

## REPORT OF THE MISSION COMMITTEE MISSION PLAN

### I. HISTORY OF THE COMMITTEE

General Cenacle XIV strongly recommended

.... the creation of a Mission Committee, which would develop and implement a Mission Plan for the Congregation, and the appointment of a Vicar for Mission.

In the development of a Mission Plan, the Mission Committee should be attentive to: our core identity as Missionary Servants; our present multicultural reality; the work done by the previous Missiology Committee; the prophetic nature of our vocation, calling every Catholic to be an Apostle; a collaborative relationship with the Missionary Cenacle Family.

The Mission Committee was established with Mike Barth, Chair, John Skrodinsky, Council liaison Guy Wilson and Francisco Valdovinos. After two years of operation two members of the MCA joined the committee, Martha Vega and Angelica Otero. Mike Barth was absented from the Committee to dedicate himself to his Sabbatical and new assignment.

The development of a Mission Plan for the Congregation by the Mission Committee spent time reviewing the materials indicated by the recommendation.

Following the lead of the General Cenacle XIV we have centered our work on Rule of Life #5:

***Our specific mission is the preservation of the faith in those areas and among those people who are spiritually neglected and abandoned, especially the poor. Our chief effort is to develop a missionary spirit in the laity with the goal that every Catholic be an apostle.***

We studied previous Chapters, mission documents, annual local mission plans, custodian meeting reports and others. Specifically the Committee reviewed concrete programs, places and resources that have been impacting our missions. Our attention was directed to methods that led to the development of a missionary spirit in the laity.

### II. PRELIMINARY CONCLUSIONS AND OBSERVATIONS

- + It is imperative that we move from the abstract to the concrete. We have spent much time drawing up and sharing draft plans and objectives. It is time to take concrete steps into the future.
- + As a point of reference, one methodology that has been recommended as the core of a mission plan is the establishment of the CALF program with its corresponding stages of Kerygma, Diakonia, Didache and Koinonia. It is a way to specifically and concretely implement the charism through the formation of a missionary spirit in the laity. The Mission Committee has been preparing a proposal to concretize and implement the CALF model.
- + Programs other than CALF also need to be studied and promoted according to the needs of particular missions.

Areas for further consideration:

- a. What would an ST curriculum/methodology for forming a missionary spirit in the laity, with the goal that every Catholic be an apostle look like?
- b. What would an “ST Manual for Mission” look like?
- c. Establish centers or bases for apostolic leadership formation especially in our formation houses.
- d. Develop criteria and procedures for mission evaluation, transition in missions, ...
- e. Promote interaction with the Missionary Cenacle Family with a special call to accompany the MCA, and
- f. The important and repeated points that came out of the Spring Regional meetings (2014) and shortly after at the Custodians’ meeting:
  - i. To further investigate our ability/desire to: work with youth / young adults, find a way to respond to issues that are part of the signs of the times, renew committees that play and have played important roles (Spiritual Life, Mission, Peace and Justice, etc...), look more intentionally into non-parochial missions, recognize and affirm our commitment to Native/Indigenous people...

Challenges that are faced by the Mission Committee;

1. A need for clearer role definition and communication, especially in relationship with the General Council. A Vicar for Mission has not yet been promoted.
2. A need for sufficient time to do the work of the Committee given the members’ other commitments.
3. A need to improve communication among the Committee members.
4. A need for visiting Regions to continue the dialogue and promote the implementation of Lay Formation programs

### III. TAKING COUNCIL

What would the members to the XV General Cenacle recommend be part of a Congregation Mission Plan?

### IV. HAVING HEARD

The Mission Committee has heard the following from the members:

### V. FOLLOWING THE PRE-CHAPTER

Following the Pre-Chapter, the Mission Committee was given the task of revising the Congregational Mission Plan. The committee members spoke to a variety of people for suggested revisions and then put forth a new working document. This working document was shared with people with mission plan experience, both in the congregation and outside the congregation. After receiving lots of good feedback, the mission committee yet again made revisions to the document and prepared a final document to be handed in to the GC coordinating committee as requested. The mission committee hopes to share the current draft of the mission plan with the members of the GC so that there is time to reflect and have dialogue around the plan before arriving to the GC in May.