



Regarding the letter sent to the Legionaries of Christ by José de Jesús Barba Martín and José Antonio Pérez Olvera, the Congregation of the Legionaries of Christ states the following:

1. On March 26, 2018, the general director received a digital letter signed by José de Jesús Barba Martín and José Antonio Pérez Olvera, two of the people who publicly denounced the abuses of Father Maciel in 1997. In it they request they ask that their request be included in the General Chapter meeting agenda.
2. The general director, after having spoken with his council, presented the letter to the General Extraordinary Chapter, and informed the Chapter that the general government will try to get in touch personally with each of those who had signed the letter and respond to their requests.
3. We apologize to all the victims throughout our history who have suffered some form of abuse, knowing that this request for forgiveness will never be sufficient to heal the deep wounds that were left. In relation to Father Maciel, the 2014 General Chapter stated:
 - a. “(...) we want to express our deep sorrow for the abuse of minor seminarians, the immoral acts with men and women who were adults, the arbitrary use of his authority and of material goods, the indiscriminate consumption of addictive medicines and the act of presenting writings published by third parties as his own. We find the incongruity of presenting oneself as a priest and a witness of the faith continuously for decades while hiding this immoral behavior to be incomprehensible. We firmly condemn this. We are grieved that many victims and other affected persons have waited so long in vain for an apology and an act of reconciliation on the part of Father Maciel. Today, we would like to issue that apology as we express our solidarity with these persons” ([2014 General Chapter Communiqué](#), 4).



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- b. “We have heard reports about how the major superiors of the Congregation discovered these hidden aspects of the life of our founder, how they sought to discern the appropriate response in light of ethical and moral demands, and how they carried out the process of communication. Together with them, today we acknowledge with sadness the initial incapability of believing the testimonies of the persons who had been victims of Father Maciel, the long institutional silence and, later on, the hesitations and errors of judgment when setting out to inform the members of the congregation and others. We apologize for these shortcomings, which have increased the suffering and confusion of many” ([2014 General Chapter Communiqué](#), 5).
4. As the 2014 Chapter affirmed, and as has been reiterated during the recent Extraordinary General Chapter, we continue to maintain our firm “commitment to continue seeking reconciliation” ([2014 General Chapter Communiqué](#), 8.a) in a personal way with each of the victims.
5. We recognize that an abuse, regardless of its nature, causes deep suffering and damages the victim, his family, and also the Church. Aware of our commitment as a Church and our institutional history, we are firmly committed to continue implementing our [safe environment policy](#) for minors and vulnerable adults who have contact with people who participate in our apostolic, educational, and pastoral activities.