



## 36<sup>th</sup> General Chapter of the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament

Day 1 Communication  
Thu Duc, 06 November 2023

### **Together, Together...**

The 36<sup>th</sup> SSS General Chapter opened with the sound of a gong echoing around the Chapter Hall of SSS-Vietnam Provincial House, where all the capitulars and guests were welcomed by our Vietnamese confreres, headed by their Provincial Superior, Fr Joseph Pham Dinh Ai. Before a world map that recalls the international nature of the Congregation, the Rule of Life numbers 1 and 3 were read, under the light of a paschal candle, symbolic of the Gospel proclaimed to the assembly (John 20: 11-18). The refrain of the hymn composed by Fr Justin Chawkan throughout the proceedings was repeatedly sang, a constant reminder of the slogan of the Chapter, "SSS Religious: Together, Faithful Witnesses of the Eucharistic Mission".

Fr Eugenio Barbosa Martins, using a curious Vietnamese imagery of gourds and green pumpkins, challenged the capitulars to truly live up our oneness as members of the Eymardian family, by building a fraternal, prayerful and serving Chapter Community. The morning session ended with the presentation of the capitulars, in a creative way that inspires fraternity among them.

The afternoon session focused on the presentation of moderators, the secretariat, the working documents, the Chapter's timetable and the Chapter Agenda, as well as those involved in translation, logistics, technical support and other services. The first day session ended with keyword reflections from the members of the Chapter, highlighting the joy of togetherness as Sacramentinos.