



Council of the Congregation El Escorial – 2014

COMMUNICATION JUNE 3

A crisp, sunny day greeted us this second day of the the Council of the Congregation as the English speaking group began its preparations for a participative morning Liturgy. It featured a Hawaiian entrance hymn, a Gaelic penitential rite and a Biblical drama response to the first reading.

The El Escorial community joined us and enjoyed the inter-active experience.the first plenary session, the presentation of facilitator, Xavier Quinza, S.J., set the tone for the work of the day.



He pointed out that in working to give a new face to the Congregation, we are looking for a life-giving structure, not one that is rigid or passive but one with a future tied to the present. He asked us to imagine what we will be in the year 2025, eleven years from now. What Sisters will be there? How will their lives be organized? What important 'anchors' will help them live the mission?

Following Xavier's reflection, we reported to our groups to work on designing the process of reconfiguration.

We discussed three critical questions: What kind of methodology can we use that includes both discernment and co-responsibility? What element must we keep in mind in order to revitalize SS.CC. interaction? What do we consider to be the main "Attractors" (and retractors) which will draw forward or hamper the process of reconfiguration? The contributions of each group during the plenary session were both thought-provoking and enriching.



Before the midday Adoration, Nuria Arias, Provincial of Spain, received the news of the death of Sr. Pilar Villar, SS.CC. in Torrelavega. She was 94 years old and had worked for many years in Rome as secretary to Maria Paloma Aguirre, SS.CC. Please pray for the repose of her soul. May she rest in God's peace.

Communication Team