

**CPPS General Curia**  
Pastoral Plan: 2014-2019  
Version: February 2016

At the XX General Assembly, representatives of the Congregation, prepared by a process that had begun in all the units, prayerfully and reflectively discerned a vision for the future. The Vision was our response to the question: If the Congregation is completely faithful to the will of God for us, what will we look like in the year 2019?

**VISION STATEMENT**

The Blood of Christ, poured out for all and drawing all near, is the source and summit of our life and mission. This Blood impels us to affirm the dignity of life as we embrace a wounded humanity and creation.

Rooted in the Spirituality of the Precious Blood and the Ministry of the Word, our mission is to be a prophetic witness for the renewal of the Church and the transformation of world. As a courageous community of missionary disciples, the Cry of the Blood calls us to the edges of society to be ambassadors of Christ for reconciliation and hope as we minister with the People of God.

Living the Bond of Charity, our life reflects a multicultural communion of incorporated members and lay associates. Faithful to the missionary charism of Saint Gaspar, our mission houses are sacred spaces of hospitality and renewal for mission.

Every missionary embraces the responsibility of shared leadership for the well-being of the community. Our chosen leaders are servants who animate us to share our gifts for the realization of our vision and the fulfillment of the Reign of God.

The Vision is a broad perspective of how the Congregation can be **A Prophetic Multicultural Communion for the Renewal of the Church and the Reconciliation of the World**. In the General Assembly, the discernment process then created three Provocative Propositions to provide greater specificity to the Vision. Further discernment created action steps to implement our Vision. This Pastoral Plan is the next step in the journey from dream to reality. The General Curia continued the discernment by making concrete plans which will implement the Actions Steps contained in the Message from the XX General Assembly. This Pastoral Plan also includes additional activities that will help the Congregation live the Vision into reality.

With this Pastoral Plan the General Curia is being very intentional in responding to the mandate given to us by the General Assembly. We believe that the discernment of the General Assembly contained in the Message is the word of God for us. That word will become incarnate through the life and work of all in the Congregation.

By necessity the Pastoral Plan is a flexible and changing document. It will be reviewed and modified regularly by the General Curia and in consultation with the leadership teams of the units. The General Curia will be accountable to the Congregation and provide regular reports of our activity. Fulfillment of the goals contained in the Pastoral Plan, the realization of the Vision of the Congregation, will require the combined commitment of the members and associates of the Congregation and the collaboration of all the units. The responsibility of the General Curia will be to coordinate that collaboration and to provide leadership and resources to assist the units. This Pastoral Plan does not contain the full description of the activities planned by the General Curia; just the activities related to the realization of the Vision and the mandate of the General Assembly.

### **Provocative Proposition for living Precious Blood Spirituality**

The Blood of Christ flows through all of creation, and is most clearly expressed in our solidarity at the table of Eucharist. Grounded in the biblical foundations of this spirituality, we articulate the language of Cup, Cross, and Covenant and incarnate this in our prayer, preaching, ministry, and a life that is poured out.

Embracing our own woundedness, missionaries are a committed presence in the midst of a suffering world and enter into healing relationships with those who cry out for reconciliation and liberation.

#### **I. GOAL: The sharing and dissemination of materials concerning Precious Blood Spirituality**

- a. Through periodic communication, the General Curia will encourage the sharing of spirituality resources.
- b. The ICPBS will encourage the development of new resources. (some examples are contained in this plan)
  - i. On an individual basis the Director will solicit the collaboration of others to develop resources. e.g.- A book in the Heritage series that explores the spirituality from various perspectives. Fischer is responsible. Requests for material will be made on website.—Kirch; Kirch will contact unit secretaries again to request materials.
  - ii. Create an informal network of persons that can support this goal. Potential resource persons were identified and Fischer will contact. Fischer will catalog current ICPBS resources.
- c. The ICPBS will evaluate its use of the website and engage necessary resources to improve this means of sharing and disseminating resources.

#### **II. GOAL: Greater utilization of existing resources**

- a. Through periodic communication, the General Curia will encourage the use of the ICPBS facility in Salzburg, as well as other resources. Dialogue with leader to encourage the development and use of local centers of Precious Blood Spirituality. 2016 Formators' workshop will be held at ICPBS. Circle

training held at San Felice in January 2015. Plan to utilize retreat center in Peru for Spanish speaking Circle training. **Peru center not ready for Circle training. May utilize it for the 2016 MMS.**

**III. GOAL: Formators will be skilled in the task of forming candidates in Precious Blood spirituality.**

- a. A Formators' Workshop will be dedicated to the pedagogy of spiritual formation
  - i. Workshop is tentatively scheduled for July 24-30, 2016
  - ii. General Curia will be responsible for planning; planning activity to be in the preceding 12 months. Milandu will survey CPPS formation programs for current practice for doing spiritual formation. Milandu heard back from several units, still waiting on several others. This is an agenda item for the February 2015 General Council meeting. Ben Berinti agreed to serve as facilitator. **Presented a draft of the workshop and discussed at June 2015 General Council meeting.**
- b. Formators will be encouraged to attend to their own ongoing formation in regard to our spirituality and to be aware of resources available for the formation of candidates.

**IV. GOAL: Members and associates of the Congregation will be grounded in the biblical foundations of Precious Blood spirituality and articulate in the language of Cup, Cross and Covenant.**

- a. The General Curia will create a resource to aid the units in this ongoing formation activity.
  - i. A three day Spirituality Symposium will be designed on the theme of Cup, Cross and Covenant. It is anticipated that the symposium would be offered in the units (or districts) or a region. The format will include 3 one day modules; with an abbreviated version to be used in 3 short gatherings or district meetings.
  - ii. The symposium material will be available by 2016. The materials can be used for a self-directed Symposium by the unit or the unit can request the leadership and facilitation of the General Curia. ICPBS will be available to assist in this program. Nordenbrock is responsible for coordinating the planning during the second half of 2015. Nordenbrock will have a draft of the symposium ready for the June 2015 meeting. Joe Nassal as agreed to provide updated reflections on the theme. Fischer will collate existing material on Cross, Cup, and Covenant. Piepoli will collated scriptural references to Cross, Cup, and Covenant as well as sources contained in *The Dictionary of the Precious Blood*.

**V. GOAL: Assist members and associates to “embrace their own woundedness” as a means of coming to the healing that will allow them to accept the mission of accompaniment for a wounded world.**

- a. The General Curia will develop a retreat to offer in the units. Added to 2016 MMS agenda
  - i. The retreat format will utilize the Circle method to create safe and sacred spaces for the participants to accompany one another as they reflect on their own woundedness in light of Precious Blood spirituality. This is quite distinct from the manner of retreats typically offered for the community retreats sponsored by the units.
  - ii. Because of the format, the number of participants will need to be limited and the voluntary participants will need to be understand the depth of sharing that will be anticipated.
  - iii. Program will be developed during 2017 utilizing the staff of the PBMR to design a retreat format using the Circle method.
  - iv. ICPBS will coordinate the scheduling of these retreats and make the arrangements for trained circle keepers to be available. These retreats will be available to the units in 2018 and it is anticipated that this would be the principal offering of the ICPBS in 2018.

**Provocative Proposition for living our Mission**

Energized by the vision of the Second Vatican Council and Catholic Social Teaching, we beckon all the baptized to unite with us in living the universal call to holiness and mission. In creative fidelity to our founder, St. Gaspar, we offer the Spirituality of the Precious Blood for the renewal of the Church, especially the clergy and other ministers.

We are prophetic missionaries who are a reconciling presence in the midst of conflict and division. In our ministry of the Word, we have greatest respect for the peoples to whom we are sent and their cultures.

**I. GOAL: Encourage the ongoing formation of the members**

- a. The periodic communication of the General Curia with the units will note the “reminders” found in the Message of the General Assembly.
  - i. Offer ongoing formation opportunities for the study of Catholic Social Teaching and the documents of the Second Vatican Council.
    - The General Curia animator for JPIC will be responsible to encourage that the Catholic Social teachings are a part of the ongoing formation programs in the unit and in congregational conversation. Bright is investigating on-line resources for JPIC. Draft will be ready for June meeting
  - ii. Use the occasion of the Bicentennial to develop the understanding of and appreciation for St. Gaspar in the members and associates.

- b. The General Curia will encourage the participation of members and associates in pilgrimages to Rome for the Bicentennial celebration in 2015. These pilgrimages will be an invaluable ongoing formation experience and will foster the knowledge and appreciation of St. Gaspar that is called for in the Message. Lupi will coordinate the development of materials for the pilgrimages.
- c. Promote Pope's recent encyclical on the environment. Bright and Milandu will develop discussion questions and a brief Precious Blood reading of the document. These will be posted on the website.

**II. GOAL: Integrate the use of technology and social media in the life of the units; especially for communication of the our spirituality and evangelization**

- a. At the 2014 MMS
  - i. Units Directors will be asked to report how technology and social media is being used in their unit. Through discussion and sharing of experience ideas for further development will emerge.
- b. The General Curia (including ICPBS) will study ways to improve the current use of the websites and expand our use of technology. Work session with Acuña September 9-10. Specific new ideas to be evaluated; and implemented if deemed valuable:
  - i. Use of Twitter or SMS technology to send out daily inspiration quotes to subscribers.
  - ii. The Moderator General to create and maintain a blog or Facebook page as a means of communicating with the members and associates: spiritual reflections; reports from the official visitation; moderating online discussion of issues; sharing of information; soliciting the input of others on issues and questions that arise; etc.
  - iii. The use of the web for offering programs of online education and ongoing formation.

**III. GOAL: The appointment of a General Curia liaison/ animator to assist the units to build awareness of JPIC as a constitutive element of the Gospel and Precious Blood spirituality and to animate members and associates to integrate JPIC concerns into their lives and ministries.**

- a. Henry Bright and Gianni Piepoli were appointed co-animator/Liaison in January 2014. July 2014, Milandu replaced Piepoli.
- b. Program of animation will be developed but no time frame has been established; the appointed Animator/Liaisons will begin to prepare himself and to investigate program possibilities.
  - i. JPIC animator/liaison will create an informal network of interested members to assist in the development of the plan for this activity.
  - ii. We will collaborate and make use of existing structural resources in local churches and units.

**IV. GOAL: Provide the education and training that members and associates need to utilize the Listening Circle method in their practice of reconciliation.**

- a. This will be a priority for work in 2014. (Bill Nordenbrock)
  - i. Lupi and Nordenbrock met with representatives from the ASC General Council and developed a schedule for the preparation of trainers. Refer to information sheet.
- b. At the request of the General Leadership of the Adorers of the Blood of Christ, we will explore how this program might be a collaboration benefiting the members and associates of both congregations.
- c. In consultation with the leadership team of the Cincinnati and Kansas City Province (who sponsor the reconciliation ministry in Chicago), we will explore how the staff of the Precious Blood Ministry of Reconciliation in Chicago can assist in the creation of a network of teams of trainers that can offer training programs in the countries or regions where the CPPS and the ASC have a ministerial presence. Training session held in January 2015. Spanish speaking one planned to be held in Peru in November 2015. Nordenbrock will send a follow up letter to the unit directors.
- d. A section of the website will be used for the Circle Training. This will include a link to a Facebook page where information can be shared. Kirch and Lupi will coordinate.
- e. Nordenbrock & Lupi will organize Circle Training in 2016/Early 2017: Tanzania, Italy, Teutonic, and Croatia.

**V. GOAL: The General Curia will assist the units of the Congregation to effectively share personnel.**

- a. As an initial task the General Curia will further study this issue. This goal will be on the agenda of the 2016 MMS.
  - i. Members of the General Council will investigate available programs to prepare missionaries being sent to serve in the foreign missions, in the two countries from which the majority of current CPPS missionaries are being sent: Tanzania (Walter Milandu) and India (Henry Bright).
  - ii. We will gather information of the current program of the Cincinnati Province to prepare the arriving missionary for their new work and to prepare the Cincinnati Province and the hosting parish for the arrival of the missionary. (Bill Nordenbrock)
  - iii. The current policy of the Congregation determines that the sharing of personnel is under the direct responsibility of the two major superiors. We will review the policy that guides and determine if direct participation of the General Curia would be beneficial. This would require a policy modification.

- b. Results of the initial study will be presented at the 2014 MMS and discussion will lead to the next steps in this program development.
- c. The General Curia will engage the Congregation in discussions concerning restructuring. Discussions are tentatively scheduled with the European Provincials (September 2015), Latin American directors (January 2016) and North American Provincials (Fall 2015)
- d. Way of using rituals to strengthen missionary identity will be incorporated into policies of sharing personnel.

**VI. GOAL: We will offer the spirituality of the Precious Blood for the renewal of the Church, especially the clergy and other ministers.**

- a. The General Curia will provide the assistance requested as each unit develops and begins to implement a plan for reaching out and offering spiritual, human, and ministerial renewal to the local clergy and the local church within their given context.
  - i. Unit Directors will provide a progress report on this at the 2014 MMS.
  - ii. Through a sharing of stories and resources the units will assist one another in this continuing activity.

**VII. GOAL: As prophetic missionaries we will be a reconciling presence in the midst of conflict and division.**

- a. The General Curia will assist each unit to initiate or expand a ministry with those on the edge, the marginalized. This will be a topic of discussion during visitations.
  - i. Each unit is to report on their pastoral plan and activity to fulfill this General Assembly mandate at the 2014 MMS.
  - ii. Note- the timeline for this required unit activity is consistent with the three year plan for the Bicentennial observance which has August 2014-July 2015 as a time dedicated to the development of the future mission of the Congregation as we “respond to the cry of the Blood.”

**Provocative Proposition for living our Community Life**

Like the open heart of Christ, our communities are sacred spaces of deep dialogue where we share our joys and sorrows, hopes and dreams in an atmosphere of trust, respect and love.

Our communities are grounded in the covenant relationship with Christ and one another. In this bond of charity we are sensitive to and enriched by our cultural diversity. We give witness through the authenticity of our lives and a simple lifestyle. We are a reconciled community in order to be missionaries of reconciliation.

As Christ, who opened his arms on the Cross, drew all peoples to Himself, we, incorporated members and lay associates, form an open communion where all are welcome.

**I. GOAL: Our members have the opportunity for healthy community life**

- a. The General Curia will collaborate with the units in the promotion of a healthy community life by reminding the units of the resources available and outlined in the Normative Text and unit statutes. e.g.- Common prayer, the celebration of the Eucharist, house congresses, common table and recreation, and even District gatherings are essential components of our community life.
  - i. The community life at the Generalate will reflect the vision of community contained in our official documents and will strive to be a model of that way of life.
- b. Each unit is reminded that it is their responsibility to see that these norms are followed. Discussion will take place at 2014 MMS.

**II. GOALS: Healthy community life will be promoted through effective communication**

- a. The General Curia will promote the importance of each unit having a plan of communication within their unit.
  - i. During the 2014 MMS the General Curia each unit director will briefly report on their means of communicating within their unit. By providing examples of different communication strategies, we will raise ideas that can be beneficial to the unit Directors.
- b. The General Curia will facilitate the necessary communication between the units and the General Curia; and between the units.
  - i. Following the General Assembly mandate, each unit is required to designate someone to tend to the lines of communication within units, between units, and with the General Curia. Names are to be submitted in writing at the MMS. The Secretary General will be responsible for coordinating the work of these persons and forming a network to facilitate the desired communication.
  - ii. The General Curia will encourage the units to translate material for the use of the wider community. (To the extent that the units have the capability to provide the translation.)

**III. GOAL: Strengthen the missionary identity of the Congregation**

- a. The General Curia will encourage that within the units we celebrate our missionary identity and that members and associates regularly renew their missionary community commitment. This will be discussed at 2016 MMS.
  - i. The General Curia will promote the practice of members annually renewing their promise of fidelity on the anniversary of their incorporation or at a community feast day celebration.
  - ii. In units in which the Incorporation anniversary of priest members is not celebrated, the practice will be encouraged.

- b. The General Curia will encourage the Units to celebrate with rituals the sending, and receiving of missionaries; as well as the welcome of returning missionaries. Discussion at January 2016 General Council meeting and MMS 2016
  - i. The General Curia will collect the rituals that are used and create a resource that can be used by other units.
  - ii. The General Curia will explore the advisability of creating ‘official rituals’ for these moments in the life of the Congregation. See Mission goal V.

**IV. GOAL: Create within the Congregation a shared understanding of what constitutes an “authentic living of community life in the CPPS context.”**

- a. The General Curia will lead the worldwide Congregation in a substantial exploration of what specifically comprises an authentic living of community life in a CPPS context. Initial planning will begin at the January 2016 General Council meeting.
  - i. We will prepare and facilitate a Community Life Symposium (CLS) in the summer of 2017. Note: the purpose of this symposium will not be to develop or define a single authentic model of CPPS Community Life. Rather it is to create a frame work of shared understanding of the elements of Community life that must be included as a CPPS model of Community Life is created in the various contexts of the Congregation. Planning will commence at the January 2016 General Council meeting.
  - ii. Prior to the CLS (September 2016-May 2017) in each of the units there will be an exploration of this pillar of the Congregation within their context.
    - The General Curia will prepare materials and a format to guide this discussion, which may be conducted in manner of the unit’s choosing. e.g.- district meeting; house *congressus*, etc.
    - The process will specifically explore the ideas of “mission houses” and “simple lifestyle.”

**V. GOAL: The fullest possible participation of lay associates in our communal life, spirituality, and apostolic work.**

- b. The General Curia will encourage and support the work of the units as they work to fulfill this mandate from the General Assembly. Lupi has been in contact with several units concerning lay associates. In 2015 Lupi will visit Colombia, Central American Mission, Polish Province and the Iberian Province to animate the lay associates.
  - i. Special attention will be given to working with those units which have an undefined or inactive associate program. Tanzania
  - ii. Lupi will be the lead animator for this project.

- c. It is anticipated that we will plan and facilitate MERLAP IV and it is tentatively scheduled for July 2018. Planning will begin at Council meeting in January 2017.

### **Pastoral Plan to realize our vision of Leadership**

Our Normative Texts are clear that all members are called to exercise and share leadership within the Congregation. Our chosen leaders, at all levels, see in Christ a model of servant leadership.

#### **I. GOAL: Responsibility for leadership is shared by all members and elected leadership is a collaboration of servant leaders.**

- a. The General Curia will encourage the full utilization of this model of leadership.
  - i. The General Curia will be an exemplary model of this form of leadership.
  - ii. Ordinarily at each MMS, an orientation program will be given for first time participants to encourage their understanding and commitment to this model. At the 2014 MMS it will be an agenda item for the full meeting.

#### **II. GOAL: Leaders in the Congregation promote the ongoing formation of their members and provide necessary resources for the health and wellness of the members.**

- a. The General Curia will provide resources for ongoing formation (see examples contained in this Pastoral Plan). Kirch will communicate these resources to the units by the end of July 2015.
- b. The care of the newly incorporated and ordained members of the Congregation requires special care. The General Curia will encourage this consideration. September 2015 newly ordained/incorporated from European region will gather in Rome.

Note: While the General Curia is aware of the importance of the ongoing formation needs of the youngest members, we have not scheduled a congregational gathering specifically for this group. Instead we recommend to the unit directors that this group of members is encouraged to participate in the Bicentennial activities; a pilgrimages or the International youth gathering.