

Asian Young Holy Family Seekers

FLASH - 06
13.05.2015



Gathering Sri Lanka

So Beautiful the sun shine and the chirping of the birds, the trees loaded with fruits, children crossing, water dripping, clouds passing, flowers in bloom. The nature's continual invitation to join her in praising God our father and mother was heard by the Seekers to gather in Prayer, Silence and Solitude.

The prayer that was based on the Sacredness of Cosmic life slowly led us to enter into ourselves to acknowledge the sacredness of oneself, others and Creation. The shared Prayer was a reminder that we are all called to be Co- Creators - a responsibility that we cannot ignore. Silence and solitude are to be sought by each one to preserve the sacredness to become worthy dwellings of the Divine.



NEWS IN BRIEF



The seekers connected us directly with the outside world by getting News instantly, calling their counterparts all over the world to relay the events directly to them. They were on the move, getting in touch with them and us. What a variety of gadgets and methods! The Seekers were seen very busy, moving so fast in handling them! They are gifted indeed!

R E C A P

Sr. Jesmin Fernando facilitated the morning session to recall the work of the previous day on Vowed Life for Mission. The brief summary of the Reflection is as follows

VOWED LIFE FOR MISSION:

“To awaken the mystic and alert the Prophet in each one.”

Emerging world view: Earth, not object but subject, manifestation of the Divine

The death and resurrection of the Lord continues in the evolution of the earth

- The primacy of God is my priority
- Passion for God for his people
- Our Vowed life called us to Wholeness
- Gods' purpose in the world is to bring the scattered children together.

Vows

- i. Celibacy - Loving
- ii. Obedience - Choosing
- iii. Poverty - Sustaining

Poverty

- Interdependent, Sharing, Be with the poor
- Chastity
- Intimate relationship with God
- Non possessiveness
- Use Feminine potential for the good of all

Chastity

- To be tender loving, inclusive love
- Love the poor and marginalized.
- Openness of heart to meet everyone
- Be a part of the struggle
- Accept the sacredness of all the creatures

Obedience

- Listen and live in the spirit of discernment all the time we can choose what God wants.
- Active participation in the common good
- Countercultural choices and go beyond boundaries

Mission

- God's mission for all nation
- A person called and touched by God
- Continue the mission of Jesus means to be with Him, learn and live. It demands the cost of the discipleship. We need to go to the periphery.

After some clarifications, the floor was given over to the General Leadership Team Members.

GENERAL LEADERSHIP TEAM SPEAKS



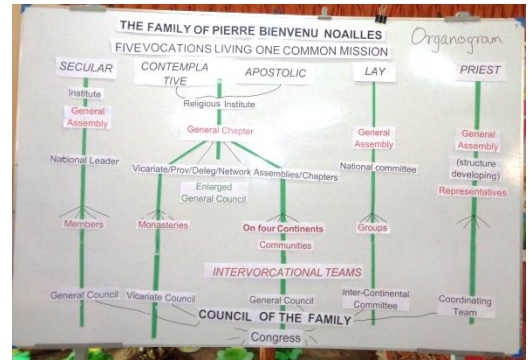
This day was set aside for the General Leadership Team Members' Reflection. Srs. Kumudinie and Geni los Santos jointly facilitated the Session. They started their animation with the Founder's words:

**"Holy Family, YOU are only three;
But your children will be numerous around the world."**

What a beautiful thought to relish our sense of belonging to the PBN family!

They based their input on **THE FAMILY OF PBN: THE FIVE VOCATIONS LIVING ONE COMMON MISSION.** They devised a brilliant way of communicating the **ORGANOGRAM** and presented it creatively as it stands today.

The Seekers were given some labels to organize the Organogram and it appeared thus:



The Power Point Presentation on our situation Today as an Institute gave the Young Seekers the opportunity to fly over to the Holy Family World to see its reality:

Britain & Ireland	95	India	: Professed	47 /	TP 19	: 73
Poland	37	Pakistan	: Professed	28 /	TP 03	: 31
America :		Philippines	: Professed	10 /	TP 03	: 13
Canada	54	Sri Lanka : Colombo:	Prof.	249 /	TP 21	: 270
Peru , Brazil, Paraguay, Argentina	47	Jaffna	: Prof.	220 /	TP 20	: 240
Contemplatives - Posadas	06					-----
		Total :				627
Africa :						
Cameroun)	17	-	Total : Apostolic Sisters :			1628
Congo)		-				
Rwanda)	63	-	Finally Professed			1528
		-	Temporary proffers			100
Lesotho	63	-	Novices			06
South Africa)		-	Pre-Novices-			37
Uganda)	44	-				

THE PARABLE OF THE TURTLE PICNIC

The GLT Members turned the Seekers' attention to another important aspect of the Family - Membership **and collective responsibility.** This was illustrated by **The Parable of the Turtle Picnic.**

A beautiful story that aroused curiosity in the Seekers' mind even before the story was told. They entertained themselves responding to the reader – giggled, nudged each other, laughed out loud and enjoyed the turtle Picnic Story. They were given time to ponder and to echo their impression on the Story.

Their feedback on the Story:

1. Young ones demands too much, do not obey.
Expectations are high
2. Time – need to live in the Present

3. If we expect from others -
We depend on others.
4. Its disturbance to stand on one's own feet. Expectations are good ...not always.
5. Young ones not faithful
6. Young one took up the responsibility.
7. I too need to take up responsibility.

- I am on fire to take quick move to do something.
- We are trusted
- Instead of doing, we wait for others.
- We need time
- Young one cheated
- Expect with condition never succeeds.
- Before challenging others I must challenge myself.

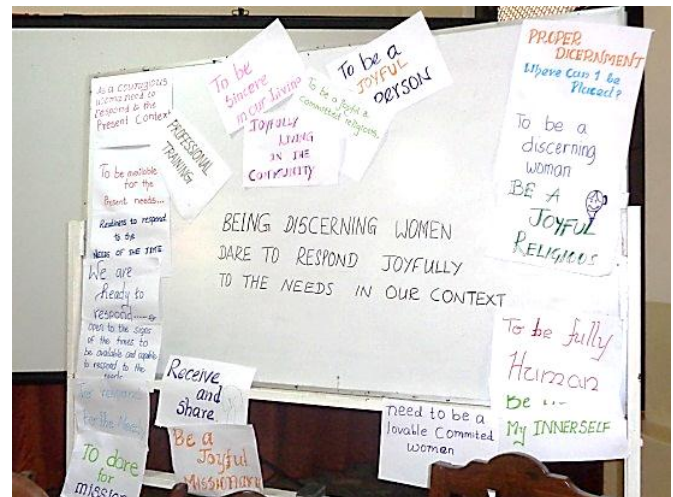


Based on the story the Seekers were requested by Sisters Kumudinie and Geni to write down:
What are your Dreams or Expectations for Yourself?

The Seekers were given time to note down their personal dream and then to work in small groups to bring Two Dreams or Expectations. There was much excitement as they gathered in small Groups, engaged in discussion. The result was:

The personal expectations were summed up as follows:

The GENERAL LEADERSHIP TEAM members led the Seekers further to reflect on the aspect of belongingness to the Institute where the Holy family way of life becomes the important point of our focus and reference. They gracefully introduced the documents that shape and mould the life of the Members in the Institute. The referring to the **COOPERATE COMMITMENT**, the GENERAL LEADERSHIP TEAM Members spoke about the Communion that exists in the whole of the Universe with All the Community of Life. It is this vision that we are called to live our **VOWED LIFE FOR MISSION** in a transformed way, for it to be relevant to the Changing World of our time.



The Calls are numerous, they said, and our responses are needed. The urgency to become daring is heard. The need to live the aspect of God Alone is the Key Point. Living our Membership in the Holy

Family with responsibility and accountability is our call to be on Mission. The urgency to set our hearts on fire to become zealous and daring cannot be postponed.

“If we don’t dare now, then WHEN?”

The Corporate Commitment was introduced by the GLT Members as The Important Document for the Members of the Religious Institute to be translated into life and Action and to be given importance for the next six years. The emphasis was on LIFE in the Institute and the Responsibility of Each Member to become committed to the Family Way of Life.

The Young Seekers were tasked to work in Groups to discuss and to bring to the Open Forum TWO OR THREE EXPECTATIONS to be put forward in Common. The Main Points emerged as follows:



1. The Asian Young Holy Family Seekers Gathering is necessary – once in Five Years.
2. Revive the Structure of Basic Formation
Formation to be more practical to experience
International Formation
Explore changes and bring new approach
Formation for Accompaniers and Spiritual Directors
To be helped during Formation to know and to read the Signs of the Times
3. Professional Training for all Sisters for Ministries and new ministries
Freedom and support to do the given Ministries
Allow us to experience the challenges of the world.
Allow us space to make mistakes.
Accept the uniqueness of each person and to trust and encourage.
4. To have mobile Communities
5. Prepare Future Leaders
6. Have sessions on the context of the Church, Congregation and Continent.
7. The presence of Contemplatives in India.
8. Work to promote Vocations as an Institute.
9. Equality to be experienced.

The General Leadership Team Members facilitated the Open Forum and the Unit Leaders and Sisters represented the various Units as a panel responded to the Expectations, asked for clarifications and allowed the Seekers to express themselves freely of their opinions and ideas regarding the Expectations put forward by them.



It was a fruitful Forum where everyone felt the moving of the Spirit among us. The Seekers also expressed that they were enlightened and the need they feel to take up personal responsibility to become Committed. The words Dialogue, Community, Superiors are understood in relation to authentic relationships. Some of their doubts are cleared. On the whole, they expressed that the Open Forum was an enriching moment, very useful. It gave us the grace to see WHERE WE ARE!

GROUP PHOTO-TAKING was an exciting moment when the Seekers made sure that they are visible and beautiful to be viewed by ALL in the HOLY FAMILY WORLD.



The day came to a close with time devoted for moments of Silence to be united to the God of Surprises Who visited us with Her Spirit, moved among us and worked in us throughout the day.

Its only Day Six!