



DAY FOUR

FRIDAY 15TH MARCH 2024

"Community Life, the axis around which Augustinian Religious Life turns: Charting the UAFA Path"

Eucharistic Celebration

The day began with the Eucharistic celebration that was presided by the Prior General of the Order, Revd. Fr. Alejandro Moral Anton , OSA at 7 am.



During his homily titled: "Everything has its time", he encouraged the Augustinian brothers of the circumscriptions in Africa in the words below:

"We are coming to the end of a week of meetings and fraternal coexistence. Fr. Anthony, on the first day, taking the example of the healing that the Gospel of John told us (Chapter 5), invited us to take these days and this place as a healing paradigm for the circumscriptions of Africa.

Today I want to insist on *recognizing the right moment to act*, what we call *Kairòs*.

The Gospel of John teaches us this when it speaks of the *hour of Jesus*. Not everyone knows how to act at the right time. For this, it is wise to know how to discern and recognize that not every time is a *kairos* (cf. Qoh 3:1-8)

Jesus knows how to wait with patience and courage for the hour of the Father. We see, then, that there is a knowledge that interrogates and a folly that rejects.



The question is: on what do we want to build our own lives on? How do we want to build it? When do we want to build it? We must let

ourselves be educated by *time*, because in the succession of events the *hidden* presence of God is revealed.

The circumscriptions of Africa, with their many presences already, are maturing, growing and expanding. You have done a very great job. And you have always wanted to live and embody the Augustinian charism in a continent with its very own characteristics.

We Augustinians have said that we want to walk in synodality-together, in union of souls and hearts but also in the diversity of each one of us, which enriches the whole and helps us to face the challenges of our continent with greater possibilities.

This UAFA conference has been another chapter in our journey together, however, it is also new because of the number of concrete real life issues that have appeared on the program.

It will be your duty to know how to read the signs of time, to interpret the moment, the *kairòs*, together with the spirit of fraternity, which will help you discern together and make decisions that help us all, to share and live incarnated in the mission entrusted to us.



The Gospel that we have proclaimed helps us know how to wait for the right moments to make sense of things. Who knows if we are not in a

kairòs moment in which God is speaking to us deeply and asking for new steps, new paths, more communion, more collaboration, putting, as our Father says, *common things above our own personal interests*.

Only through true discernment in common, among the members of a community, a circumscription, or the Order, and guided by the Holy Spirit, can we come to know what the Kairòs moment is to better understand our life and history and to make decisions.

That is why I conclude with these question: in this Kairòs moment, and in today's world, what are the brothers and the world asking of the members of the circumscriptions of Africa gathered here? What should we communicate and share with our brothers and the world. Our future depends on it. Amen”

“How beautiful it is when brothers dwell in unity”



“It is like precious oil poured on the head”



“Running down on Aaron’s beard, down upon the collar of his robe”

