

REPORT OF THE ST SPIRITUAL LIFE COMMITTEE TO THE XV GENERAL CENACLE

Members: Gary Banks, Orlando Bonilla, Víctor Hugo Machorro, Arturo Quezada, Raymond Riding, Andrés Rivera, Steve Vesely

This is a standing committee of the Missionary Servants. Fr. Domingo spoke to me in August 2012 concerning the committee and asked me to convene it. I had some 12 years experience in the work. In September 2012, I had a blood pressure crash from which I have not recovered. As a result, the committee was never convened. Apart from a few liturgical and thematic reflections, nothing was done. I apologize for the situation.

Still pending for General Cenacle XV:

From GC XIII – encouraged the formation of spiritual directors

From GC XIV – that the ST Spiritual Life Committee develop a greater variety of retreats

A NOTE: This committee requires some technical skill, either as a member or as a resource to be able to oversee the coordination and the translations of materials.

CONSIDERATIONS:

[01] Relationship to the Missionary Cenacle Spiritual Exercises

Since 2009 the Spiritual Exercises are under the aegis of a Family sub-committee. As of summer 2015, thirty three professed ST will have made this 30 day retreat as part of their final vow process. Three priests have also made the 30 day experience for a total of 36, or be it 40% of the congregation. There have been three guides for the 30 day process.

Over the years there have been considerable misgivings about the Exercises, including the oft mentioned point that it is not “our spirituality.” It would be most advantageous if this General Cenacle would be able to take a position on this.

[02] Elected rather than appointed members

It would also help if the members of this committee were elected by the congregation at large, so as to give greater representation to differing spiritualities and styles of prayer. We would want to avoid, at all costs, that spirituality becomes something that divides us, rather than unites us.

Respectfully submitted, with apologies,

Gary Banks, ST