

5.1 Appointment of the new Secretary General

During the Winter Plenary Session of the General Council, the Rector Major, Fr Ángel Fernández Artime, with the consent of his Council, appointed the new Secretary of the General Council. He is Fr Guido Garino, a Salesian from the Piedmont and Valle d'Aosta Special Circumscription (ICP), who will take up the post from August.

Fr Guido Garino, born in Turin on 26 October 1969, attended the Salesian novitiate in Monte Uliveto Pinerolo, where he made his first profession on 8 September 1997; he then made his perpetual vows on 12 September 2004 at Colle Don Bosco; and he completed his entire course of philosophical and theological studies at the Pontifical Salesian University in Rome.

He was ordained priest on 3 June 2006 by Cardinal Severino Poletto in the Basilica of Mary Help of Christians in Turin.

After graduating in Law at the University of Turin (2003) and completing his Doctorate in Canon Law at the Pontifical Lateran University (2013), in 2009 he

joined the Piedmontese Ecclesiastical Court, first as Promoter of Justice and Substitute Defender of the Bond, then (2011-2022) as Interdiocesan and Metropolitan Judge.

A teacher of religion in middle and high school classes at the Salesian High School in Valsalice (2008-2011), he was also in charge of the Valdocco University College (2013/2017). He also held the roles of Vice-rector, Bursar and Catechist at the Vocational Training Centre in Valdocco, as part of the St Francis de Sales community there.

In 2017, he was sent as assistant Parish Priest to the St John Bosco Parish in Cascine Vica, Rivoli, a working-class suburb of Turin, where the following year he became Parish Priest and, subsequently, Moderator of the Pastoral Unit.

Fr Guido Garino succeeds Fr Stefano Vanoli, in office as Secretary of the General Council since 2015, and who was also the Moderator of the Congregation's 28th General Chapter (2020).

The new Secretary General officially begins his service as of 1 August 2022.