

Casa Generalizia
delle Suore dei Sacri Cuori
Via Aurelia, 145 Scala C-Int. 10/14
00165 Roma (Italia)

Tel. + 39 06 638 11 40
Fax. + 39 - 06 638 10 13



Casa Generalizia
dei Padri dei Sacri Cuori
Via Rivarone, 85
00166 Roma (Italia)

Tel. + 39 - 06 66 17 931
Fax. + 39 - 06 66 17 93 55

Roma, November 6, 2014

MEMORY OF BLESSED MARTYRS, FR. TEOPHILUS AND COMPANIONS

To the Coordinators of the SSCC Secular Branch

**Copy to:
Major Superiors and
those accompanying Secular Branch**

Dear Coordinators:

In its meeting from 7 to 9 October, the Spiritual Animation Team of the Secular Branch had the opportunity to analyze all the responses you have sent regarding your annual evaluations. This work has helped us to know a little bit more about your life and mission. We are happy to know that the majority of communities in your sectors, have an action plan and a good plan for on-going formation.

SSCC Secular Branch, brothers and sisters, we all have a common purpose: to be faithful to God's love and to be a sign of his redemptive love in the world. In a disjointed and constantly changing world, it is essential to define and deepen the identity of the lay SSCC, based on its integral vision of consecration-mission-spirituality, lived as a gift from God. The effort to give meaning to life and to option of becoming a secular member are found in all your responses. Let us always remain open to the Spirit and his call to live our faith and commitment in the Church and in the world.

To this end, the Spiritual Animation Team would like to propose perhaps a meeting of Coordinators of the Secular Branch in 2017. We have already had the idea of such a meeting in our action plan as Animation Team, in its objective No. 5, means No. 5, which says **"possibility of a meeting of the Coordinators of the Secular Branch."** After reading all your responses, we believe that this kind of meeting could contribute to the strengthening of the Secular Branch.

Why such a meeting in 2017?

In 2017 the family of the Sacred Hearts Congregation will celebrate 200 years of approval from Rome. Since its founding, the laity have been part of this great family. 2017 will therefore be an opportunity to remember the spirituality and charism that has been transmitted for over 200 years, by answering the question "how has the SSCC charism helped me in my mission as a baptized person?".

The objectives of this meeting are:

- 1) To get to know each other, share our different realities and experiences.
- 2) To reflect together, both the Team and the Coordinators on the "lay vocation inspired by the Charism of the Sacred Hearts."

QUESTIONNAIRE

How to organize this event? The Spiritual Animation Team would like to think about this together with all the Secular Branch Sectors. The first step to take is to respond to the following questionnaire with all the members of your respective communities. Your responses will be the initial helpful material to work on this proposal. Please be clear and concise with your answers.

A. Regarding the gathering

1. *Are you in agreement with the idea of a Coordinator's meeting? To be held in 2017?*
2. *Regarding the objectives: are they valid? Should we add more?*
3. *What form would you like this meeting to take? What are the fundamental elements to be considered?*
4. *Who will animate the meeting? The Spiritual Animation Team would like to work strictly with all the Secular Branch Sectors of the Congregation through its Coordinators. The animation of the meeting will be a combined effort involving both the team and Coordinators.*
 - a) *Are you ready to join the Preparatory Team (together with the Spiritual Animation Team)? Would it be possible for you to animate a theme?*
 - b) *What kind of collaboration could you offer?*

B. Regarding the participants

The team considers that only lay Coordinators of the Secular Branch should be involved. The team is aware that there are provinces with several Coordinators and a national Coordinator; just as there are other provinces straddling two or three countries, each with a Sector Coordinator. Faced with this difficulty:

1. *How many Coordinators from your sector would be able to participate?*

C. Regarding the location of the gathering

The choice of the place where the meeting will take place will depend on factors that support the smooth running of the meeting: the visa facilities, communication, technology, transportation, facility of translations...

1. *In which country could the meeting take place? What are the criteria?*
2. *If it is done outside your country, what would be the affordable cost per person?*

D. Regarding the duration of the gathering

The Spiritual Animation Team propose it to be one full week.

1. *Do you think this is a reasonable duration? Need more days? Or less days?*

E. In relation to financing

The organization of such a meeting must take into account many factors: transport, accommodation, translation system, translators, the costs of the Secretariat ... This implies great economic effort by all members of your Sector to help so that at least one person from your Sector can participate.

1. *Can your Sector cover the cost of someone to participate in the meeting?*
2. *If the answer is "no", what solution do you recommend?*

F. Suggestions and other comments

Dear Coordinators, please share these issues with your Sector.

We hope to receive your answers **before 15 January 2015.**

Please send them to the following address:

seculsscc@gmail.com

NB. For any contact or inquiry, you are asked to contact us at: *seculsscc@gmail.com*

Fraternal greetings.

The Spiritual Animation Team:

Camille Sapu, Elizabeth Smith, Consuelo del Saz, Felipe F. Lazcano, Mary McCloskey