searching for sources in all the countries of the Network.

This can only be done with good teamwork and networking. Sometimes we find situations where money is simply requested without further explanations or justifications. Pretending this, which may seem advantageous for those who ask the same thing for several parties, ends up preventing the attainment of resources for them and for the entire Network, usually leads to a misuse of money (too much for some purposes and not enough for others... sometimes it is solved with traps that are not too ethical) and prevents growth as a Demarcation and as a sustainable Piarist mission.

The possibility offered by Itaka – Escolapios is to put a project in the Network, to share it with honesty of information and decisions, to gain efficiency in management and results, in security of sustainability, in transparency and in the creation of Pious Schools of the future.

We get this money through multiple paths: the help of public entities, private entities, stable collaborative partners and specific donations, campaigns, some services we provide and collect and the great contribution of the Piarist “trustees”: the Order and the Fraternity. One piece of information: **each year 140 applications are presented in different entities** (Governments, County Councils, Municipalities, Savings Banks and Banks, Private Entities...), thanks to the **professional work of 13 people** (5.5 full days in total), with a positive result around 65% that depends a lot on how we have responded before. It is a lot of work and a lot of responsibility for efficiency and transparency that has to come from all those who participate in Itaka – Escolapios. Our accounts are audited and published every year.

Getting money is a function of this “smartphone” of Itaka – Escolapios. It is true that we are an NGO, but very particular and much more than that: it is a **sustainable system** to get money that makes it possible to start a project and sustain it over time, it means to achieve it **in an ethical and efficient way**. It’s more than getting money... much more!

2. It helps the organization of the mission

The dynamics of Itaka – Escolapios forces to operate with projects, with equipment, with an annual agreement at the beginning of each year where the objectives, teams and budgets are defined with justifications of accounts, with analysis of the results obtained...

This can be understood as paperwork, as an obligation coming from outside. And it has some difficulties in the places where each religious has his chapel, his money, his action... But it really is an aid to the Piarist organization in each place and in each Province. We are all aware of how hard it is to advance in this basic operation of project, team, calendar, accounts, evaluation, improvement... in each of our Piarist works.

We can say that when Itaka – Escolapios takes a while significant progress is achieved in the forecasting, scheduling, objectives setting and timetable enabling development with its evaluation and improvement, coordinated and sustainable work... which we much need.

The Provincial, who is always the highest authority in Itaka – Escolapios in each country and Demarcation, has this tool that can be very useful for the organization of the mission (and life) of the Province.

Itaka – Escolapios offers a few organizational instruments, among which we can highlight:

- An annual agreement to organize from a Strategic Plan for six years of the entire Network
- An organization with a coordinator, a team and a plan in the Network, Demarcation/country, headquarters
- A follow-up from that team and from the Network with the contact person and the general teams
- An approved budget with its corresponding follow-up and justification
- Some people and places to turn for support whenever necessary

- An experience of networking, in different countries, where we are all contributing
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Itaka – Escolapios helps to organize if it is well located in each country or Province.

But moreover, because Itaka is much more: the same Itaka organization, joint work, general, provincial and local teams, professional dedicated people, cooperative work is a possibility to carry forward the Piarist mission shared in the Network... and the whole Piarist mission. A very real example: if we have a professional in Itaka to carry out economic management, she helps in the management of Itaka... and can also do it in the Province and other works. And the same for other areas of the mission.

To take advantage of this potential means to place Itaka – Escolapios well in the dynamics of Piarist functioning in the place, the country, the Demarcation. If not, it may feel like an added nuisance. If it is well placed, it is a great support.

3. It creates a Piarist network

One very important function of Itaka – Escolapios is to network, to enter into a complex and very rich Network of possibilities.

It unites the Provinces, unites the Fraternities, unites each Province with its Fraternity and/or with the General Fraternity, it unites the people of each place helping them to become aware of belonging and participating in a Piarist network of Order and Fraternity with many other people and works of the Piarist world.

This network is of Piarist sentiment and also of protagonism, of involvement, of personal and community commitment.

Some very concrete examples:

- When we concentrate the effort of **55 Piarist centres of 9 countries** in a Solidarity Campaign in favour of a project we are visualizing and reinforcing a Piarist network characterized by:
 - Knowledge of a reality by all of us... and thus we gain Piarist identity
 - Financial commitment and volunteering... and thus we also gain in involvement
 - Achievement of some economic resources for a project... and thus we gain efficiency and **200,000 euros each year**.

- Education very close to reality... and thus we complement the educational action
 - Joint work in each place and in the network... and thus we grow in global Piarist identity
 - Educational work, with more and more professionalism in the materials and activities proposed... and thus we grow in professional quality.
- We not only talk about solidarity campaigns: we can mention peace campaigns, Piarist campaigns, campaigns supporting initiatives of interest... Having teams in different Provinces and countries, having some experience offers possibilities to network much knowledge, resources, guidance... An example can be www.educa.itakaescolapios.org with hundreds of resources created by all of us and available to all.
- On the economic side, it is also being networked. This is clear with the resources that are being obtained from external entities or partners or from specific actions. But also with the systematic economic sharing, for now, of **three Provinces and five Fraternities**, that put their “tithe” for the projects and needs of the Network. This has an incredible value for the sign that it supposes and for the guaranteed resource that it offers for sustainability. We are talking about an annual average in the last ten years of **330,000 euros from the Provinces and 415,000 from the Fraternities**.
- We can mention the network of people being assigned to another country, or to another locality of the same country, to live a Piarist experience and to promote the Piarist presence and mission. From Itaka – Escolapios, sometimes in its “backstory” phase, **82 people** have been assigned for two or three years to Venezuela, Brazil, Bolivia, Cameroon, Dominican Republic, Nicaragua, Indonesia... They have been assigned from the Province and the Fraternity through Itaka – Escolapios, which provides training, preparation, accompaniment upon departure and upon return, personal and legal support (contributions, health, financial support), continuity in the assignments so that projects can be sustained and a framework of that experience.
- Today we have **general teams of the network** (the Executive Committee itself, Management, Fundraising, volunteering, training, communication, awareness...), made up more and more by people from different countries, to

share information and resources with the entire Network systemically: more **than 40 people are part of these teams.**

The possibilities of this growing Network are numerous... and there's much to be discovered!

4. It encourages volunteering and convening

We have talked about the assignments, which are a valuable type of Piarist volunteer work. But it does not end with those assignments...

One of the characteristic features of Itaka – Escolapios is volunteering, the gratuity of our commitment, the value of the sign of dedication without reward... so typical of the religious, of the Fraternity and of so many people of good faith that we find in our Piarist environment.

Itaka – Escolapios is sustained thanks to volunteering, promotes it, convenes it, trains it, accompanies it, in an effort to make it a global process for the person and a service for the mission, enriches it with diversity... and we are advancing each year to give it more entity as such.

- Today we have **1,600 “registered” volunteers** (the majority in Spain for now), following the legal regulations of each country, within a volunteer plan that we are enriching, with a specific day of volunteering (March 9), with a general team that drives it...
- In a few places we have “volunteer schools” underway for the older ages of the schools and for people interested.
- Today we can offer a volunteer itinerary according to the time of each volunteer, with different steps to which we can invite them: a time of dedication, some basic knowledge of their work and of our entity, a deeper training in their area of intervention or in the Piarist mission, progressive responsibilities, participation in other activities, an invitation to be part of our processes and groups in the Calasanz Movement...
- Today we can offer people who know us through social networks possibilities of participation in many locations.
- This volunteering program is an educational complement of great value for the Calasanz Movement, for educational action in our schools and works... as well as a very important support for the Piarist mission.

Also here we have another precious function of Itaka – Escolapios. Volunteers are also a good speaker of our reality and a way of convening that goes beyond the usual Piarist spaces. Volunteers, when they live their dedication with enthusiasm, transmit their experience, make known what they are living and are important agents of convening.

Another possibility that is quite close to volunteering is the **collaborating partners** with their regular financial contribution (we do not include here companies or entities that in some cases also contribute in a stable manner). It is another very interesting form of participation financially, for the closeness of people to the Piarist world, for their contribution in making us known where they move, for being also a sign of trust for other people...

A major challenge is to grow in the number of members we have (we do not count the members of the Fraternities and Provinces who are more than just partners): **about 800 members who contribute about 150,000 euros in Spain...** and a horizon for other countries of the Network where it is not yet developed.

5. It strengthens the Fraternity

Itaka – Escolapios offers the Fraternity an **entity to carry out its mission** in a shared way with the Order. Without it, the Fraternity has a very limited functioning or a total legal dependence on the Province: it cannot by itself open an account, receive collaborations, take on a work, purchase something... It would be possible to give the Fraternity a juridical civil entity, something that already exists in some cases, but we avoid possible problems and create a greater bond with the Order with a joint entity like Itaka – Escolapios.

Itaka – Escolapios opens a shared space, not only for that legal aspect, but also to reflect, plan, design, carry out a Piarist mission. The composition of the teams, of the functioning organs, the dynamics of Itaka leads to **give a word to the Fraternity as such**: not only to specific persons of the Fraternity, but to the whole of the Fraternity. This helps to give consistency to the Fraternity. The Programmatic Charter, sign of the adhesion to the Itaka – Escolapios Network, shows this role and facilitates real and institutional participation in the Pious Schools.

Itaka – Escolapios helps to **grow in a Piarist identity** by being a network where “own – shared” projects enter into a global dynamic of the Pious Schools around the world. It helps us to know more, to love more, to connect more with all the Piarist world.

Itaka – Escolapios **gives protagonism** to the Fraternity and makes it feel more part of the Piarist mission, of growth and development where it has participated with its love, its prayer, its volunteering and dedication, its money... and also the Fraternity entity itself.

It is very important for the Fraternity to become aware of its reality of charismatic integration. A Fraternity is not just another group of the Piarist world: it is more than a group of prayer, or work, or training... It is all that, but also a new Piarist subject that the Order and the Province recognize as the face of the Piarist charisma. Taking conscience and making it a reality will depend on many factors: Itaka – Escolapios can greatly help to strengthen the Fraternity, gaining in **identity, entity and capacity** of Piarist service.

6. It strengthens the Province (and the Order)

We have already pointed out in the previous chapters some ways in which Itaka – Escolapios is strengthening the Order and the Provinces (economic support, in the organization, in the network, contributing people, strengthening the Fraternity). Itaka – Escolapios collaborates in that and more:

- Thank God we are **present and collaborating** in those Demarcations that are growing the most, that have more vocations, that are opening new presences... It is a joy for us to be present in the two Provinces of Africa, in Asia, in a large part of America... and throughout the Piarist geography.
- We are happy to be an aid for the **expansion and sustainability** of the Pious Schools, in their growth in new countries, in new presences and in new projects. Our contribution today makes us be present in **200 projects**, some of them large and some of them small, of formal and non-formal education, of evangelization, of solidarity, of growth of the Piarist subject.
- Years ago we made a distinction between Piarist life and mission... and we said that Itaka – Escolapios focused on the mission. Today we see that this distinction is not appropriate because boundaries are not clear and we collaborate in **everything that strengthens the Pious Schools**: supporting the Piarist subject who invigorates the mission is also mission... and quite fundamental! To better explain this we can present our contribution also in the training of religious, in more explicitly pastoral tasks such as the Calasanz Movement or vocation ministry, in supporting the religious community life and the Fraternity... Everything that is Piarist we feel as our own.

- An interesting fact in this sense and possibly little known: **about 75 religious are receiving “their salary” (211,000 euros)** from Itaka – Escolapios, which leads to collaborate in the **strengthening and economic autonomy of the communities and Provinces**. It is a good way to support the sustainability and development of the Order.
- Flexibility in the form of participation in shared projects is also a way to strengthen the Provinces and Order, since they can count on our Network to the extent that they need it and see it convenient in each situation.

7. It offers a new legal framework

The Piarist life and mission are carried in different legal situations.

- It is frequent that some Piarist works have the property and ownership of the corresponding Order or Province... and that's great!
- In many cases the property and/or ownership is not Piarist, but of a Diocese, a public entity, a private entity... and we have an agreement or settlement for a specific period of time or, sometimes, a practice without clear legal coverage.
- Itaka – Escolapios **offers another possibility**: a legally recognized entity (with different forms depending on the countries) that belongs to the Order and also to the Fraternity. In some places it is a civil entity and in other an ecclesial entity (and from there a civil entity). It is a shared ownership that opens another legal framework possibility for the development of our mission.

This can offer something interesting, depending on the different situations and needs, besides being a **legal sharing between the Order and the Fraternity**.

8. More in line with the current Piarist culture

In the Order we have been talking for some time about the need for a systemic vision, a mentality of Order, about the functioning from the presence model, the Christian Piarist Community, the key to life that involves integrating the different modalities of participation in the Pious Schools...

All this has to be specified in each presence with concrete actions. Itaka – Escolapios also contributes a lot in this area:

- **It is a Network in each Province** that helps to situate the Fraternity and all the collaborators around the mission

- **It connects the shared works** in each country and Province... and in the international Network
- It encourages a **mentality and also a very real sharing** of teams, projects, model, human and economic resources...
- It encourages the **shared mission**, being a reality that arises and is sustained from this key
- It is a very appropriate **tool** for the presence team and the Christian Piarist Community

In order to take the steps of the future that we point out in those elements of our Piarist culture and the keys of life of the Order, we also need institutional steps: Itaka – Escolapios is one of these steps.

Today we have, along with other more “traditional” elements (schools, parishes), **four elements that have a great capacity for novelty**, especially when they are combined simultaneously. They are the Order, the Fraternity, the Calasanz Movement and Itaka – Escolapios.

- The **Order**, when it works as more than a sum of Demarcations, with keys of life, joint mentality... it is much enhanced as we are seeing in these years.
- When the **Fraternity** enters, an element is added that enriches the whole of the Pious Schools and expands the possibilities, while the Fraternity comes to life.
- When the **Calasanz Movement** joins these two elements, not only is an interesting initiative added, but the two previous realities have processes of convening, vocational culture, and network that unites the Order and Fraternity... while the Calasanz Movement can exist as such beyond the initiative of some person, work or Province.
- The addition of **Itaka – Escolapios** also introduces another dimension and cannot be understood as one more aspect: it gives new strength to the Order, to the Fraternity, to the Calasanz Movement by being promoted by both in an institutional way... and by multiplying the capacity of the Piarist mission.

9. And more...

We could continue with more possible functions:

- **It helps to the current mission in the schools**, contributing a potential of projects, of shared mission, of another educational focus beyond the school

time, calendar and space... A school, with a religious community and/or of the Fraternity, with a Calasanz Movement and with a headquarters of Itaka – Escolapios is much more than a school. In these moments we are studying the possibility of a transversal program that helps to place political education, social action, the key of social transformation... with more intensity in the schools.

- It helps the **Calasanz Movement**, by offering a certain structure of support to initiate it and of reference as it grows. It is no coincidence that when the Calasanz Movement is integrated into the Itaka – Escolapios Network it becomes bigger and stronger: the synergy with the other projects, the connection of the Fraternity, the training that the schools of official educators can offer... are possibilities more accessible from Itaka – Escolapios.
- It helps the **vocations ministry**, involving more Piarist agents in a more formal way and reaching more people and more areas of these same people and the environment.
- It helps to create **itineraries for the different modalities of participation**, since Itaka – Escolapios is a way of sharing and participating from different realities.
- It helps in the **attitude of “being out”**, by the flexibility of action it offers, by the ability to quickly launch new initiatives.
- It helps in the **development of Non-Formal Education**. It is a field that has great importance today, but always with the risk of personalities and little continuity. A Network like Itaka – Escolapios gives consistency to these projects: it is enough to see the amount of projects that we already have (most of the 200 projects) and their sustainability in resources and people.
- It helps in the **start-up of new projects**, in the places where we are already or in new presences.
- It helps in the **expansion and consolidation of the Order**.
- It helps for the **pastoral and the birth of the Fraternities**.
- It helps in the **path of gaining identity in the Fraternity...**

10. And the most important thing

Itaka – Escolapios offers a **new Piarist space** where we institutionally share the mission (and entity and life) of the Order, the General Fraternity, the Demarcations and the Fraternities that they want. And it is not just any space, but a joint institutional reality with all that this implies.

Having a Fraternity is a **qualitative change for the people who form it and for the Province** that recognizes it. This change manifests itself in many ways: one of them is to have a place shared with the Order that is real, stable, with entity, with possibilities for the future... Itaka – Escolapios also offers this institutional space (that is why we say that Itaka – Escolapios is an entity of collective charismatic and legal integration).

Someone might think that everything we have been mentioning we can already do from the Order... and it is true! In fact, there are many people (from the Fraternity and outside of it) who are collaborating and contributing a lot to the Piarist life and mission. That's very good. And we will have to continue doing it.

But doing it jointly with the Fraternity and in an institutional way is a **whole new dimension**. Not only we can add more people, but we change the way of acting in the Pious Schools: we recognize a new Piarist subject. This is the change and the new stage that we can begin. Itaka – Escolapios is a path that helps to understand it and live it.

Someone may think that all the functions mentioned could be done by the Fraternity alone, by itself (unless we think that it must always be a Piarist subject subordinate to the Order), but there is no doubt that the risks of distancing the Order are large and the possibilities of action are minor.

It is better, much better, instead of opening that path of autonomy of the Fraternity, **to keep walking in a shared entity**, in a common ownership... in the line that Itaka – Escolapios is already doing. The Fraternity has its identity and protagonism here which, by discovering itself subject and together with the Order, is building the Pious Schools of the future and for the future. The Order helps the Fraternity grow, accompanying its coming of age by sharing protagonism and co-responsibility, while at the same time growing in its own possibilities of life and mission. This may be more reason for reflection in the next meeting, although already here is a key issue.

Shall we finish or start?

Here we finish this presentation that aims to be a call for all of us to discover the horizon of possibilities that we have in Itaka – Escolapios. Hopefully this meeting will help us put all of this at the service of so many poor children and young people who need our Piarist action.



Pedro Aguado

WHAT IS CONTRIBUTING AND WHAT COULD ITAKA-ESCOLAPIOS CONTRIBUTE TO THE ORDER OF THE PIOUS SCHOOLS?

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The importance of the question and the dynamisms that it provokes: to recognize and to give a name/ to thank/ to dream/ to build. And there could be many more. In fact, they are.
2. The points of view from which I want to develop my contribution, looking to complement what has already been shown in this Advisory Council, assuming the content of the contributions made by those who preceded me (from the direction of the Network and from the Fraternity):
 - The consolidation of the new Piarist subject, of a more involved and responsible Pious Schools.
 - The accents that are now a priority in the Order.
 - The impulse of the "Keys of Life" of the Pious Schools.
 - To bet on a renewed "Piarist culture"
3. The goal of my intervention: that we can go deeper into the question, marking new clues or highlighting those that seem essential.

II. ADDING to DEVELOP

10 "Contributions" from ITAKA-Escolapios have been raised to the Order and 10 to the Fraternity. Maybe we don't have to add more, and what we have to do is to keep developing. Some examples, thinking only of those contributed by Javi in relation to the Order. I think they are mutual contributions, and from this point of view we can enhance them much more.

1. Getting money. Achieving that the Order charge the batteries to generate, seriously, teams that can develop and propose projects. For a "structural quadrennium". Priority bet of the SSMM.
2. Helping to organize the mission. Dedicating a year to "diagnose" our organization for the mission and the needs it has.
3. A Piarist network. Living it as a network. The annual campaign is not enough. Attention, for example, to "missionary sendings," something that we can enhance much more. And work thoroughly to ensure all mission projects; none of them should be left without coverage.



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4. Volunteering and convocation. Multiplying by X the number of partners, both in people and in institutions. How many partners do we have in the various demarcations? Now we have 772.
5. Strengthening the Fraternity. It is necessary to "complicate" some Fraternities, whose participation in the network is even more affective than real. We have to find ways for Fraternities to grow in that awareness of belonging and stewardship.
6. Strengthening the Province (and the Order). To bet strongly, and in a creative way, for the challenge that ITAKA-ESCOLAPIOS contributes significantly to the initial formation of the religious, both in economic resources (it is one of the priority necessities of the Order) as in mentality and spirit of "new subject ". High level theme in the Pious Schools.
7. Legal framework. Guaranteeing the clear legal coverage on all our mission platforms. Support in this task.
8. The current Piarist culture. ITAKA-ESCOLAPIOS contributes a lot in this "cultural renovation". I will talk about this issue in a specific way, because I consider it essential.
9. The new subject. Likewise, this point will be specifically looked at later on.
10. To think of new potentialities. I think in a special way to support the expansion of the Order of the Pious schools. Can we make an "expansion agreement"? That is to say, an agreement "above the Demarcations", an "agreement for Dynamisms". And this is one of the great topics.

III. CONSOLIDATING THE BET. Not only we want a "new piarist subject", but we know "how we want it". Towards a new "*Piarist culture*"

The topic of the "new Piarist subject" is something already "quite old". But it is true that it will take time to develop it, and it will be carried on at various speeds. I'm not worried about this. What worries me is that we do not get out of the idea, the imaginary, and we do not move in a concrete way in what this means. I would like to cite some specific "advance tracks" that we should articulate, and in which ITAKA-ESCOLAPIOS can also help.

1. To collaborate in the launching of mechanisms of impulse of the PARTICIPATION in those places of the Order in which this "key of life" is less developed or is practically nonexistent.
2. There is no "Piarist subject" if it is not articulated (at least minimally), just as there is no Order without its organizational structure. ITAKA-ESCOLAPIOS can help to better locate the Fraternity in the life of the Province, and the Province in the life of the Fraternity.
3. ITAKA-ESCOLAPIOS becomes an entity that is summoned, as such, in the processes of the demarcations, especially in the chapter processes.
4. We seek a "Piarist culture" based on stewardship, participation, missionary spirit, passion for the construction of the Pious Schools, etc. In all this, ITAKA-ESCOLAPIOS can contribute.
5. How do we want this new Piarist subject? What progress levels can we mark progressively? How to do it in a balanced, sustainable and constant way?

IV. Embodying the accents that emerge with force to change

I believe that this Advisory Council should devote some time to growing in awareness of some dynamism of the Order that are being driven with strength and clarity, and that are called to give a "new tone" to the Pious Schools. Obviously, they are all in the "Calasancian genetic code," but it's good to make us aware of their "force to change."

1. The missionary and the development of the mission. We are committed to growing in mission in all the presences, in the demarcations and in new countries. And we are committed to responding to the dynamics of "periphery" that the Church is proposing with strength: the periphery of the poor, the periphery of education and the periphery of faith.
2. Multiculturality, which is more than just a simple realization that we are different. It is the struggle for the construction of a "multicultural identity".
3. A "Pious Schools going forth", decisively promoting the two previous keys (the missionary and the multicultural), and with an open mind to discover more keys that promote this dynamism of "going forth".
4. Building the network. An Order is a network. But we want a network that works as such. The network has also spiritual and charismatic dynamisms; it's not just a model of organization.
5. Living and working from projects. We need to make a clear move in this dynamic. It remains a "pending subject"
6. The "New Piarist subject ". The question is to strengthen the Order, to strengthen the Fraternity and to strengthen its relationship. There is no other way, and one cannot neglect, nor passively contemplate, any of the three.
7. The Vocational Culture, and especially the commitment to religious vocations. We will analyze it in the "Keys of Life".
8. The dedication to the poor children and young people, treasure of the Order. It's the priority we want to keep above everything.
9. To assume that the work for a renewed culture of Order cannot be left to the hands of "chapter sways". We must work to consolidate the dynamisms.

V. Collaborating with the impulse of the *Keys of Life* of the Order

1. VOCATIONAL AND FORMATIVE CULTURE (VFC).

- I think it would be good to develop a reflection, within the network itself, on how to collaborate in the construction of this VFC.
- The vocation call must be part of all the projects of the network. We have to give it a card of citizenship.
- To clearly include vocational dynamics in all processes of volunteering, working in projects, accompanying people, etc.

2. QUALITY INITIAL FORMATION AND IN COMMUNION

- Search for resources for the construction and operation of the formation houses of the Order.
- Presence of the network in the formation processes of the provinces involved
- Formation of young Piarists in all matters relating to projects, teams, resource generation and new Piarist Subject, among others.

3. COMMUNITY LIFE ENRICHED FROM THE ESSENTIAL

I think it is important to know the community dynamisms that the Order is fighting for, regardless of the nature of the community.

I quote some of them: community soul of the Mission, in which we are all responsible for everything, although there are people in charge of each thing/ communities that enhance their common prayer, surpassing the traditional borders of their usual schedules/ communities that accompany the process of people/ communities looking for ways to concretize their centrality in the Lord/ Communities with project/ communities that work to grow in their mentality of communion with the Order, etc.

4. A PERMANENT FORMATION THAT HELPS TO LIVE IN PROCESSES OF VOCATIONAL GROWTH

To count on the network and on the Fraternity in certain opportunities of permanent formation that the Order organizes.

5. TO DELVE INTO CALASANZ

- We all need it, but so do the people who live and work on a daily basis in ITAKA-ESCOLAPIOS.
- Is it possible to collaborate in publications, courses and dissemination?

6. A PIARIST MISSION IN IDENTITY, EDUCATIONAL AND PASTORAL QUALITY, SHARED AND FOR THE POOR.

- It is evident that this is the clearest of all. The potential that this opens and the possibilities of growth are formidable. I quote some of them.
- To bet in depth for the Calasanz Movement
- Formation of educators and collaborators
- The impulse of volunteering, accentuating the aspects that are most necessary
- To consolidate the network itself as a good example of shared mission. Advancing in each place.
- New educational projects for poor children and young people.

7. ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY

- It has been said that this is what is seen at first sight. But it has also been said that we are not taking full advantage of it.
- Connection with the General Secretariat of Projects Management and Sustainability

- Collaboration in making the development of "ambitious" projects possible. It's not about "waiting for them to come", but about building them.
- Accompany (and fight to be able to accompany) so that nothing is at risk

8. DEVELOPMENT OF PARTICIPATION

- The network has to think (or to do) in its own growth. And the dynamism of "participation in the Pious Schools" is fundamental in this issue. Collaboration and contact with the General secretariat, offering ideas, suggestions, etc.
- To prepare religious and lay people capable of participating with a new mindset.

9. DECISIVE AND SIMULTANEOUS IMPULSE OF THE DYNAMICS OF THE RESTRUCTURING, CONSOLIDATION AND EXPANSION OF THE PIOUS SCHOOLS.

- The network is, in itself, a new structure. The participation of the network in the Piarists structures, especially through the Piarist presence model, is fundamental. We must be creative in this matter.
- o consolidate is to guarantee the integral sustainability of what we have (not only economic). The expansion is the new mission projects, the new communities and the new foundations.
- To ensure that "awareness of expansion" grows in the Order and on the net. We have to inform efficiently on the news of every year, which are many.
- To have contacts with other Piarist networks and foundations, smaller but active and interesting.

VI- What does the Order bring to Itaka-Escolapios?

1. First of all, it must be clear that ITAKA-ESCOLAPIOS is a daughter of the Order, a dear and desired daughter. The Order has brought her to be born, and it has sought, with much vision, for it to have more "fathers-mothers" (the Piarist Fraternity). The Order had clearly seen that for ITAKA-ESCOLAPIOS to be what it has to be, it needed a reference greater than the Order itself.
2. The Order provides a charism that is already shared. Historically embodied in the Order for four centuries, today is assumed by the ITAKA-ESCOLAPIOS network as its main treasure and as its raison d'être.
3. The Order brings new visions of mission and future, through projects, foundations, people, communities, dreams. It brings the sense of the network, today already deeply shared with the Fraternity.
4. The Order provides security, reference, ecclesiality, moral ancestry, values and styles. It brings people, challenges, questions, needs to answer.
5. The Order contributes a determined desire to grow from a style and way of functioning that is already consolidated in the network.
6. The Order "contributes" problems and certain contradictions, so that the network will not fall asleep and will keep moving.

VII- What do we have to change?

I think this is one of the questions that can guide our reflections not only in this Council, but especially in the daily dynamics and in the most significant ones of our work. It is not wrong to ask yourself this question, and it would be good that in our Councils we would be able to give some answers.

VIII- BARNABAS, "the one who brings consolation".

Our patron saint is Saint Joseph Calasanz. He is the patron saint of the ITAKA-ESCOLAPIOS network. But I thought that our network could very well use a "co-patron." We do not need to make it official; I simply want to make a reflection – in this time of Easter – about St. Barnabas, "a Levite natural from Cyprus".

Barnabas appears for the first time in the Book of Acts with his true name: Joseph. It is the person, quoted in chapter 4 of the Acts, who sells a land and gives the money to the apostles, so that they could assist the poor. He is the first donor for the cause of the Kingdom that we have constancy. Then they changed him the name, and they gave him "the one who brings consolation".

He is never a very famous character in the task of evangelization. Some say that he was an "excellent cast actor" in the film of the fight for the Kingdom of God. We know Paul, Peter, Mark... but we know little about Barnabas. Even in his own country (Cyprus), he has little fame. But there he is always, giving the best of himself, without anyone seeing him, without appearing on the front page. He's a server. But an essential server.

When Paul became a witness to Jesus, the community did not trust him very much. It was Barnabas who sought him, believed him, and presented him to the apostles. And everything changed. When Mark committed a mistake and Paul became angry with him, Barnabas asked Paul to count on Mark, but Paul did not want to. Then Barnabas bet on Mark, recovered him for the cause, and embarked with him. Mark ended up writing a Gospel. Between Paul and Mark, thanks to Barnabas, half of the New Testament books were written. When the apostles needed to accompany the community of Antioch to help them discern what was really important in the project, they sent Barnabas. And there, after that journey, the name of "Christians" was born. When the Holy Spirit needed (because the Holy Spirit needs) someone to bet on the evangelization of the Gentiles, he chose Barnabas and sent him. And when the Book of Acts speaks of him, it says only (11, 24) that he was a good man, full of Holy Spirit and faith.

Today we would say that Barnabas is the best example of what we call "service leadership." He is the patron of people-and institutions- who do extraordinary things for the Kingdom, but no one knows it and perhaps few appreciate it. But without him, nothing would have worked. He was a simple servant of the churches, a decided comforter of the excluded and an active promoter of the Kingdom. But we do not remember him neither as solemnity nor as a feast; he has just a memory. And few remember the day...

I like to think in that way ITAKA-ESCOLAPIOS. As an institution created by Calasanz to make possible his dream, which works from behind the scenes, but carrying out those essential options to carry out the Piarist mission.

I end by giving thanks to ITAKA-ESCOLAPIOS, and to all those who make it possible, on behalf of the children, the young people, the poor, and Saint Joseph Calasanz.

WHAT IS ITAKA-ESCOLAPIOS CONTRIBUTING AND WHAT COULD IT CONTRIBUTE TO THE FRATERNITY

A vision from the 10 challenges

When in the summer of 2014, the I Assembly of the General Fraternity, gathered in Peralta de la Sal, approved the “10 Challenges of the Piarist Fraternities” for its maintenance and progress, the tenth proposed participation in Itaka-Escolapios. One possible reading is that it was posed as the last challenge, because it is, in a logical course, the last plausible step, or, in some cases, the most complex to take.

Another possible reading, which we propose today, is that what facilitates the Fraternities, and therefore, the Demarcations where there are Fraternities, to advance in the other nine challenges is precisely their participation in Itaka-Escolapios. This reading of the same document of the 10 challenges, made from the end to the beginning, allows us to better see the contribution that Itaka-Escolapios makes to the Piarist Fraternity, and therefore to the Piarist Life and Mission of each Demarcation.

9. START OF THE CALASANZ MOVEMENT

Where the Calasanz Movement is driven by Itaka-Escolapios, it is configured as the nuclear project of the Piarist presence. Anyone who sees Itaka-Escolapios as a platform for attracting resources or developing social projects should know that its genesis was just the opposite. Social projects and other actions such as attracting resources arise from and as a complement to the educational and pastoral processes that we now call the Calasanz Movement.

Assuming the Calasanz Movement as the axis of Itaka-Escolapios, the connection between their projects and the pastoral groups is guaranteed, facilitating quality Piarist volunteerism, the missionary and Piarist identity of the Calasanz Movement, the social training of their instructors, in short, their effective insertion in the Piarist presence.



8. START OF THE PIARIST PRESENCE MODEL.

Where the Piarist Fraternity exists, the main potentiality of the presence model is to create the appropriate space where Fraternity and Piarist Demarcation meet, dream together, share mission, project and take responsibility for the Piarist mission. Itaka-Escolapios, by definition, is an organization created to carry out the Piarist presence model. Through Itaka-Escolapios, the Order and the Fraternity, share, in fact and in law, the Piarist mission, closely linking all the areas that comprise the Piarist Presence, and, thus, revealing itself as one of its more powerful “zipper elements”.

Within this vocation, Itaka-Escolapios has greater flexibility to take on new projects that respond to realities specific to a particular context or moment, allowing Piarist presence projects to be real instruments for updating the analysis and for a more effective response to the reality in which we find ourselves and more faithful to our own charisma.

In this way, faced with the limitations that sometimes, along with undoubted advantages, have our traditional mission platforms, Itaka-Escolapios is allowing an endless number of more agile and lighter interventions that respond to realities that are presented as clear calls to our Piarist identity: attention and literacy of young immigrants, welcome in homes and boarding schools, presence in exclusion areas, which, in addition, in many cases, are greatly enriching our more traditional presence in schools and high schools.

7. BEGINNING OF PIARIST MINISTRIES IN A SHARED WAY BETWEEN PROVINCE AND FRATERNITY.

The Piarist ministries are another zipper element that strongly unites the Piarist presence where they develop. They are lay people, preferably members of the Fraternity, who assume for a time the ecclesial ministry to promote some area of the Piarist mission.

Where these ministries are jointly promoted by the Demarcation and the Fraternity, which is the ideal situation, Itaka-Escolapios is the natural platform where these ministries can be developed and from which to resolve, in a shared way, the practical, legal and economic aspects of this proposal, facilitating options such as temporary release to carry out studies, possible employment contracts, ...

6. DRIVING VOCATIONAL DIVERSITY.

The Piarist Fraternity was born, essentially, to give channel to the vocational diversity that the Pious Schools receive as a gift of the Holy Spirit. The fact that many lay people wish to share with the religious the Piarist charisma is a sign of the times to which the Order responds with audacity and decision, creating the Piarist Fraternity.

Itaka-Escolapios was born and spread by the same drive of the Spirit, with the intention that this vocational diversity finds an institutional channel to be strengthened and multiplied through the Piarist mission shared in an institutional way amongst lay and religious people. Without institutional elements that allow to give historical continuity to the inspiration of the Spirit of God, it can happen, as Calasanz warned us, that it passes without being heard and bearing fruit.

5. PARTICIPATION IN THE LOCAL, DEMARCATIONAL, GENERAL FRATERNITY.

A small community that does not have a clear insertion in the Local Fraternity and, thus, in the Demarcational and General Fraternity, runs the risk of over-reliance on the encouragement of specific people, of seeing the growth of their Piarist identity limited, or of being exhausted in the natural cycle of human groups.

Itaka-Escolapios, thanks to its commitment to the growth of the Pious Schools throughout the world, is an effective channel for a small community, a Local or Demarcational Fraternity, to participate and link in different ways in the global project of the Pious Schools. In this way, it reinforces its Piarist identity and participates in the projects of the Order and of the Fraternities of other places, even of those who, by distance, would otherwise be inaccessible.

To take part in global campaigns, to support Piarist projects with economic contributions in other places, to meet brothers and sisters of Piarist presences from other continents, with all that this entails of growth in Piarist identity, it is possible today, thanks, also, to the Network and the Itaka-Escolapios projects.

4. FLOW OF NEW ADDITIONS.

A fundamental key to growth and continuity of the Piarist Fraternity, as in any organization, is its capacity to convene more people, preferably young people, to join it.

In this sense, the connection of the Fraternity with the processes of the Calasanz Movement and its presentation as the natural outlet of the same, together with the Piarist religious life, is essential. The assumption of the animation of the Calasanz Movement by Itaka-Escolapios, and its enrichment with all its projects and projection, makes this an invaluable support to ensure the addition of young people into the Fraternity. Also, Itaka-Escolapios is a space specially designed to give channel and space to new projects proposals, ideas and dreams that young people, both religious and lay, always bring with them, and that, sometimes, our traditional mission platforms have a hard time taking on.

4. ADEQUATE PARTICIPATION OF RELIGIOUS PEOPLE.

The participation of religious people in the Fraternity is one of the most appreciated features of our model. In addition to his essential ministerial role as priests, the Piarist religious person is within the fraternity a brother who brings all the richness of his religious vocation and his testimony of community life, of poverty, of exclusive dedication to the mission.

Sometimes, for many members of the Fraternity that do not participate in the school platforms, where the religious person normally develops his mission, the visibility of this testimony is limited to the presidency of the Eucharist or other sacraments. Finding the presence of the religious people as companions of the Calasanz Movement, or as volunteers where Itaka-Escolapios develops projects of social presence among those who most need it, is an encouraging sign, and makes this double vocational dimension of the religious person, who is also a priest, more visible and close. In the case of older religious people, already freed from their school tasks, the projects of Itaka-Escolapios can be the natural place where they can continue their involvement in the Piarist mission and their connection with the world of the youngest, which helps for a positive experience of that life cycle.

2. REAL PLACE IN THE DEMARCATION WHERE TO SHARE SPIRITUALITY, LIFE AND MISSION.

The Piarist Fraternity needs to have a real space in which to insert itself in the organization of the Demarcation and to contribute all its significance. The Piarist Fraternity cannot be considered another group together with the rest of existing groups. The Piarist Fraternity is the set of communities of people who are recognized as sharing the Piarist charisma with the Piarist religious people. It is a new Piarist subject who assumes Piarist spirituality, life and mission.

This new reality completely modifies the map of the organization of the demarcation and needs to have channels to become a shared life and, in this way, to be a carrier of new Piarist life. The model of Piarist Presence, with its teams, persons in charge and presence projects, is the natural map to accommodate this new reality and Itaka-Escolapios is the entity that best embodies this model. In it, the Fraternity finds a channel to develop its mission, to share it with the religious people and to guarantee its future sustainability, both from the point of view of the people and of the material resources.

It is very interesting to note that Itaka-Escolapios provides a platform where people, who, because of their dedication or vocation, can hardly be linked to the traditional Piarist mission platforms, can find their place in it. On the other hand, the dedication of the economic contributions of each member of the Fraternity, of the so-called tithes in some fraternities, to the projects of Itaka-Escolapios, is a concrete, specific, assessable and undeniable Piarist commitment that in all cases is an opportunity for growth, contrast and deepening commitment to the Piarist mission.

1. CLARITY IN THE IDENTITY, COMMON VOCATION AND FUNCTIONING OF THE FRATERNITY, THE COMMUNITIES AND THEIR MEMBERS.

But logically, all this new way of understanding the Pious Schools is only possible with people, both religious and lay, clearly identified with the Piarist charisma. For this, it is essential that the Piarist Fraternity be very clear about the fundamental elements of its common vocation and be able to bring commitment and loyalty. A proposal for a legal relationship such as Itaka-Escolapios is, without doubt, one of the best proofs of commitment and loyalty that can be given. The fact that a Piarist Fraternity is in fact, and also in law, legally co-owner, together with its Demarcation, of its projects guarantees a present and future commitment that goes beyond the goodwill of some specific people at a specific moment. Itaka-Escolapios is, at the same time, testimony and prophecy of the viability of this new way of understanding the Pious Schools as a

joint path among those who have chosen to follow Jesus of Nazareth along the path of Calasanz.

In that summer of 2014 we said: “No Province or Fraternity should stop considering its possible participation in Itaka – Escolapios.” The truth is that since that date several Demarcations and Fraternities have considered it and some have given an affirmative answer. It is an effective sign that we continue to be attentive to the voice of God that touches the heart and passes.

Madrid, May 2018

EXECUTIVE COMISSION REPORT

The Executive Commission is the Itaka Escolapios team that, by appointment of the Board of Trustees and the Advisory Board, is responsible for the day-to-day support and coordination of the set of projects and presence sites of Itaka Escolapios from a global point of view and together with the different general, demarcational and venue teams of Itaka Escolapios.

Composition and operation

The Executive Commission continues in the structure given to this body from the Advisory Board of May 2012. It is a small team able to regularly meet by videoconference, as well as with flexibility to include other heads in the meetings depending on the topics to be addressed.

The current composition of the Executive Commission is:

- *Javier Aguirregabiria (Chairman of the Network)*
- *Constanza de la Marinas*
- *Ander Mijangos*
- *Igor Irigoyen (General Coordinator of the Network and of this team).*

The meetings are usually fortnightly (normally on alternate Wednesdays), though when required by the topics to be addressed, they become more regular or extraordinary meetings are called. We also try to hold an extensive extraordinary meeting at least once a year, especially when it is possible to meet in person.

As was previously mentioned, it is the usual practice of the Executive Commission to include heads of other teams of the network in its meetings, depending on the agenda, in order to follow up on their respective scopes. The following in particular usually participate periodically at the meetings:

- The coordinators of the general teams: Berna Arrabal (Management), Jon Sustatxa (Fundraising), Iratxe Meseguer (Training), Cristina Gil (Volunteering), Joseba Alzola (Communication), Jon Ander Zárate (Awareness Raising). In addition to this, from the Executive Commission takes part in the internal dynamics of each of these teams.
- The contact technical heads of the Network with the different demarcations and countries: Pedro Marañón (Brazil, Bolivia, Philippines), Jon Calleja (Central Africa), Laura García Rábago (Indonesia, Venezuela), Jon Sustatxa (Dominican Republic), Ander Mijangos (West Africa, India), Pedro Alonso (Mexico).

- Further, the demarcational heads of Itaka Escolapios or other members of their teams also participate now and again in the meetings of the Executive Commission: when there are visits by these to the Network or by videoconference to hold special follow-up meetings.

Further, every now and again, depending on the agendas (in principle once a year) the Executive Commission meets with the General Congregation of the Order and with the General Board of the Fraternity.

Objectives

The overall function of the Executive Commission is to bring forward strategic lines of the plan of the network for the current period (2015-21), which culminate in general objectives for the entire six-year period and in specific objectives for each year. We attach the annual plan document drawn up by the Executive Commission for the current academic period.

Through the annual objectives, we highlight and specify those aspects of the Strategic Plan that require a greater push and follow-up, and meeting the needs that are put forward by the Piarist mission and our founding entities (Order and Fraternity).

The Executive Commission is also the team that prepares the meetings, raises information and proposals, and is accountable to the most senior bodies of Itaka Escolapios: the Advisory Board itself (meetings every three years) and the Board of Trustees (six-monthly meetings).

We mention the aspects that are the current focus of the work of the Executive Commission in the framework of the general strategic challenges of the Network:

- Progress in the support of countries that make up the Network, especially as Itaka Escolapios is not yet a consolidated organisation: introducing a form of working based on demarcational team and local teams, plans, annual budgets and shared projects.
- Promote from the general teams and strengthen their composition and network vision.
- Special attention on the needs arising at the Piarist Schools: new presence sites, growth of the mission.
- Improve and intensify the formulation and development of projects; search for financing to sustain them.
- Overall, the promotion of the projects of the Order, Fraternity, Calasanz Movement and the actual Itaka Escolapios Network as realities that complement, enrich and support each other to grow together

Large challenges and areas for improvement for the team

1. Broaden and diversify the composition of the Executive Commission by enriching its international vision and that of the Piarist Schools
2. Possibility of creating a contrast space or team of the Network, an intermediary between the actual Executive Commission and the Advisory Board (reflection on the Board of Trustee model).
3. Consolidate the dynamic of liaising with the General Congregation and the General Board, as well as any other instances that are identified as appropriate by the Order and Fraternity.
4. Study the most effective way of supporting Itaka Escolapios in each country and collaborate with the demarcations in the promotion of its projects and in participation at Network: meetings, follow-up trips, specific training...
5. Progress, as far as is appropriate at this level, in the natural visibility of Itaka Escolapios and in its composition as an integrated network of the Piarist Schools and recognized as such by the Order itself (legal integration).

Annex: Annual general plan of the Executive Commission for 2017-18¹

A. MISSION

Contributing to build a more fair and fraternal society through education and evangelization, especially of the poorest and most vulnerable children and youth, being a platform of shared mission and a space of call and participation in the Pious Schools.

B. VISION

Being an established international network with local roots, integrated in the life and mission of the Demarcations and Fraternities of the Pious Schools, promoter of the Piarist Christian community and its evangelizing, educational and social work updating the steps of St. Joseph of Calasanz.

C. PRINCIPLES AND VALUES

- i. **Christian and piarist identity.** Taking the Gospel as fundamental inspiration, Itaka-Escolapios participates in the Church from the charism of Calasanz and specific mission of the Pious Schools, to which it belongs.
- ii. **Option for the poor.** Itaka-Escolapios responds to the reality of impoverished people and works to eliminate the causes of poverty and exclusion, with special attention to the needs of children and youth.
- iii. **Integral Mission.** Itaka-Escolapios acts on the three dimensions of the piarist mission (education, evangelization and social transformation), from the conviction that they enrich and provide feedback to each other.
- iv. **Voluntary commitment.** Itaka-Escolapios bases its action on volunteer work, opening spaces and giving it priority and promotion in all its projects, for its educational value and as an expression of generous commitment to others.
- v. **Responsible management.** Itaka-Escolapios is committed to teamwork, building trust and austerity in performance, as well as to long-term sustainability (people, identity and economic resources) of its projects.
- vi. **Networking.** Itaka-Escolapios understands itself as a piarist network operating with criteria such as solidarity, interdependence and shared responsibility.

D. STRATEGIC LINES

I. To contribute to the strengthening of the Pious Schools and the growth of those participating in them.

- 1. To Support the Calasanz Movement, globally and in specific places, providing human resources, knowledge, organization and training, as well as helping to settle the vocational culture.*
- 2. To assist in the implementation and development of Piarist presences.*

¹ In black, Strategic Plan 2015-21; in green, objectives of the 2016-17 academic period; in red, points of the past academic period to be taken up again or taken into account; in blue, objectives of the 2017-18 academic period.

3. *To promote the initiation and consolidation of the Fraternities, offering collaboration with their learning processes and those of the piarist religious life.*
4. *To promote new initiatives to expand and strengthen the social base of Itaka-Escolapios (volunteers, collaborative partners, etc.) in conveying attitude towards shared mission and the Piarist Christian community.*
5. *To provide Piarists, members of Fraternities and participants of shared mission and discernment stages with a significant and demanding commitment space, adapted to different life situations and which can gradually grow.*

Specific objectives 2016-17

- (I.2) Maintain continuous attention on the processes of the new Piarist foundations, with availability to support on the part of the network, especially where there is no affiliation (Indonesia, RD Congo, Mozambique...).
- (I.3) Draw up a **general Itaka-Escolapios training plan**, starting from the needs detected at a local level and in the network, and making use of existing resources. Putting itself at the service of the training team of the Order to collaborate as appropriate, as well as with the General Board of the Fraternity.
- (I.4) Start a **collaborating associate campaign**, enabling us to arrive at our social base in a renewed manner and significantly broaden current supports.
- (I.5) Promote the network identity in the volunteering field: greater knowledge of the global reality, undertake an initiative to create awareness as a Piarist volunteer (common training topic, an initiative as a result of the Piarist jubilee year ...)

Specific objectives 2017-18

- (I.1) Start from the general Calasanz Movement team of the Itaka Escolapios Network, in coordination with the existing team in the Order, as a way to progress and contribute more in this field.
- (I.2) Continue supporting from the Network with special attention on new presences or those that recently joined Itaka Escolapios: Philippines, West Africa, starting in RD Congo.
- (I.3) Draw up the planned training modules on Itaka Escolapios from Training and make them available to the members of the team in the network, religious communities and Fraternity.
- (I.3) Establish a strategy to provide more information and at the same time promote the Calasanz Movement, Fraternity and Itaka Escolapios as three realities of the intensively interlinked Piarist Schools.
- (I.4) Launch of the collaborating associates campaign drawn up last academic period ("400 more years with your help") from October, coinciding with the end of the Jubilee Year.
- (I.5) Proceed with the celebration of 9th March as Volunteers Day at Itaka Escolapios, promoting the different fields and modalities of volunteering in the network.

II. To enrich the piarist mission in its educational, pastoral and social transformation dimension, in response to identified needs.

6. *To boost the resources provided to schools in order to advance as a comprehensive full time school: values education, awareness campaigns, social and educational initiatives, pastoral training, promotion and support of volunteering.*
7. *To encourage the link of Itaka-Escolapios with the educational and parish community (families, teachers and staff, alumni, neighborhood) through communication actions and specific proposals.*
8. *To strengthen the institutional alliance between each piarist work with the headquarters of Itaka-Escolapios, inside the demarcational chart and the local piarist presence.*
9. *To implement initiatives to address the new needs that arise in each place, especially those which place us as a reference entity in the socio-educational field.*
10. *To enhance the quality of our projects looking after the different phases: identification, implementation and evaluation, using tools that help the continuous improvement of processes.*
11. *To improve the economic sustainability of the projects, using both local and network resources, promoting public, private and church financing and exploiting the possibilities of the where places we work.*

Specific Objectives 2016-17²

- (II.6) Consolidate the awareness raising team of the network, as well as the international dimension of the campaigns (especially that of common solidarity). For this, make use of the Educa renewal project.
- (II.7) Improve and broaden the communication actions of the network: annual report at the start of the next academic period, information bulletins on the network, more updating and diversity in news of the website, setting of spaces, videos on our projects...
- (II.8,10,11) Have from the start of the financial year the annual agreements (development of the Programmatic Letter) for each of the demarcations and countries, that include the areas shared at Itaka Escolapios, annual objectives, teams and annual budget.
- (II.10) Insist on the shared responsibility of all the countries and venues of the projects of the network, considering the structure as an essential project within Itaka Escolapios.

² In black, Strategic Plan 2015-21; in green, objectives of the 2016-17 academic period; in red, points of the past academic period to be taken up again or taken into account; in blue, objectives of the 2017-18 academic period.

Help to understand from the guidelines of Itaka Escolapios the management tasks, relativizing as far as possible those that create more tension.

- (II.11) **Strengthen our fundraising structure and broaden our source of financing**, in order to meet the growing needs of the network (incorporation of more countries and new projects).

Specific Objectives 2017-18

- (II.6) Implement the updating and expansion of Educa and make use of it for the repromotion and renewal of the awareness raising actions in the network.
- (II.7) Improve and increase the communication of Itaka Escolapios to the set of the Piarist Schools (demarcations, fraternity) through the inherent channels and resources and in coordination with those of the Order.
- (II.8) Consolidate at all the demarcations the work model from the Programmatic Letter and culminating in the annual agreement and budget, having these documents from the start of the academic period at each place and monitoring them throughout the year.
- (II.10) Approach from this academic period (and continuing in the next one) the processes relating to the design, implementation and certification of a quality assurance system, and the design and implementation of an equality plan at the Itaka Escolapios Foundation.
- (II.10) Proceed with the process started in the last academic period in the area of data protection, with regard to auditing and adaptation to the legislation applicable to the Itaka Escolapios Foundation.
- (II.11) Continue and establish the effort in the fundraising team in order to better meet the financing needs of the projects of the network and, in general, of the Piarist Schools (new Secretariat of Project Management and Sustainability).

III. Trabajar y compartir en red escolapia, así como también redes eclesiales y sociales.

12. *To introduce the reality of Itaka-Escolapios and the possibilities it offers to Demarcations, Fraternities and priest mission to grow.*
13. *To strengthen the Itaka-Escolapios network in the existing sites, especially in identity, participation in the network and local presence.*
14. *To generate the international teams needed to attend the network, in connection with reinforced demarcational and local teams, all of them having their own managers, planning and targets.*
15. *Promote and participate in alliances with like-minded church, educational and social networks*

Specific Objectives 2016-17

- (III.12,13) Maintain constant communication with the General Congregation of the Order, with specific meetings times, as well as with the General Fraternity Board.
- (III.13) Appropriately support from the teams and venues the professionals hired at Itaka Escolapios, with special attention on the application of criteria approved by the Board of Trustees.
- (III.14) Broaden and strengthen the **Executive Commission**, as well as the **team supporting** the different countries **from the network**, considering those that recently joined the network (Mexico, West Africa, Chile...) and any others that could be added.
- (III.14) Make significant progress in the **internationalisation of the general teams of the network**: there should be at least one member from each of these teams that is not from Spain. Work from these teams to strengthen Itaka Escolapios at a demarcational and local level, aligning the priorities of the different areas.

Specific Objectives 2017-18³

- (III,12,13) Organise the 3rd Advisory Board in May 2018, with the purpose of it being a key moment in the promotion and consolidation of the Itaka Escolapios network.
- (III,14) Implement throughout the academic period changes in the organisation of the network teams (Approved by the Board of Trustees of 23rd June), in accordance with the result of the Advisory Board: Board of Trustees, Executive Commission, international team of the network, general teams.

³ In black, Strategic Plan 2015-21; in green, objectives of the 2016-17 academic period; in red, points of the past academic period to be taken up again or taken into account; in blue, objectives of the 2017-18 academic period.

(III.14) Continue incorporating new members into the general teams of the network, in order to progress in its international goal, especially in those teams currently with a less diverse composition (Management, Communication, Formation).

Patronato de la Fundación Itaka-Escolapios, Junio 2017

REFLECTION ON THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MODEL IN THE ITAKA-ESCOLAPIOS NETWORK

I. Background of the reflection

The Board of Trustees of the Itaka-Escolapios Foundation, at its meeting on February 24, 2017, addressed among other topics a reflection on the organizational changes needed in the Foundation and in the international Network.

This reflection is motivated, firstly, by the growth dynamics of the Itaka-Escolapios Network and the clear commitment to internationalize its organization, within the existing internal diversity and complexity. In this context, it is convenient to rethink the place of the Itaka-Escolapios Foundation, which is the legal entity (Spanish) originating from the Network.

In addition, more immediately, the recent appointment of the president of the Foundation as Provincial of Brazil-Bolivia (and therefore with residence and occupation outside of Spain), makes it convenient to clarify in a short time the model of the Foundation's Board of Trustees, and its role in relation to the Network, for what it implies in terms of its composition and its presidency.

Therefore, at the meeting of the Board of Trustees on February 24, once the reflection began, it was agreed to entrust the Executive Committee with the preparation of a proposal, for the purpose of being treated by the Board of Trustees at its next meeting (June 23) and take the appropriate provisions thereafter.

II. Starting point and current situation

On the differentiation between Foundation and Network

The "Itaka-Escolapios Foundation," created on March 9, 2001, is a civil legal entity subject to Spanish legislation (specifically, Law 50/2002 on foundations). The scope of action, as established in its current Statutes, is "the entire territory of the Spanish State, although it may extend its activities to any other countries in which the Order of the Pious Schools is present."

In the development of its implementation, and as a result of the opening of Itaka-Escolapios and the decision of other Piarist Provinces and Fraternities to share mission in network, Itaka-Escolapios has been deploying different presences, with different legal situations in them:



- Locations where the Spanish Foundation operates directly: Spain, Cameroon (delegation recognized by the authorities of the country), Italy (delegation in Rome, also recognized). The possibility of legal recognition of the Spanish Foundation only exists or is viable in some countries.
- Locations where it operates through civil entities called “Itaka-Escolapios” created under the corresponding national legislation: Brazil, Bolivia, Venezuela.
- In the rest of the locations, Itaka-Escolapios does not currently have legal recognition and operates through the legal channels available to the Pious Schools (either with the religious legal form or with other civilians).

When we talk about the “Itaka-Escolapios Network” we refer to the set of presences (with their teams and their shared projects), regardless of the legal coverage from which they operate. Always underlining the commitment to a single identity and a common and shared organization.

About the Board of Trustees of the Itaka-Escolapios Foundation

In accordance with Spanish legislation, every foundation must have a Board of Trustees as the highest governing body and representation thereof. The Board of Trustees is responsible, in general, for enforcing the foundational aims and ensuring the diligent management of the assets. The Board of Trustees must meet at least twice a year: one time to approve the action plan and the budget; a second time to approve the Annual Accounts. In addition, there are other foundational decisions that have to go through the Board of Trustees, such as the appointment of representatives or the opening of delegations.

In the case of Itaka-Escolapios, the Board of Trustees is formally appointed by the founding entities of the entity: in its origin, the Piarist Province of Vasconia and the Piarist Fraternity of Itaka (through the private association of the faithful “Communities of Itaka - Piarist Fraternity”). Currently, this role is assumed by the Province of Emmaus and the Fraternity of Emmaus.

However, beyond the foundational provision, for the appointment of members in the Board of Trustees there is an internal agreement according to which proposed representatives are included, in addition to those proposed by the Province and the Fraternity of Emmaus, those proposed by the Province of Bethany and the Fraternity of Bethany, as well as by the Order and by the General Fraternity.

According to the current Statutes, the number of trustees is between 6 and 20, with the Board of Trustees itself deciding at all times the exact number of its members, who will be appointed in accordance with the foregoing provisions.

Currently, this number is 7 members, namely: President; representative of the Province of Emmaus; representative of the Province of Bethany; representative of the Fraternity of Emmaus; representative of the Fraternity of Bethany; representative of the General Congregation of the Order; representative of the General Fraternity.

With respect to the figure of the President, according to the Statutes, this position is formally designated by the Provincial Father of Emmaus. This designation has been made only once, at the time of the Foundation’s constitution.

For the rest, the Statutes do not provide for limitation of the duration in the condition of member of the Board of Trustees, nor of the charges therein.

On the governance of the Itaka-Escolapios Network

As a consequence of the international development of Itaka-Escolapios, and in order to have an organ of maximum representation in which all the participating demarcations and fraternities are present, since 2012 the body called “Advisory Council” has been functioning.

The Advisory Council embodies the highest authority of the Itaka-Escolapios network, since it represents those who hold ultimate responsibility over the entity: the Order of the Pious Schools and its demarcations, and the Piarist Fraternities. It is the framework in which the most important decisions are made about the Network as a whole. However, since it is a broad space and difficult to convene, it has been meeting every three years or so. To date: May 2012, January 2015 and (in forecast) May 2018.

For the rest, by delegation of the Advisory Council and also of the Board of Trustees, there is an Executive Committee, a small team that fulfils the function of a permanent management body of both the Network and the Foundation. Likewise, there are also general and responsible teams in the field of the network in close connection with the Executive Committee.

III. Proposals for a new model

In view of the above, we note some elements in the organization that should be rethought and, if necessary, improved.

- The Board of Trustees, although its functions in principle refer to the Foundation, addresses reflections and makes decisions that are relevant to the Network as a whole. However, it has an important limitation in its composition: it only includes the representation of Spain, complemented with the broader representation that the Order and the General Fraternity provide. So far, it has been decided not to include trustees from other countries, due to the difficulty in attending meetings.
- The Advisory Council is a fundamental body, but due to its characteristics it can only be convened every certain number of years or in extraordinary circumstances. At some point, the possibility has been discussed of constituting a “permanent team” within in, representative of the entire Network but smaller, that could be convened more frequently for follow-up and promotion of the Itaka-Escolapios network.
- In the operational teams of the Network, such as the Executive Committee and the general teams, limitations are also perceived in terms of their composition and an increasing internationalization is sought in their vision and in the origin of their members.

Based on these findings, **the following advance elements are proposed:**

1. **Giving a new orientation to the Board of Trustees so that, while remaining formally the maximum governance of the Itaka-Escolapios Foundation, it will be a benchmark for the entire Network in terms of monitoring and globally driving Itaka-Escolapios. With this new orientation, the Board of Trustees will also become a permanent team of the Itaka-Escolapios Advisory Council.**

2. To this end, maintaining the current members and their titles, the composition of the Board of Trustees will be gradually expanded, to include some representatives of demarcations and fraternities of countries other than Spain (for example, reaching a Board of Trustees of 10 members instead of the current 7).
3. The Board of Trustees will be in charge of proposing new members and changes, after listening to the General Congregation and the General Fraternity Council, and will be ratified at each meeting of the Advisory Council. This is without prejudice to the necessary compliance with the statutory provisions and the corresponding formalities when appointing trustees by the founding entities.
4. Taking into account the new composition of the Board of Trustees, the format of the meetings will be rethought as necessary, maintaining the physical presence as the usual form of attendance, but at the same time admitting participation by videoconference. This is especially applicable for members not residing in Spain (it can also be considered that, on occasion, a meeting of the Board of Trustees takes place in a place different from Spain if the circumstances warrant it).
5. In addition, the internationalization of the general teams of the Network will continue, as well as the strengthening of the demarcational and local teams. Both are strategic lines and clear priorities in the development and consolidation of Itaka-Escolapios

IV. Network's teams, developing the proposal.

ADVISORY COUNCIL.

- *Representation of the General Congregation of the Order, the Council of the General Fraternity and of all the participating fraternities and demarcations (also open to other demarcations and fraternities interested).*
- *It meets on an ordinary basis every three years (in the middle and at the end of each six-year period of the Order), in a face-to-face meeting lasting several days.*
- *It approves the Strategic Plan, evaluates the general progress of the Network and makes major decisions on the main issues in the long term and on the conformation of the Board of Trustees.*

BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

- *Permanent team of the Advisory Council.*
- *It fulfils all the functions and formalities that the Spanish legislation assigns to the Board of Trustees of a foundation.*
- *It includes representatives of the General Congregation of the Order, the Council of the Fraternity and of several participating fraternities and demarcations (guaranteeing a certain geographical diversity: Europe, America, Africa, Asia...)*
- *It meets on an ordinary basis twice a year (at the beginning and in the middle of the calendar year). Possibility of participation by videoconference.*

- *It approves the annual plan, budgets and annual accounts of the Foundation, carries out the general monitoring of presences and projects, as well as the economy of the entire Network.*

EXECUTIVE COMMISSION.

- *Management team of the Network and the Foundation.*
- *Small number of members, with a high level of dedication to Itaka-Escolapios (seeking geographical diversity in its composition). It includes the President and the General Coordinator.*
- *It meets on an ordinary basis twice a month, by videoconference or in person when circumstances permit.*
- *It carries out continuous monitoring of presences and projects, taking ordinary executive decisions on matters of the Network and the Foundation.*
- *Depending on the topics to be discussed, members of the international team and general team coordinators can participate in its meetings.*

INTERNATIONAL TEAM OF THE NETWORK.

- *It is integrated by the Executive Committee, a representation of the Management team and the Resource Collection Team and all those responsible for Network contacts.*
- *It promotes and accompanies the development of Itaka-Escolapios in different countries.*
- *It meets quarterly, by videoconference or in person when circumstances permit.*

GENERAL TEAMS OF THE NETWORK.

- *By areas of work of the Network: **Volunteering, Awareness, Resources, Communication, Management, Training, Calasanz Movement.***
- *They meet according to the need, on an ordinary basis at least at the beginning and end of the year, to set the year's plan and to evaluate it.*
- *The Executive Committee meets with the coordinators of all teams, in the first quarter of the year, to share the plans of the year.*



Monday, May 7, 2018

IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER

(Illustration: Julián García)

SONG (Taizé)

***Cantarei ao Senhor, enquanto viver
Louvarei o meu Deus enquanto existir.
Ne le encontré a mina alegría.***

*All life long, for the Lord I will sing,
While I live, I will praise my God.
My joy is in God.*

INTRODUCTION

A READING FROM THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO JOHN

(John 14,6-7. 10b. 20)

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you really know me, you will know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him."

Don't you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in me? The words I say to you I do not speak on my own authority. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work.

On that day you will realize that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you.

SILENCE

SONG

***COMO EL PADRE ME AMÓ,
YO OS HE AMADO.
PERMANECED EN MI AMOR,
PERMANECED EN MI AMOR.***

*LIKE THE FATHER LOVED ME,
I HAVE LOVED YOU
STAY IN MY LOVE
STAY IN MY LOVE*



#ItakaMásAllá

www.itakaescolapios.org

PERSONAL PRAYER

At the end we will pray together the LORD'S PRAYER

FINAL PRAY - *In the name of the Father (Ignacio Iglesias, sj)*

*Because you have wanted
I'm here, my Lord. In your name.
I haven't come by myself, you have absorbed me
In the spiral of love
That you are with everyone.*

*Nobody can get close to you,
without being embraced
without being yours.
stealing him nothing,
giving him everything*

*From the ground to the head
I'm your gift,
spirit that flies
and body that seizes him.*

*You can't anymore
get out of this world.
You flooded me,
and, impregnated of you, I seed you,
and by the time I seed me,
like a wheat grain,
in my siblings.
I don't want to be alone.*

*Your face I'll look for, my Lord.
Untill I say to you ¡Father!
But I only find you when
everything that comes from you
I say: ¡Brother!*

SONG

A tu amparo y protección.



Tuesday, May 8, 2018

IN THE NAME OF THE SON

(Illustration: Julián García)

SONG (Taizé)

*Jésus le Christ, lumière intérieure
Ne laisse pas mes ténèbres me parler
Jésus le Christ, lumière intérieure
Donne moi d'accueillir ton amour.*

*Lord Jesus Christ, your light shine with in us.
Let not my doubts nor my darkness speak
Lord Jesus Christ, your light shine with in us
Let my heart always welcome your love.*

INTRODUCTION

A READING FROM THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO JOHN

(John 13, 1.4-5.12-17)

It was just before the Passover Festival. Jesus knew that the hour had come for him to leave this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end.

So he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist. After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him.

When he had finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes and returned to his place.

"Do you understand what I have done for you?" he asked them. "You call me Teacher and Lord, and rightly so, for that is what I am. Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. Very truly I tell you, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.

SILENCE



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SONG (*Ain Karem*)

**QUIEN QUIERA SER GRANDE,
QUIEN QUIERA SER EL PRIMERO,
SEA EL ESCLAVO DE TODOS,
SEA EL MÁS PEQUEÑO.
NO HE VENIDO A SER SERVIDO,
QUE HE VENIDO A SERVIR
Y A DAR LA VIDA POR TODOS
PARA QUE TODOS PUEDAN VIVIR
EN PLENITUD**

**WHO WANTS TO BE GREAT,
WHO WANTS TO BE THE FIRST,
BE THE SLAVE OF EVERYONE
I HAVEN'T COME TO BE SERVED
I HAVE COME TO SERVE
AND GIVE LIFE FOR EVERYONE
TO THAT ALL MAY LIVE
IN FULLNESS (2).**

PERSONAL PRAYER

At the end we will pray together the LORD'S PRAYER

FINAL PRAY - *Pour moi, la vie est le Christ* (John Henry Newmann)

*My Jesus, help me spread your fragrance
wherever I go;
flood my soul with your spirit and your life;
get into my being and take possession of it
in such a way that my life won't be
anymore
anything but an irradiation of your life.*

*Stay in my heart with such a union
where souls that have contact with mine
can feel your presence in me;
and when they look at me they forget I
exist
and they only think about you.*

*Stay with me. So I can convert myself in
light for others
That light, oh Jesus, will come all from You;
no one of its gleams will be mine.
I will hardly be an instrument
for you to illuminate souls through me.*

*Let me praise you in the way you like more:
carrying my lamp on
to dissipate the shadows
in the path of other souls.*

*Let me preach your name without words...
With my precedent, with my pull
with the unearthly influence of my plays,
with the highest strength of love
that my heart feels for you.*

SONG

A tu amparo y protección.



Wednesday, May 9, 2018

IN THE NAME OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

(Illustration: Julián García)

SONG (Taizé)

**WAIT FOR THE LORD WHOSE DAY IS NEAR
WAIT FOR THE LORD, KEEP WATCH, TAKE HEART**

INTRODUCTION

READING THE NEW TESTAMENT

(Acts 2,1-6)

When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues[a] as the Spirit enabled them.

Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven. When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard their own language being spoken

SILENCE

SONG (Fran Ros)

**NO OS DEJARÉ SOLOS
EL ESPÍRITU OS DOY
NO OS DEJARÉ TRISTES
OS ENVÍO EL AMOR**

**I WON'T LEAVE YOU ALONE
I GIVE YOU THE SPIRIT
I WON'T LEAVE YOU SAD
I SEND YOU THE LOVE**

PERSONAL PRAYER

At the end we will pray together the LORD'S PRAYER



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FINAL PRAY - Psalm to give LIFE

*Lord, give me the courage
to risk my life for you,
the overflowing joy
of wearing down on your service*

*Give me, Lord, wings to fly
and feet to walk
at the pace of men.*

*Give, Lord, give
to "give the life"
from life,
everyday life.*

*Inject us, Lord,
the desire to give and deliver,
to leave our life
in service of the weakest.*

*Lord, make us builders of your life,
propagators of your kingdom,
help us to set the store in the middle of men
to bring them the treasure
of your love that saves.*

*Make us, Lord, obedient to your Spirit
to be led
to give our life from the cross,
from life that sprouts
when the grain dies in the groove.*

SONG

A tu amparo y protección.



Thursday, May 10, 2018

FROM THE HAND OF CALASANZ

(Illustration: Elena Gámez)

SONG

Ven Espíritu de Dios sobre mí

INTRODUCTION

A READING FROM THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

(Matthew 18, 1-5)

At that time the disciples came to Jesus and asked,

- "Who, then, is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?"

He called a little child to him, and placed the child among them. And he said:

- "Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Therefore, whoever takes the lowly position of this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. And whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me."

SILENCE

SONG (Guillermo Gómez)

QUIERO HACER LO MISMO:

VER EN UN NIÑO UN TESORO QUE HAY QUE CUIDAR.

QUIERO ANDAR LOS PASOS

DEL SANTO VIEJO Y AMARLOS COMO LOS AMÓ CALASANZ.

I WANT TO DO THE SAME:

SEEING IN A CHILD A TREASURE TO BE CAREFUL.

I WANT TO WALK BY THE STEPS

OF THE OLD SAINT AND LOVE THEM LIKE CALASANZ LOVED

PERSONAL PRAYER

At the end we will pray together the LORD'S PRAYER



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FINAL PRAY

*God our Lord,
you have enriched S.José de Calasaz with charity and patience
in order to give himself without rest
to human and christian education of children,
Give us, we pray,
imitate in his service to the truth
the one we venerate today as our master of wisdom.
For Jesus Chris our Lord. Amen*

SONG

A tu amparo y protección.



Friday, May 11, 2018

GO ALONG WITH MARY

(Illustration: Elena Gámez)

SONG

Ven Espíritu de Dios sobre mí

INTRODUCTION

A READING FROM THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE

(Luke 1, 26-38)

In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you."

Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end."

"How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?"

The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called[b] the Son of God. Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be unable to conceive is in her sixth month. For no word from God will ever fail."

"I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May your word to me be fulfilled." Then the angel left her.

SILENCE



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SONG

**MADRE NUESTRA, MADRE DE DIOS
POR TU HÁGASE SE HIZO CARNE SU PALABRA,
TU SÍ SENCILLO Y TOTAL AL AMOR
NOS ENGENDRA A LA VIDA DE DIOS**

*OUR MOTHER, MOTHER OF GOD
BECAUSE YOUR DO THE FLASH BECAME HIS WORD,
YOUR SIMPLE AND TOTAL 'YES' TO LOVE
IT GENERATES TO GOD'S LIFE.*

PERSONAL PRAYER

At the end we will pray together the LORD'S PRAYER

FINAL PRAY

*Say your name, María,
is to say that Poverty
fix the eyes of God.*

*Say your name, María,
is to say that every name
can be full of Grace.*

*Say your name, María,
is to say that Promise
gestates in a woman's belly.*

*Say your name, María,
is to recognise you Mother
and feel us like brothers.*

*Say your name, María,
is to say that the Kingdom comes
strong and with your precedent.*

*Say your name, María,
invite us to the announce
of his Love and his Kingdom*

*Say your name, María,
is life next to the Cross
and between the flames of Spirit.*

SONG

A tu amparo y protección.