

EVALUATION OF THE WORKSHOP FOR FORMATORS CPPS, ROME, JULY 2010

From the first day of the workshop each participant was given an evaluation sheet of the different parts and activities of the workshop, focusing on: the workshop activities, with notes from 1 to 5; other workshop activities; the practical issues, such as general structuring, facilities, services, etc., what is the best part of the workshop, what could we have done so that the workshop would have been more beneficial. This evaluation was done in writing and collected at the end of the workshop.

Also on July 16, the last day of our workshop, we did an evaluation of the meeting in order to express positive and negative experiences, and suggestions. For this we used the expressions: What's good! (positive); What's wrong! (negative), What then! (suggestions). As a methodology, we formed a circle, so that each participant would have a frontal view of all the other participants and then for 15 minutes, we talked in twos, whispering. Afterwards, for almost an hour, we “opened spaces” so that all could share their experiences. The following is a summary of the evaluations.

1. What's good (positive)

- Be able to articulate the theme of human formation with the spirituality of the Blood.
- A great experience to get together as a family of the Precious Blood.
- Renewal as formators.
- Positive contribution of Fray Jose Luis Martinez which served to delve deeper into the issues discussed.
- Highlight the theme that the community is the depository of authority in our Congregation.
- We were renewed in the bond of charity to reveal our true selves and be witnesses.
- The method of “open spaces” was valuable as it covered our Constitutions, to view reality and to become creative in sharing our way of life.
- It helped us to see the relation between formators-candidates and to regard formation as a process.
- Opening of the brotherhood.
- Conference of Sister Nicla about the Venerable Merlini. I would have liked to go deeper and analyze it.
- The topics were helpful to learn from, study in depth and address important issues.
- It was offered the correct keys for formation. It was my first “official” course for formators.
- The workshop was important for us to know and listen to the experiences of other units. It was an opportunity to learn new things.
- The theme of spirituality and of heritage, because in these things we are never sufficiently formed.
- Meet and get acquainted with the brothers who work in formation.
- Feel as one family of Saint Gaspar.
- To have discussed many issues, shared experiences and taken back something from everyone.

- Realize that in formation, the Formator and the one being formed achieve a joint process of growth.
- Visit the places of S. Gaspar.
- The variety of topics helped us to see formation under different points of view. In Tanzania, the problem of emotional and sexual maturity is very real.
- The meeting of other brothers of the CPPS and the interchange of experiences which gave us the opportunity to learn new things

2. What's wrong (negative)

- We need more information about our Congregation
- The theme of human emotion took up too much time (10 sessions) and we failed to touch more on other aspects of the human person from the Church documents and spirituality. I would have liked to have more information on other aspects.
- In the trips to the areas of San Gaspar there was little time for reflection, questions and prayer.
- The difficulty of language to communicate with the brothers.
- There was much talk about various things, but the aspect of “workshop” was missing, that is, working on the issues and sharing experiences.

3. What then? (suggestions)

- We need a common formation program.
- I hoped that it would result in a common formation program.
- After presenting the reports of each unit, we couldn't begin a dialogue among us.
- Study in depth the themes of spirituality and heritage CPPS.
- The workshop could have been advanced one month (June) because of the weather.(Heat)
- Upload documents and materials on the web page.
- That the “Open Spaces” generate also common specific points.
- That the meetings have only one theme and work it out to arrive at concrete conclusions and in community.
- Schedule the course more frequently and not let much time pass between workshops.
- Devote more time to places of San Gaspar (an all day) and have more time for reflection.
- View and share issues with different units.
- Share the fruits of our work as formators.
- Begin the workshop with the first days in San Felix and end in Rome. (Workshop in Giano)
- Avoid leaving at 3:00 in the afternoon to visit the areas of San Gaspar (excessive heat).

4. Comments

- Update our knowledge about what the Church says about formation.
- It was observed that the point; reports of each Formator scheduled at the last minute. The questions were too theoretical, and the dialogue between us was not enough.
- I appreciate the opportunity of participating in this “open space” that gave me hope of doing something greater.
- I had the answers to many questions that I brought with me.
- Thanks to the contributions of the Italian Province on their work in promoting pastoral vocations.

5. Best part of the workshop?

- The theme of affectivity (4) The issue of Fray Luis was very interesting
- P. Barry Fischer (4) the best of all
- The conferences (5). The discussions (5). This gave us the opportunity of knowing each other, getting acquainted with other units and the possibility of sharing.
- Sharing experiences of formation.
- The visit to Giano (6) and Albano (3). Now, when I read our history I will better understand as I now know where they occurred.
- Sessions about the heritage CPPS
- Presentation of heritage and community life and mission
- Tour of Rome (8)
- The weekend free
- Groups work
- Justice, peace and integrity of creation
- The workshop was based on the western view of formation. It did not give much attention to the eastern view. It should have had more balance of the world as a whole.
- The way the workshop was organized with the help of specialists. Bravo! That is why I did not feel tired.
- “Open spaces” enriched us with the various experiences of the other units.
- The possibility of meeting other people and exchange ideas with them. It helped me review my formation program and formulate new questions, thereby giving me a vast perspective on it.
- The meetings with the brothers and having time to be with them (3)

- The general curia and the organization team of the workshop had done a great effort so that it was all carried out.
 - Too many words and not much workshop. There were things said that were already known. I hoped that the theme of spirituality would be discussed at length. We need workshops on spirituality.

6. What could we have done better?

- Hold the workshop in June (heat). Workshop during a milder climate perhaps May, June or September.
- Different formulation of the questions for reports on unit formation. The formulations led to long expositions.
- Current doctrine about formation
- Current issues about social aspects
- More concrete discussions to facilitate the formation of CPPS in an effective way.
- Joint program of formation for CPPS. This should have been included in the sessions and discussions.
- The visit to the areas of San Gaspar could have taken an entire day with more explanations. The trip was too hurried.
- In the conferences there could have been intervals of 5 to 10 minutes. One hour and a half of time is too much to remain focussed.
- Bring expertise from outside of CPPS, from other congregations or universities, to discuss the anthropology of religious life and of the community and the differences between being a community and being a family, etc. This would have made it more lively and interesting.
- I would have liked to go to Sonnino.
- Spend more time in Giano and less in Rome (the last two or three days) (5)
- Allow time for the regions to plan the liturgies and Masses
- Not having gone to Assisi.
- Speak both languages. (¿?)
- That one subject should be worked on and deepened, not have more information without clear conclusions that help unify the formation.
- In via Narni, lack of communication with the outside (telephone). What if there had been an emergency?
- Have a little more time or breaks between sessions (first week).
- Reports of the units with more details to know us better.

- Greater balance of ideas conveyed to allow time for other ways of sharing.
- Workshops with more frequency! If we are so important to the future of CPPS, why do the Major Superiors meet every two years and we just every six? We should meet every year.