

2017 Spring Meeting: Acts of the 36th General Chapter

Summary of group discussions:

1. Mission and the New faces of the poor:

What are the new faces of the poor in our specific context?

- Smart phone and social media addicts
- Migrants(care givers, students etc.)
- Young people
- North Korean refugees
- Spiritual poverty of some Oblates
- Women segregation (victims of divorce, girl marriage and dysfunctional families)
- Mentally challenged

- Victims of natural disaster
- Occasional Christians (lack of basic catechism)
- Homeless
- Street children
- Lonely (elderly)
- Prisoners and drop- outs of the society
- People hurt by the church

Priorities, Concrete steps to answer the needs?

- Study the situation(find out why they've become poor)
- Education
- Networking
- Yoga
- Our availability to reach out and build bridges with those at the peripheries

2. Mission with youth:

How can we accompany the youth?

- Reach out to the youth and share their life and eventually offer accompaniment
- Collaboration with other Congregations
- Networking with youth groups

Priorities, Concrete steps to answer the needs?

- Listen to the youth and know them
- Recreation and Fellowship (coffee, movie, karaoke etc.)
- Seek support from parents
- Communication through media (facebook, messenger, line etc.)
- Cooperating with networking
- Spiritual guidance

3. Formation for mission:

What are the challenges we face in the unit concerning first and ongoing formation?

- How to attract people
- Trained formators
- Accompaniment of candidates in first formation
- Proper orientation for Oblate new comers
- Busy schedule and responsibilities
- Lack of personnel
- Cultural differences in our backgrounds

Answers to the challenges?

- Spring meeting
- OMI documents (Founder's writings)
- Collaboration with other units and laity
- Sabbatical programs
- Commitment
- Follow up on guidelines on first formation
- Community gatherings for faith sharing

4. Mission and interculturality:

What can we do to choose interculturality as a lifestyle, as a way of being in mission?

- An open mind, attitudes of dialogue and humility
- Mutual enrichment
- Learning the language, culture etc.

What concrete steps are needed to become a real prophetic sign in our mission?

- Living together is a prophetic sign of giving witness to others

5. Mission and social media:

How can we be present in the social media in order to use it as a tool for evangelization?

- Share our reflections, homilies, pastoral guidance on social media
- Use of media should lead to have person to person relationship.
- Proper use of media
- Our final evangelization is person to person, for which the media should lead people to personal contact with others
- Uploading sermons, religious thoughts

What can we do to prepare people for this ministry?

- Technology and social media should be included in the curriculum

6. Mission and finance:

Are we transparent and accountable in the use of the goods and funds entrusted to us?

- Accountability and responsibility in using money, goods and resources (talents etc.)
- Sharing: Give back in gratitude for what the delegation has spent on us.
- Transparency

What can we do to change our mindset towards finances in order to share all what we receive and have for the good of the mission?

- Growth in awareness that what we use (if) is Oblate.