

## 2023 Regnum Christi Ordinary Territorial Convention

# CONVENTION DOCUMENT

This document has been prepared at the request of the Territorial Directive College by members of the Territorial Convention Planning Team to serve as a guide and basis for the 2023 RC Territorial Convention. It includes a welcome to all delegates, shares the general plan for what can be expected at the convention, and then sets out in detail the seven themes that will serve as the topics for discussion and discernment at the convention itself. Each delegate is asked to read the entire document in preparation for the convention, taking time to ponder the ideas and perspectives presented.

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# Welcome Delegates

You have been elected as one of 104 delegates to attend the 2023 Regnum Christi Territorial Convention. There are 49 lay members, 37 Legionaries of Christ, 17 Consecrated Women, and one Lay Consecrated Man. Together, you will embark upon a process of discernment that will shed light on the work the Holy Spirit intends for Regnum Christi.

## Purposes of the Territorial Convention

According to the Statutes of the Regnum Christi Federation (RC Statutes #70), an ordinary territorial convention has two main purposes: *Its function is to help analyze the progress of the Federation in the territory; as well as identify, think through, and prepare the proposals the territory has for the general convention.*

This is the first ordinary territorial convention for the Regnum Christi Federation in the North American Territory. Taking place in November 2023, it will pay special attention to three themes highlighted by the Regnum Christi General Directive College in their convocation of the first ordinary general convention:

1. Discernment of the apostolic reality and how we can continue to respond to the current challenges of society and the Church;
2. Reflection on the identity of the lay member of Regnum Christi; and,
3. Reflection on the implementation of the Regnum Christi Federation in order to live more fully our purpose (Regnum Christi Statute #7) and our mission (Regnum Christi Statute #8).

The RC territorial convention is by nature consultative as part of the journey towards the RC General Convention and is a privileged moment of community discernment. The convention is NOT:

- a strategic planning session with the intent to identify specific action items;
- a forum to make any decisions; nor
- a formation session with different talks and workshops.

The Territorial Directive College is seeking three concrete takeaways from the upcoming territorial convention:

1. Recommendations to be sent to the General Convention;
2. Observations that can provide a clear and accurate understanding of the state of Regnum Christi in our territory; and,
3. Insights that can be used by each participant in the living of their Regnum Christi vocation and provide input for our next RC Federation territorial strategic plan.

## Convention Regulations

In May 2023, The General Directive College issued *Operating Regulations for the Territorial Conventions of the Regnum Christi Federation* (DG-FRC 090-2023). The program for the Territorial Convention incorporates the requirements set out in nos. 13 – 35 of the Regulations, with the following approved adjustments:

- a. Convention documents are available to all delegates in advance of the convention. Only a brief summary will be provided at the convention itself. It is expected that all delegates will have read the required reading prior to arrival.
- b. The Central Commission is proposing seven possible themes for discernment. The convention delegates will vote on which four themes to cover in the convention. All delegates will participate in the discernment of all four themes.
- c. The Central Commission assembled in advance a number of points to describe the current situation and possible propositions for each theme, pulling from the extensive input received from the local phase discernment done in preparation for the convention.
- d. The convention schedule is built around four blocks, one for each theme. Each block begins with a plenary session to introduce the theme, moves to a small group session for discussion and ends in a plenary session for more discussion and final voting.
- e. To focus community discernment toward those points where there is greater diversity of opinion, any proposition that receives a supermajority of 75% during the initial vote will be considered officially approved.

Delegates are encouraged to read the regulations provided in the pre-reading material in advance of the convention. Each of the adjustments stated above is further explained below.

## Convention Design

In May 2022, Regnum Christi launched upon “The Road to the 2024 General Convention.” Guidelines provided by the General Directive College emphasized the need for the Conventions to be conducted in an atmosphere of authentic community discernment.

Community discernment is something with which every Regnum Christi member is familiar, since the Encounter with Christ method of “to see, to judge, to act” is, in fact, a simple process for discernment. Our territorial convention will apply this same methodology.

## Pre-Convention Submissions

Much of the “to see” and “to judge” regarding the state of Regnum Christi life in our territory has commenced. Each locality was invited to submit a ‘locality one-sheet’ to the convention’s planning committee based on its normal, ongoing discernment process used for creating, evaluating, and updating their locality evangelization plan. Likewise, individual Regnum Christi teams had the opportunity to use the discussion guides provided by the General Directive College during their Encounters with Christ this year and submit written summaries from those discussions. Five territorial entities (the Mission Support Team, RC Education, the Legionaries of Christ, the Consecrated Women of Regnum Christi, and the Lay Consecrated Men of Regnum Christi) also sent in submissions identifying the bright spots and challenges of life in Regnum Christi as seen from their perspective. Additionally, Regnum Christi members had the opportunity to submit individual submissions.

## Themes & Propositions

In March 2023, all the above pre-convention submissions were studied both by the members of the Territorial Directive College and the convention planning committee with the intent of drawing out common factors and grouping them into themes for the territorial convention, ultimately agreeing upon the following seven themes:

- Theme #1: Understanding and Assimilating our Regnum Christi Identity
- Theme #2: Living the five elements of Regnum Christi Life
- Theme #3: Evangelizing People and Culture through the Lens of Our Charism
- Theme #4: Growing Regnum Christi
- Theme #5: Collaborating in a Healthy Way within Regnum Christi
- Theme #6: Building Relationships between Regnum Christi and Institutions
- Theme #7: Assessing the Implementation of the Regnum Christi Federation

For each theme, the convention planning committee assembled key points from across the submissions, dividing them into four parts:

1. The **first** part directs the reader to some key source documents regarding the theme. These documents are helpful to read in advance of the convention as there will be little time to dedicate to this during the convention sessions.
2. The **second** part lists key points that describe the current situation related to the theme. These points were taken from the various pre-convention submissions and thus express different realities and perspectives. The list is not a comprehensive picture of the theme, but rather a list of points we saw as significant. You will note that there is a definite overlap of points across themes as the themes are somewhat related and as such, some common points may be handled in one theme and not another.

3. The **third** part is a set of questions to guide discussion with your small group at the convention. These questions are intended to allow people to present their reality and listen to the experience of the other members, helping foster community discernment through a natural see, judge, act process.
4. The **fourth** part is a list of proposed propositions - statements of judgement or a proposal for action - which we will discuss and vote on at the convention. The propositions listed are preliminary propositions that emerged from the pre-convention submissions. During the convention, delegates will be discerning whether to accept the proposition, or to propose new or modified positions.

It is these themes, current situation descriptions and propositions, as presented in the remainder of this document, which will serve as the raw material for discussion and community discernment during the territorial convention.

### Convention Program

The program for the convention is set out to address four themes, A through D. The specific themes will be selected by the delegates on the first morning. The convention program allocates at least 2.5 hours to each theme.

	Nov 2	Nov 3	Nov 4	Nov 5
Morning		Themes Vote	Theme B	Theme D
		Theme A	Theme C	Lay Delegates Vote
Afternoon	Check In			Closing
	Intro Session	Theme B	Theme D	

For each theme, we will follow this general schedule:

- a. Opening Session (in Plenary)
  - [10 mins] Time to silently re-read the Current Situation of the theme.
  - Initial vote on all the existing propositions.
  - [Time depending] Open discussion.
- b. Small Group Sessions
  - Opening prayer
  - [20+/- mins] Each small group member briefly shares their personal reflections on the theme.
  - [5 mins] Agreement on priority/order of propositions to address.
  - [45 +/- mins] Open discussion on the propositions. Drafting and voting on any proposed modifications and/or new propositions.
  - [5 mins] Preparation of concluding statement for sharing in the plenary session.

- c. Closing Session (in Plenary)
  - Each small group shares their key insights on the specific theme.
  - Individuals share contributions.
  - Delegates vote on the propositions (existing, modifications and new).
  - [Time depending] Open discussion.

For themes A, B and C, the closing session for a theme is immediately followed by the opening session for the next theme.

## Small Group Sessions

Each delegate will be assigned to a small group for the duration of the convention, each group having eight people representing a cross-section of RC members. The list of small groups will be included in the delegate materials provided at the convention. Training will be provided in advance to those selected to be small group facilitators and small group secretaries.

## Plenary Sessions

Plenary sessions are general sessions where all delegates are present. All official voting takes place in a plenary session. Plenary sessions will be conducted according to nos. 27 and 28 of the Convention Regulations and begin with a delegate roll call.

## Voting

Voting results form the primary output from the convention. Voting during the plenary sessions are official votes and will be conducted using an online voting system. A test vote will be conducted at the beginning of the convention to ensure all delegates understand the process and can vote. As with all technology systems, we can expect there will be glitches. A technology team will be onsite to address issues as they arise.

- a. **Themes:** Delegates will vote to select which four of the seven themes will be addressed during the convention.
- b. **Initial Vote:** Delegates will vote on all propositions of the theme at one time. Delegates may vote:
  - “Yes”, if the delegate’s judgement is in agreement with the statement.
  - “Yes, with modifications”, if the delegate’s judgement could be in agreement with the statement if it had modifications.
  - “No”, if the delegate’s judgement is not in agreement with the statement.
  - “Abstain”, if the delegate has not been able to form an opinion.

Those propositions which pass with a super-majority of votes (75% or higher) during the initial vote are deemed to have been officially approved and will not be re-voted during the final vote.

- c. **Final Vote:** Delegates will vote on each proposition of the theme, including modifications and new propositions proposed by the small groups, as follows:

- Propositions are considered approved with a simple majority vote (>50% of those voting).
- If there are no proposed modifications for the proposition, the voting option of “Yes with modifications” will not be a voting option.
- If there is only ONE proposed modification, the voting option of “Yes with modifications” will be a Yes vote for the modification itself.
- If there is more than one proposed modification, “Yes with modifications” will be a voting option. Each modification will be voted on in turn only if “Yes with modifications” secured the majority votes on the prior vote.

- d. **Lay Delegate Vote:** Lay delegates will vote among themselves to select the lay delegates from our territory who will participate in the 2024 RC General Convention in Rome, in compliance with Article 7 of the Convention Regulations. NOTE: Voting for the Legionary, Consecrated Women and Lay Consecrated Men delegates will take place after the convention.

The moderators will determine and project onto an overhead screen the time limit for each vote. Delegates requiring additional time are to raise their hand. A maximum of ten additional seconds may be provided. Votes that are not registered within the allotted time, even if due to a technology issue, will not be counted. The moderators may decide to call a revote if there is a significant voting issue.

## Proposing Modifications and New Propositions

The list of propositions included in the Convention Document are an attempt to articulate the situation and sentiments shared by Regnum Christi members in the pre-convention submissions. They are but a sampling of the possible propositions that could articulate the outcome of our community discernment.

Propositions are not to be understood as directives to the governing bodies, but as input to further discernment and future strategic planning efforts. Thus, when looking at existing propositions, delegates are asked to consider whether they agree in general with what is articulated. Wordsmithing will be the job of the communications department once the convention is complete.

Delegates will naturally wish to propose new and modified propositions.

- Ordinarily, small groups may propose new and modified propositions related to the theme they are discussing. New or modified propositions must be approved by an absolute majority (five or more) of the delegates in the small group to be presented in the plenary session. Proposals should be written as complete statements to facilitate voting. NOTE: The Convention’s secretarial team may consolidate or join proposals that are conceptually comparable.
- Extraordinarily, a delegate may request that the convention consider a new proposition not related to one of the four themes, including a proposition from one of the three themes not voted for consideration during the convention. To achieve this, the delegate must prepare and submit to the Central Commission a



written proposition with signatures from at least 35 delegates supporting the proposal. The Central Committee will decide if the proposition can be added to one of the four themes already being discussed or, time permitting, be handled as a new proposition at the end of one of the plenary sessions.

## Elements of a Good Proposition

During group sessions, delegates may decide to amend or propose new propositions. When making and amending proposals, it is helpful to keep in mind the elements of a good proposition. Propositions are clearly defined and complete statements that articulate a judgement or a proposal for action, with these characteristics:

- It is consistent with an essential aspect of Regnum Christi and therefore can usually be linked to numbers from the Statutes, Regulations, Rule of Life... In other words, it is not just a side issue or someone's pet peeve.
- It corresponds to an actual, current reality or concern, not a theoretical phantasm; it should be worded and/or contextualized in a way that makes this relevance clear.
- It can easily be voted "yes-or-no". In other words, it contains only one, clear thought-concept, rather than a hodgepodge of related but distinct concepts.
- It can be expressed as a clear, bold (i.e., avoid vaguely quantifying modifiers), and actionable (when applicable) fashion.

## Delegate Preparation Guidelines

The most important preparation for the delegates is the prayerful preparation for our hearts for community discernment.

In addition, we have a number of documents available for you online at:

<https://www.regnumchristi.com/en/territorial-convention-delegate-resources/>

We encourage you to prayerfully read them. Much has changed in the last six years, and it is important that we come together well-prepared and with an understanding of the current reality in our territory.

### Required Reading

1. [2023 Regnum Christi Territorial Convention Document](#)

The Convention Document (this document) serves as a guide and basis for the 2023 Regnum Christi Territorial Convention. It shares the general plan for what can be expected at the convention and sets out in more detail the seven themes that will serve as the topics for discussion and discernment. Each delegate is asked to read the entire document and ponder its ideas and perspectives prior to the convention itself. Delegates will receive a printed copy of the document at the convention.



2. Statutes of the Regnum Christi Federation

All delegates are encouraged to re-read the Statutes of the Regnum Christi Federation in light of the role of the Convention to analyze the progress of the Federation in the territory (Cf. Statute #70).

3. Regulations of the Regnum Christi Federation

All delegates are encouraged to re-read the Regulations in light of the role of the Convention to analyze the progress of the Federation in the territory (Cf. Statute #70).

4. Rule of Life of the Lay Faithful Associated to the Regnum Christi Federation

The Rule of Life sets out the identity and way of life of the lay associated members of Regnum Christi and the rules regarding their participation in the governing bodies of the Federation.

5. Regnum Christi Federation North America Territory Report

Commissioned by the Territorial Directive College, this document offers delegates a territorial-level context for the convention, presenting an overview of the North American territory structure, governance and administration, plus an evaluation of the development and growth of Regnum Christi relative to the 2020 – 2023 Territorial Strategic Plan.

## Recommended Reading

6. Locality One-Sheet Submissions

Each locality prepared and submitted a 'locality one-sheet' which captured the locality's discernment of the local reality. Each locality one-sheet includes a 'snapshot' of the locality, some bright lights and obstacles in living its mission, and the locality's evangelization plan 'placemat'. Reading through these locality one-sheets will help expose delegates to the differing realities in localities across the territory.

7. Consecrated Women of Regnum Christi Report

This document presents the convention submission from the Consecrated Women of Regnum Christi.

8. Legionaries of Christ Report

This document presents the convention submission from the Legionaries of Christ.

9. Consecrated Lay Men of Regnum Christi Report

This document presents the convention submission from the Lay Consecrated Men of Regnum Christi Report

#### 10. RC Education Submission

RC Education is the territorial level organization that provides support and services to help RC schools carry out their mission of forming Christian leaders in line with the charism of Regnum Christi. This document is a brief presentation of its current reality, the signs of life they see, as well as the most pressing difficulties for growing Regnum Christi.

#### 11. RC Territorial Strategy

The RC Territorial Strategy placemat, developed by the Territorial Directive College in 2020, is provided to give delegates context for understanding and assessing the development of the Federation in this territory.

#### 12. Discussion Guides: Eight Areas of Evangelization

RC members were invited to participate in the apostolic discernment of their local reality by reflecting on eight areas of evangelization. Eight discussions guides were made available online to teams which guided them through a 'see, judge, act' discernment process for each theme. Notes from the team's discussion were submitted online and collated. Reading through the submissions (or the summary) sheds light on how God is working in the various localities.

#### 13. Discussion Guide: Identity of the Lay Regnum Christi Member

RC members were invited to reflect on the identity of the lay Regnum Christi member. A discussion guide was made available online to teams which guided them through a reflection on this theme. Notes from the team's discussion were submitted online and collated. Both the full text and a summary are available.

#### 14. Attitudes and Pitfalls when participating in a synodal process

This document shares extracts from the Official Handbook for Listening and Discernment in Local Churches published by the Secretary General of the Synod of Bishops which can help shape the attitude we are invited to adopt when participating in the RC territorial convention.

#### 15. Implementation of the Federation – Locality Assessment

Each locality was invited to reflect on what stage it is at in implementing the Federation. Localities leaders were provided with a rubric to guide them in their reflection. The consolidated results provide a snapshot of where this territory stands, from the perspective of the localities, in implementing the

Federation. Delegates may find this perspective helpful when considering the progress of the Federation in the territory.

#### 16. Implementation of the Federation – Territory Assessment

Each territory was invited to reflect on what stage it is at in terms of implementing the Federation and provided with a rubric to guide them in their reflection. The document shows the results of our assessment from the perspective of the Territorial Directive College.

#### 17. Individual Submissions

RC members were invited to make individual submissions to the convention organizing team. We received three submissions which are provided here.

#### 18. Official Communications

1. DG-FRC 090-2023 Operating Regulations for the Territorial Conventions of the Regnum Christi Federation
2. DG-FRC 090-2023 Annex - Discernment Guide for the Territorial Convention
3. DG-FRC 079-2023 Anuncio Convención General ordinaria 2024
4. NA-FRC 037-2023 Convocation of the 2023 RC Territorial Convention

Delegates may also wish to read one or more of the essays published by Regnum Christi which help elucidate different aspects of living our charism.

### **Proposed Reading Plan**

There are many documents and much reading needed to prepare well for the convention. Some suggestions we have received to help delegates prepare include:

- a. Print off and read the Convention Document first. Keep this document handy as you review the remaining documents.
- b. Begin now. Prepare a reading plan that dedicates at least three hours per week to reading over the next two months.
- c. Review the required reading first.
- d. Consider setting up a weekly study time with other RC members, including substitute delegates.

In addition to prayer and pre-reading, you are encouraged to connect with RC members in your localities, sections and communities. Are there topics of particular importance to you for which you want to solicit the views and perspectives of others? Are there challenges and areas of opportunity you think are important to understand as a delegate?

### **Prayer in Preparation for the RC Conventions**

*Jesus Christ, gathered in your name as a spiritual family and apostolic body, we place ourselves in your presence.*

*You have revealed to us the mystery of the love that burns in your apostolic Heart for all men and your desire to reign in our souls and in society.*

*We feel called to know the gift of Regnum Christi better, so that it will be fruitful in our lives and in the world.*

*We ask you to send out your Spirit, that he may be light to understand our charism with our minds and hearts, and that we may be always ready to respond to the needs of the Church and the world as apostles of your Kingdom.*

*Following Mary's example, we want to discover and welcome the action of your Spirit, accepting your plan with faith and singing your praise for the great works that you have done and continue to do.*

*Jesus Christ, You are the center of our lives. With renewed love, today we say to you, "Christ, our King, Thy Kingdom Come!"*

## Territorial Convention Logistics

The following are some points to keep in mind when making arrangements to attend and participate in the convention.

- Delegates and guests are asked to arrange their own transportation to and from the airport. To aid you in this process, an online Google Doc is available for participants to share flight arrival and departure times.
- Onsite registration begins on Thursday, November 2nd at 2pm, room check-in at 3pm, and the first session begins promptly at 4pm.
- All sessions will start on time. If a delegate is not present at the beginning of the session, he or she is not eligible to vote in that session.
- **IMPORTANT:** The voting system we will be using is an online tool. All delegates will need to bring one or more cellular devices (e.g., smart phone, laptop, and/or tablet). Wi-fi is limited so delegates need to be prepared to use data service. Bring extra batteries if possible. The tech team will be available during registration to test the voting system with your smartphone.
- In the interest of developing and maintaining a strong environment of group discernment, delegates are asked to actively participate in the program and remain at the conference center throughout the weekend. There is free time in the schedule for rest and exercise.
- All participants at the convention will receive a Convention Book upon arrival including copies of the themes and proposition, and detailed convention program.



- A logistics team will be onsite to help resolve any concerns you have during the convention.

If during your preparation, you have questions you would like answered, please feel free to reach out to Cathie Zentner [czentner@rcfed.org](mailto:czentner@rcfed.org) for convention subject matter questions and Melanie Pilon [mpilon@regnumchristi.net](mailto:mpilon@regnumchristi.net) for convention logistics questions and we will direct you to the right person for an answer.

# Theme 1: Understanding and Assimilating our Regnum Christi Identity

Regnum Christi is defined in the approved Statutes of the Regnum Christi Federation as a spiritual family and apostolic body made up of four different vocations all sharing the same charism and mission (Cf. RC Statutes 1-10). The RC lay vocation is defined in RC Statutes 2 and 5.4 and more fully described in the Rule of Life (Cf. Rule of Life 1-2 and 16-18, 24-25). Understanding and assimilating our Regnum Christi identity is fundamental if we are to reach the fullness of our individual vocations and be able to offer the Church the fruit of our charism.

## Current Situation:

- Overall, there has been growing confidence and enthusiasm in Regnum Christi in these first years post our formal renewal process. Some RC members are familiar with the results of the renewal process, are working to integrate this renewed understanding of our identity into their lives and mission and are seeing a lot of fruit. Other RC members have been exposed to the renewal but have struggled to understand and accept the inherent complexity of this rich charismatic identity. Finally, there remain some Regnum Christi members who have not been exposed to or updated on this formation, the new resources, and the renewed identity.
- The RC general and territorial levels have made an effort to support locality leaders in understanding and assimilating our renewal and implementing the new Statutes by, among other things, offering territorial and locality leadership training such as "*Live the Mystery*" workshops, ensuring that local leaders have had accompaniment, and publishing various essays on the topic. Overall, locality leaders have made good efforts to assimilate and implement the new Statutes.
- Some Regnum Christi members feel that the Federation structure (four distinct but related canonical bodies) is complex and does not naturally nor adequately communicate our identity as one spiritual family and apostolic body.
- In an effort to provide better clarity to members, some members have been tempted to explain the RC Federation as the lay branch. This effort to provide more clarity does not, however, align with the canonically approved understanding of the Federation as a platform for collaboration in the mission and its role in safeguarding and promoting the common charismatic identity. The complex reality has left some frustrated.



- There are some RC members who have a strong attachment to older, pre-renewal, ways. There is a perceived nervousness to step out beyond past traditions and the "RC ways of doing things" for fear of losing the essential core of what it means to be Regnum Christi. This reality has introduced some 'new' versus 'old' tensions in sections.
- Stemming perhaps from how Regnum Christi was lived in our territory in the 1990s and 2000s, there are members who understand Regnum Christi more as an organization offering solid formation to Catholics and a haven for orthodox Catholicism than an apostolic body with an evangelizing mission.
- Some Legionaries may be wrestling with their identity and role as Legionaries within Regnum Christi and do not see the Federation as part of their reality.
- There are also people from all states of life who are scarred from their experience of Regnum Christi in the past - a reality which is impacting their ability to assimilate, embrace and joyfully share our renewed understanding of the charism.
- As a whole, RC lay members are in the early stages of understanding that their identity as lay apostles originates from their baptism and is lived out in a particular way through their vocation to Regnum Christi.
- Most lay members, both within established localities and in the diaspora, are clear that they are called to be the 'salt and light' of their world - family, community, parish, etc.
- Lay members are coming to understand and see their identity as recipients of the charism charged with a mission, rather than as volunteers supporting the Legionaries and Consecrated Women in their mission; being respected as collaborators who share the mission.
- Some lay people fear the emphasis on the involvement and engagement of the lay members is leading to disengagement and abandonment from the Legionaries, Consecrated Women and Lay Consecrated Men.
- There remains some clericalism within our family. Sometimes this clericalism is driven by lay people who look to Legionaries for direction and leadership; sometimes driven by the consecrated branches, when members experience that Legionaries and Consecrated Women view RC lay members as simply their assistants or as apostolic workers.
- It seems many RC men hesitate to step up without the strong leadership and camaraderie of the Legionaries.



- Many lay people find it challenging to hold Legionaries and Consecrated Women accountable to their responsibilities in the locality.
- Many lay members feel a strong sense of local belonging (my team, my section), but have lost the felt sense of belonging to a worldwide ecclesial movement. There have not been many Regnum Christi national or international events where lay members can come together to experience their place within the greater RC family.
- The process to define the new RC identity and put in place the new structure was drawn out over several years and the new structure is complicated and challenging to explain. There has been much good work done at the territorial level to explain and elaborate the charism and structure using new materials communicated primarily by electronic means (email, podcasts, videos, etc.). However, there has been a lack of person-to-person communication, one of our defining characteristics, and this has resulted in many RC lay members losing interest, or at least not engaging fully, and not feeling part of a worldwide movement.
- Many see that there is a strong lay voice at the locality level as the majority of locality leaders are lay people. Some suggest that there is a moderately strong lay voice at the territorial level as there are two lay advisors who sit on the Territorial Directive College, two additional lay advisors who sit on the Plenary Council, and various lay people serving on territorial level work teams.

**Questions:**

1. Does the above description align with your experience?
2. What are the causes and consequences of these realities?
3. How is the Lord calling us to respond to this reality?

**Propositions:**

1.1	We are still early in the implementation of the Federation, so we need to be patient and let the work we are doing gradually shift our understanding and internal culture.
1.2	This new understanding of our identity is a significant development in the life of our charism, and thus we should invest now in developing and implementing a Regnum Christi formation program that every member will take. Doing this will clarify "old" versus "new"; not doing this risks prolonging the process of assimilating the full reality of our identity.



1.3	We need to invest in developing a simple, step-by-step formation program in Regnum Christi identity and ensure it effectively reaches every member directly.
1.4	We need all members of the Regnum Christi family to be committed to the common charism and mission, thus, each vocation (Legionary, Consecrated Women, Lay Consecrated Men, lay) needs to implement a strategy to achieve this.
1.5	The new structure and statutes have watered down our RC identity to the point where we are not achieving our mission of impacting society. We need to implement a plan to boldly challenge members to form and launch societal leaders.
1.6	There are a number of people from all states of life who are scarred from their experience of Regnum Christi in the past. We need to explicitly address this situation, or we will not be able to move forward.
1.7	Our mission is hindered because the Federation structure does not reflect or naturally promote the living of our identity as a spiritual family and an apostolic body.
1.8	Lay people bear the primary responsibility for encouraging, safe-guarding and promoting the RC lay vocation.
1.9	We need to encourage lay members to take on more initiative and leadership in the development of their own vocation.
1.10	Just as lay members are tasked with cultivating religious vocations, the religious must also cultivate lay vocations.
1.11	RC lay members need formation on the identity and vocation of the RC lay member. We should invest resources in helping lay members understand the lay vocation in general and its application in particular as a Regnum Christi member.
1.12	The Legionaries and Consecrated Women need to receive formation on the vocation of the RC lay member to help them empower lay members.
1.13	We need to organize and promote events that allow RC members from other localities to meet each other, collaborate, and experience the gift of the greater family.



1.14	At the territorial level, there is no particular group or body reflecting on, developing and promoting the RC lay vocation. We need to determine who should be responsible for this and intentionally bring it forward.
1.15	We need to relook at the role of the lay person in Federation governance so that they have equal vote (not just advisors).
1.16	To help all lay members identify strongly with the unique and global mission of Regnum Christi, they need to feel more connected with territorial and general directorate initiatives and priorities.
1.17	Our current efforts to communicate our renewed identity to Regnum Christi members have not been effective. We need to rebuild a culture of person-to-person communication throughout the RC structure.
1.18	We need a <b>simple</b> statement of the RC Identity and structure that every member can understand and use to explain RC to others.

## Theme 2: Living the Five Elements of Regnum Christi

The charism of Regnum Christi is expressed in the lifestyle of the apostle of the Kingdom described both through the unique evangelizing style and the 5 elements of Regnum Christi life, each vocation living these according to their state in life. These 5 elements - spiritual life, formation, apostolate, personal accompaniment and team life - propose "a Christianity that is active and enthusiastic in love, and a way of life that helps members live their baptismal commitments and fulfill the mission of being Christian leaven in the world" (Rule of Life #2). It would be helpful to review the apostolic principles enumerated in #31-39 of the RC Statutes and the 5 elements of RC life described in #2-15 of the Rule of Life. Regnum Christi's "structures" are understood as communities of apostles (Cf. RC Statutes #54 and Rule of Life #14.3). The structures that are at the service of the RC lay member's full living of the RC vocation are enumerated in #30-32 of the Rule of Life.

### Current Situation:

- Overall, members seem to have a growing understanding and appreciation of the five elements of Regnum Christi.
- Regnum Christi finds itself needing to offer spiritual formation and support to a broader spectrum of spiritual maturity as RC lay members grow in spiritual depth. The average RC lay member has been a member for more than 14 years and is seeking more in-depth spiritual activities and support. We have a growing number of RC lay members participating in extended spiritual exercises (8-day, 19th annotation) and a number of lay members getting DMU certification as spiritual directors. At the same time, we need to continue offering spiritual formation and support to members new to the faith and new to prayer. Some are concerned that we are stretching our resources too thin trying to cover the whole panorama of spiritual life.
- Unlike in the 90's, there are now many high-quality formation resources readily available to Catholics today. RC members are making good use of these resources. There are, however, limited formation resources built upon the Regnum Christi charism as it is now understood.
- Members are no longer being systematically formed in basics of our charism such as applying apostolic principles or the art of accompaniment.



- Overwhelmingly, RC members value team life and see it as their "base camp" from which they go out to evangelize.
- In some localities, RC members are seeking more flexibility in how they live team life. Since Covid, virtual teams are now common, as are married couple teams, and team life lived outside of Regnum Christi sections (e.g., within Lumen or Walking with Purpose teams). Some, however, are worried that changing team life expectations may water down Regnum Christi and ultimately harm the development of a healthy section.
- In sections where there has been limited growth, lay members have not witnessed first-hand how to actively invite and accompany new members.
- A number of locality evangelization plans identified the need to focus on developing section life, feeling member engagement in section life has waned over the years.
- The current territorial strategy has focused on supporting the growth and development of localities as "vibrant communities of apostles." Some argue that "vibrant" is too vague a term and that we need to establish objective criteria to help clarify expectations and measure our progress toward vibrancy. Others believe this would overcomplicate things and take attention away from mission.
- The roll-out of the Federation has underscored the importance of personal and local ownership of the mission. This transition from top-down authority implies a growing need for leadership at the locality level.
- Recently, filling locality and section leadership roles has been challenging as there are few RC lay members with the skills, experience and time availability to be able to engage in Regnum Christi to this degree.
- Over the past years, the territory has been encouraging and providing training for section directors (particularly ECYD directors) to focus their leadership on forming and accompanying their section leadership team as a means to foster sustainability and growth. Some section directors have been successful at this, while others are experiencing frustration at the time and effort this requires - particularly in light of the high turnover of volunteers and consecrated personnel. There is a strong temptation to simply run the section themselves.
- As new lay members step up to take leadership roles in their section and locality, their lack of experience with Regnum Christi has been a cause of frustration and tension for some Legionaries, Consecrated Women and long-time lay members.

- In many places, we do not have lay RC members interested in or available to serve as Young Adult or ECYD section directors. As such, we have been investing Legionary and Consecrated Women in these leadership roles. Some do not see this to be a good use of consecrated personnel. Others are concerned about the weight of responsibility implied in leading these sections.

### Questions:

1. Does the above description align with your experience?
2. What are the causes and consequences of these realities?
3. How is the Lord calling us to respond to this reality?

### Propositions:

2.1	We need to establish greater consistency in how we understand and gauge what it means to flourish as a member and community of apostles (team, section, apostolate team, religious community, locality) to better enable the full living of RC life.
2.2	We need to further invest in developing and offering an updated formation pathway (built upon the post-renewal understanding of our charism) that is easily accessible to all Regnum Christi members
2.3	More lay people need to be involved in offering spiritual formation and accompaniment to RC members at all levels of spiritual development.
2.4	Many of our leaders are burdened with the administration aspects associated with leadership and thus are not able to lead as formator of formators.
2.5	We need to address how to encourage growth across the five elements of Regnum Christi life where lay members do not have other members modeling for them how this looks.
2.6	We need to invest in building teams of formators for ECYD and Young Adult sections comprised of all of the vocations.
2.7	We need to figure out a financial model that allows us to compensate people so as to enable them to assume leadership roles.
2.8	We need to address the development of our RC lay members to take on roles of leadership within Regnum Christi.

## Theme 3: Evangelizing People and Culture through the lens of the charism

Regnum Christi has always been a movement of apostolate and ardently evangelizing seeking to establish Christ's Kingdom not only in hearts but in society itself (Cf. RC Statutes #7, 13, 20, 32). One of the purposes of the Federation is to stimulate the common mission at the service to the Church and Society (Cf. RC Statutes #4.3). We are called to read the "signs of the times" and to an apostolic discernment to seek how our Lord is calling us to evangelize in the "here and now" of reality and to be apostles of the Kingdom (Cf. RC Statutes #37, 38 and Rule of Life #9). It could be helpful in light of this theme to review our purpose, mission, apostolic fruitfulness, and the shared principles of apostolic action (Cf. RC Statutes #7, 8, 9, and 32-39). One of the principal goals of territorial and general conventions is the discernment of the apostolic reality and how we can continue to respond to the current challenges of society and the Church.

### Current Situation:

- RC members are active in apostolate. Many of our lay members are serving as RC apostles in their families, parishes and communities. A good number are initiating smaller, more targeted apostolates to serve local needs with their gifts.
- There seems to be some tension among members around different expectations for apostolate. Some see their call to apostolate as living a good, Christian life and being active in the parish, while others are dreaming of and pushing for large apostolic works to change culture and evangelize societal leaders.
- Some members voiced concern that during recent years we have become so engrossed with our structures and with living communion among our own members that our apostolic zeal has diminished and our engagement in the mission has weakened.
- Some RC lay members feel their apostolic contribution is inadequate, particularly when they compare themselves to the expectations of Regnum Christi in the 90's and early 2000s - a time where the majority of apostolates were large established RC programs (Familia, Mission Youth, Pilgrim Queen, Pure Fashion, Challenge / Conquest, etc.) and lay members were often assigned an apostolate.
- In the early phases of Renewal, lay members were encouraged to go into their parishes and be the best parishioners they could be. Currently many lay members are deeply committed to their parishes and are less inclined to evangelize beyond the parish.



- This year, all of the localities have been working on their evangelization planning which seeks to encourage all RC entities in a locality to collaborate in discerning how Regnum Christi is called to apostolically serve that local area. Localities are growing in their appreciation for locality-wide planning and seeing good fruit from their planning initiatives. Locality evangelization planning is in its early years and will evolve and mature over time. There is still work to be done so that the locality plans are truly evangelizing and not only internal plans to support the strengthening of RC sections.
- All Catholics are called to be apostles by their baptism. RC members are recognizing that our charism is to form and launch apostles. Putting this call into practice has proven challenging as, for example, apostolic efforts are often limited to organizing formation events without the subsequent intentional efforts needed to further form and launch attendees as apostles.
- Some are questioning if we have watered down our charism and have set aside our principal missionary focus of forming and launching apostles and Christian leaders – understood as forming those who will then form others.
- Some have lamented that we do not have a strategy for evangelizing societal leaders and that we have neglected this area.
- Many RC lay members commented on the difficulty of evangelizing in an increasingly secular society that is indifferent if not hostile.
- Many RC members do not feel equipped to evangelize the culture of today. Some question our ability to be relevant and equipped to engage the world of today.
- Some members feel we are called to regroup as a faithful remnant while others feel called to go out to the periphery and can get frustrated with the "holy huddle" mentality.
- Some members have expressed the desire to have more institutional apostolates that could be run locally as a means of forming new members in the RC principles of apostolic action. Others expressed a desire for more intentional formation, coaching and accompaniment in starting apostolates.
- Many of the locality plans show an emphasis on the family, particularly younger families and a focus on youth and young adults. Many of the team submissions highlighted the need to reach out in the area of marriage, families, and parent formation.



### Questions:

1. Does the above description align with your experience?
2. What are the causes and consequences of these realities?
3. How is the Lord calling us to respond to this reality?

### Propositions:

3.1	We need to develop a clear understanding of what it means that Regnum Christi is an apostolic body, not just a spiritual family.
3.2	We need to develop a clearer, shared understanding of the process that we as Regnum Christi employ to form apostles. (What's our formula for transforming nominal Catholics into real apostles?).
3.3	We will evangelize better if we have a clearer shared understanding of what we mean by "evangelizing culture": Concretely, what does that look like? How do we hold ourselves accountable for this goal? How do we measure progress?
3.4	Each locality needs to apostolically discern and develop a clear strategy of how they are called to evangelize in their geographic area.
3.5	We need to dedicate resources to form members in the principles of apostolic action (how we do apostolate).
3.6	We need to dedicate resources to better train and equip our members to engage in evangelizing our culture today.
3.7	We should be able to clearly and concretely communicate the benefit of what RC brings to the local Church. We need an elevator speech about what value RC brings to the local Church.
3.8	As a whole, we have not been successful in our mission to form apostles - those who will then form others - largely because it is difficult and takes too long and many do not know how to do it; therefore, we need to invest in helping each member fully assimilate this central call.
3.9	We should invest in fostering apostolic networks of people working in the same area of evangelization across localities.
3.10	We need more national apostolates that can be brought to each local reality.



3.11	We need to value an RC member's call to dedicate themselves apostolically to serve their family, community, and parish as a valid means for living their Regnum Christi vocation.
3.12	We need a flagship apostolate of great impact.
3.13	We need to rethink the primary emphasis of our evangelizing strategy and intentionally focus on evangelizing societal leaders.
3.14	The best way to form apostles is by doing apostolate. We need to put more emphasis on enabling people to do apostolate rather than offering formation.
3.15	We need to share examples and samples of apostolates to form and inspire RC members.

## Theme 4: Growing Regnum Christi

In light of our renewed identity as Regnum Christi, we acknowledge that we have received a gift that allows us to grow in our relationship with God, to live out our mission that flows from our baptism and to live this in communion with others (Cf. RC Statutes #18). One of the ways of being an apostle and doing apostolate in Regnum Christi is to share the gift received, "so they introduce and invite others to Regnum Christi and accompany those who show an interest in getting to know it, or in participating in its spirituality and mission" (Rule of Life #9.7). One of the purposes of the Federation is to promote the vocation development and growth of all the federated institutions and of the associated faithful (Cf. RC Statutes #4.8). In reviewing this theme on growth, it would be helpful to read the numbers on vocational promotion and ministry (RC Statutes #48) and on the association of lay members to Regnum Christi and their commitments (Rule of Life #16-23).

### Current Situation:

#### Inviting to Regnum Christi (any vocation)

- The majority of locality leaders shared their view that we are in the initial stages of promoting the vocation development and growth of Regnum Christi. They agreed that while we may be aware of the vocation promotion programs for each vocation, we are not yet collaborating well in this work.
- In the years since our crisis and renewal, vocations (Legionary, Consecrated Women, Lay Consecrated Men and lay) to Regnum Christi in our territory have declined. The Legionaries, the Consecrated Women and the Lay Consecrated Men have dedicated good resources to strengthening their vocation promotion efforts in the last years. Some lay members are quite active in helping to promote Legionary vocations in particular.
- Nevertheless, it is still common to hear that RC members (Legionary, Consecrated Women, Lay Consecrated Men and lay) are often not clear or confident on how best to present Regnum Christi to others.
- Some RC members have expressed discomfort pushing for growth, perhaps due to errors in the past of implementing this. Others are voicing concern that there isn't a clear enough mandate and intentionally communicated direction towards growth.
- Many RC lay members shared that they have not witnessed first-hand how to actively invite and accompany new members.



- We have a large and growing number of people who are actively participating in and living many aspects of the five dimensions of RC life but are not associated members. This is the reality of 'non-member' members. It is not clear why we have so many non-member members - whether we are not inviting them to Regnum Christi, or they see limited benefit in formally associating.
- Some Legionaries have said they feel it is not their responsibility to help Regnum Christi sections grow, but the responsibility of the lay people. Some lay people feel the Legionaries and the Consecrated Women are better suited to cultivate new lay members as they have broader access to people, have a degree of ascendancy, and often are better formed.
- Some people think there is no added benefit in joining Regnum Christi, especially as they are receiving spiritual accompaniment, formation and team life without having to make a commitment.
- We have various apostolic efforts that are effective in attracting and engaging participants but do not result in many new Regnum Christi vocations, such as Lumen, Camps, Walking with Purpose, Cana Uncorked, etc. It appears that there is not an intentional effort in sharing Regnum Christi with those we evangelize and inviting people to consider if God is calling them to this vocation.
- Some feel that Regnum Christi membership has been watered down over the last ten years (e.g., vague prayer commitments and/or acts of piety), which has made it less attractive to men, whose psychology in general responds well to being challenged.
- The number of RC Mission Corps missionaries has declined over the years. In the past, some RC Mission Corps alumni discovered their Legionary or consecrated vocation during their missionary years; others went on to become key formators in sections. We are looking at ways to reinvigorate this essential program.
- Many agree that ECYD is the foundation for the growth of Regnum Christi. While the number of ECYD members has remained fairly stable over the years, we have not yet been successful in transitioning large numbers of ECYD members to Regnum Christi.
- Recognizing that Regnum Christi is a way of life for life, some members question if we are expecting a comprehensive understanding of Regnum Christi before associating thereby discouraging commitment.

### **Current Demographics**



- The majority of our registered lay members (46%) are between the ages of 50 and 70. Three quarters of our members are female. The average age of our members is 54 years old.
- Almost 30% of our registered lay members have joined since 2018. The average age of these newer members is 47 years old.
- In general, as the majority of our members belong to older generations, they are not naturally inclined to work with and invite those of younger generations. We are struggling to find within our members the people to lead and support apostolates for ECYD and young adult ages.
- The majority of our lay male membership are men between the ages of 50 and 70. We have not been very successful in finding way to engage our members to attract new male members.
- We have fewer adult members aged 30 to 50 years old and we have not been very successful in attracting and engaging younger adults to Regnum Christi.
- The average age of our Legionaries and Consecrated Women is increasing. Some have shared that they no longer have the stamina to lead the charge in building the Kingdom and that a new generation with more energy and youthful zeal is needed.
- Regnum Christi sections have many long-term members. Some believe joining Regnum Christi may be too daunting for new members and that it is easier to offer them a Regnum Christi-lite option.
- Youth formators are reporting that many young people are strongly resonating with the charism and recognizing that Jesus is calling them to live out their friendship with him and call to mission through ECYD and Regnum Christi.

### Questions:

1. Does the above description align with your experience?
2. What are the causes and consequences of this reality?
3. How is the Lord calling us to respond to this reality?

### Propositions:

4.1	We need to distinguish between those lay people who participate and benefit from the life of Regnum Christi and those who feel called to belong to Regnum Christi, making space for both.
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4.2	We should have criteria for lay people who participate in our events such that after a specific time period they must decide to join or leave.
4.3	We need to be able to accommodate those people for whom it is a gradual and lengthy process to discover their call to belong to Regnum Christi.
4.4	We need to be able to accommodate those people who do not desire a lengthy or complete discernment process to respond to their call to belong to Regnum Christi.
4.4	We need to invest more in helping RC members articulate the benefit of joining Regnum Christi (e.g., an elevator pitch). We need to consider various options of how we present Regnum Christi so that it responds to and attracts different audiences.
4.5	We need to make it much simpler and de-emphasize the commitment necessary to associate to RC if we want more of our active non-member members to associate.
4.6	Vocation promotion to Regnum Christi (Legionary, Consecrated Women, Lay Consecrated Men, and lay) needs to be seen as the responsibility of everyone and we need to invest in building this vocational culture.
4.7	A significant number of members from all states of life are scarred from our past “numbers mentality”, and as a result are hesitant or afraid to invite people to consider a Regnum Christi vocation. We need to address this.
4.8	We need a clearly articulated and communicated growth plan for RC at the territorial level.
4.9	We are too focused on membership. It is more important that we are living the charism and evangelizing than dedicating attention to whether people join Regnum Christi.
4.10	We need to adjust how we are working with and inviting younger members to Regnum Christi.
4.11	RC members need to appreciate the value of ECYD as an essential source of life and holiness for Regnum Christi and the Church and embrace the reality that few other organizations are willing to tackle the responsibility



	and complications (working with minors) associated with evangelizing and forming this age-group.
4.12	While our current lay member demographics of primarily women 50 to 70 years are not naturally interested or inclined to work with ECYD age apostolates in its traditional form, the sections need to look at creative ways to address ECYD leadership needs.
4.13	Understanding both the essential importance and inherent complexity of operating ECYD, we need to strategically allocate Legionary and consecrated personnel to ensure the growth and development of ECYD.
4.14	Regnum Christi has fewer members than before - lay, Legionaries, Consecrated Women and Lay Consecrated Men - but we continue to operate under the same set of expectations for the organization and the growth and development of its mission. We need to right-size our expectations and plan accordingly, which will mean saying 'no' to some things we are now doing.
4.15	We have dedicated resources to some excellent evangelizing apostolates. However, some of these apostolates have resulted in few to zero Regnum Christi vocations. We need to develop criteria for personnel investment that considers each apostolate's fruitfulness in Regnum Christi vocations.
4.16	We have become too comfortable communicating with people indirectly (e.g., via email and monthly newsletters). We recognize that this is good for passing on information but not effective in connecting with people. We need to motivate all members to more person-to-person interaction and communication.



## Theme 5: Collaborating in a healthy way.

One of the purposes of the Regnum Christi Federation is to promote communion and preserve unity between all four vocations of RC members and to promote collaboration in the apostolic activity (RC Statutes #4, 27-29). It could be helpful to review how we understand Regnum Christi as a spiritual family and apostolic body and the contribution of each of the different members to the whole. Please read RC Statute #3 and 5.

### Current Situation:

- Communion and collaboration are concepts and realities that have come to the forefront of our awareness in the Regnum Christi Federation's first years of existence. In many ways, they are new concepts, a maturation of understanding our God-given charism as a shared charism being lived out in the richness of multiple states of life. At our core, we believe that we have a greater evangelizing impact when we work collaboratively.
- Most locality leaders believe there is a deep culture of co-responsibility and complementarity among the members (Legionaries, Consecrated Women, Lay Consecrated Men and lay members). They have seen this in how we live prayer, apostolate and formation in common, in the way in which we resolve difficulties or conflicts, and in the search for the participation of others in their own activities.
- Most locality leaders see that we have made a major organizational shift in how we operate, and believe we are still in the middle of a long learning curve regarding how to work collaboratively. Almost half of the locality evangelization plans included some point regarding communion, collaboration and communication in their goals.
- Some localities report having experienced real benefits from their efforts to collaborate in mission. Members experience renewed life and sense the richness of the charism. Some shared that the experience of communion, collaboration, and co-responsibility has renewed and healed numerous hidden dysfunctions from our history and note how these could remain if we forego the asceticism of engaging in these practices.
- Some people shared different understandings of what it means to collaborate. Some have understood collaboration to mean simply coordination of calendars and agreeing on some goals, while others have understood it to mean that consensus is required, and we need to be doing everything together.
- People have experienced what it means to collaborate differently. Some have experienced collaboration as unproductive and taking too much time. Some have



been scandalized by the interpersonal conflicts that arise and shared that it is often easier to work in silos than to have to address these situations.

- The choice for collaboration implies co-ownership of the whole by every Regnum Christi member. Sometimes the lay members have not understood this to be their role and thus have not taken on the shared responsibility. Some members share that things were simpler, more "effective" and easier when they were just told what to do or could just tell others what to do.
- Some believe the efforts to seek communion and collaboration have overshadowed the need to exercise legitimate authority, leaving too much room to operate and resulting in a lack of clear vision and direction.
- Some have shared that they are experiencing lingering distrust which stems from historic misuse of authority between the Legionaries and the Consecrated Women, and/or between localities and the territory, which is sabotaging communion.
- Some feel that, at the territorial and general levels, the new Federation structure and model have served to reinforce a "silo-mentality".

### Questions:

1. Does the above description align with your experience?
2. What are the causes and consequences of these realities?
3. How is the Lord calling us to respond to this reality?

### Propositions:

5.1	We need to continually invest time and energy into building communion and collaboration in our territory.
5.2	Many of our members have not been trained in the skills necessary for working collaboratively. Members of all states of life need ongoing training in these skills - communication, teamwork, planning, and conflict resolution, etc.
5.3	The Territorial Directive College needs to provide more direction for Regnum Christi. They have swung too far towards the laissez-faire end of the exercise-of-authority spectrum.
5.4	Collaboration is learned by collaborating. We should not put undue attention on this point but should rather focus on evangelizing where collaboration naturally happens.



5.5	While collaboration within Regnum Christi is good, we still need to encourage those people who wish to take personal initiatives outside of Regnum Christi as an effective means to extend the Kingdom beyond our current circles.
5.6	As Regnum Christi, each member has joint responsibility for the mission. We need to figure out how to help each member be aware of and live this joint responsibility.
5.7	All Regnum Christi members share responsibility for the care, development and growth of internal section / community life, even if they are primarily active in apostolate outside of Regnum Christi.
5.8	It will not be easy to move forward in collaboration until we work through the issues of trust that linger from the renewal process.
5.9	Collaboration is primarily hindered by interpersonal conflict. We need to dedicate time and resources to develop the needed skills and to work through and address situations.
5.10	We can grow in communion by intentionally seeking to recognize the work of God and the presence of our charism living and active in one another.

## Theme 6: Building Relationships between RC and institutions.

Regnum Christi has apostolic activities which include apostolic works – institutions with a specific purpose, programs and events and it also collaborates with other institutions and works that are not its own (Cf. RC Statutes #40, 42, 46). Regnum Christi members can work apostolically both in institutional apostolates and works and in other institutions and works each of these according to their charism.

### Current Situation:

- Regnum Christi members from every state in life in our territory are involved in a wide variety of apostolic activity. Some of this activity takes place within programs/institutions that are directly connected to Regnum Christi (e.g., Lumen, Our Lady of Bethesda, Everest Academy, etc.), and programs/institutions not directly connected to Regnum Christi (e.g., St. Brendan's Parish, Duke Catholic Center, Holy Spirit School, etc.). We see a huge opportunity to extend our mission through effective collaboration with these programs/institutions.
- Several of the pre-convention submissions expressed concerns regarding the relationship between section life and apostolic activity in these various types of institutions.
- We have situations where RC members are running apostolates not directly associated with Regnum Christi with little to no connection to section life. Some of these apostolate directors feel pressure to turn their apostolic work into a source or pool of potential members for Regnum Christi. Some section members express frustration at having RC members, particularly LCs and CRCs, dedicated to work in apostolates or institutions such as Lumen where there are no new vocations to Regnum Christi. At times, we see this disconnect stems from a lack of alignment of expectations between the section and the apostolate, a lack of mutual trust, a fear that sections may not do a good job serving the needs of the apostolate's participants, or that apostolates may demand too much from its members. The result can be the establishment of parallel RC section life structures.
- There are 11 RC schools in our territory: 1 Canada, 7 US, 3 Philippines. Enrollment in RC Schools is growing; 6% and 5% respectively over the past two years with similar growth projected for the coming year. RC Schools currently serve 3261 students, 2160 families and employ approximately 574 faculty and staff. We estimate that on average 6 - 12 students/families are entering the church annually in each of our US/CND schools. It is estimated that approximately 5-6% of our school families and faculty are RC. In places where we

have RC schools, we have a huge opportunity to leverage collaboration with the sections to evangelize the school community. We have, however, yet to be very successful building effective bridges between the school and the sections. In part, we believe, the bridge with RC sections is not in place because of the generational age difference between those involved in schools and that of our current lay RC membership.

- Parishes, as communities of Catholics and platforms for Christian initiation, sanctification, and evangelization, are privileged hubs of the New Evangelization in North America. There are three parishes entrusted to the Legionaries of Christ in the territory. Many think these parishes should come to exhibit a spirituality and culture reflective of the Regnum Christi charism; they should come to have a Regnum Christi “flavor” without becoming exclusive of non-Regnum Christi members, groups, and activities. It is thought that these parishes should benefit from being part of a Regnum Christi locality: the energy, expertise, formation, and apostolic zeal of Regnum Christi members should help enhance the parish’s formation, sanctification, and evangelizing efforts. A Regnum Christi locality should in turn benefit from the presence of a parish entrusted to the Legionaries of Christ: a parish can be a safe base of operations for appropriate Regnum Christi formation and evangelizing activities, and it should be a natural place for people with a vocation to Regnum Christi to experience the charism and begin responding to the call. In practice, this has been very challenging to achieve, and different conflicts and challenges have arisen. We have yet to be very successful building effective bridges between the LC parishes and the sections, perhaps in part because the parishes need a huge volunteer base to operate, and Regnum Christi sections do not see themselves as a pool of volunteers.

### Questions:

1. Does the above description align with your experience?
2. What are the causes and consequences of these realities?
3. How is the Lord calling us to respond to this reality?

### Propositions:

6.1	It is reasonable to expect that a certain percentage of people benefiting from their exposure to Regnum Christi in an RC institution or apostolate will have a vocation to join Regnum Christi. Thus, members working in RC institutions and apostolates should be intentionally inviting those people to explore their possible vocation.
6.2	Localities should have a clear process and simple bridge-activities between RC and RC institutions in place such that people who are



	attracted to the Regnum Christi charism can get to know Regnum Christi and begin discerning a possible vocation.
6.3	Some RC members are dedicated to running apostolates not connected to Regnum Christ which parallel what Regnum Christi is offering. The Church as a whole benefits from these apostolates. We need to give space to these initiatives.
6.4	Localities with schools need to develop healthy working relationships between school leadership and section leadership, respecting the purpose and identity of each institution and that part which is common to both.
6.5	Regnum Christi members are too focused on growing membership. In institutions where we serve, it is more important that we are living the charism and evangelizing than dedicating attention to whether people come to know or join Regnum Christi.
6.6	We need to put particular emphasis on building the relationship between ECYD and RC Schools as a benefit to both. Failure to do so misses many opportunities to strengthen the Catholic identity of the school and attend to the evangelization and pastoral care of youth and their families.
6.7	We need to encourage Regnum Christi members and sections to see that part of being an RC apostle could be to enhance the school's or other RC institutions' effectiveness by cooperating and synergizing, serving as "salt and light" within and in support of the school and other institutions and apostolates.
6.8	We need to encourage and help RC schools, institutions and parishes to establish Regnum Christi within themselves, not sacrificing their purpose and identity, but enriching it.
6.9	Legionary and consecrated vocations coming from RC schools are notably scarce. We need to understand and address this - our schools should be the most natural place for LC and CRC vocations to emerge.
6.10	Institutional and locality leaders should create simple but effective forums for ongoing communication and collaboration.

## Theme 7: Assessing the Implementation of the RC Federation

One of the primary goals of the ordinary RC general and territorial conventions is to assess the implementation of the Regnum Christi Federation using RC Statute #4 as the criteria of assessment.

Establishing the Regnum Christi Federation in 2019 marked a milestone in our history. It created a canonical structure that expresses the rich nature of a charism and mission shared fully by members in a wide variety of states of life. By establishing the Federation, the Holy See also reconfirmed its recognition that the Regnum Christi charism is indeed a God-given gift for the whole Church. And yet, the first years of living within this new structure has had its challenges, which came up frequently in the various pre-convention submissions. Without putting in question the structure itself, it presents a good moment to assess the implementation of the RC Federation, recognize and name the challenges and see where we are at.

In advance of the convention, we asked each locality leadership team and each territorial office team to assess at what stage we are, according to a rubric, in implementing the RC Federation. To prepare for this discussion, it could be helpful to review the results of this assessment, along with the territorial report, and the preamble to the RC Statutes.

### Current Situation:

- The majority of locality leaders believe that RC members are aware of the Statutes of the Regnum Christi Federation and understand, in general, its identity and mission. They also believe that we have not yet succeeded in communicating our identity and mission very effectively to those who participate in the various programs and apostolic works of Regnum Christi.
- In September 2019, the Territorial Directive College was established as the collegial governing body of the Federation. Many RC members are still not familiar with the Territorial Directive College, its membership and its responsibilities. Some RC members still consider the territorial director of the Legionaries to be the de-facto territorial director of Regnum Christi.
- In 2020, the Territorial Directive College developed a strategy to guide its actions and allocation of resources in fulfilling its responsibilities in the territory. Some locality leaders believe that our territory would be more effective and unified in mission if the territorial strategy also set the priorities for locality evangelizing strategies. Other locality leaders see greater value in having each locality identify and own its own priorities.



- The implementation of the territory's strategy has been delegated by the Territorial Directive College to its work team, the Mission Support Team. Some people value the services and resources provided by the Mission Support Team while others believe that the territorial office is too top-heavy and that everything should be delegated out to the localities.
- The Territorial Directive College has formally established 25 localities. Some people see the locality structure as helpful in promoting communion and collaboration across all the RC entities in a given geographic area. Others see the locality structure as unnecessary overhead and prefer to operate more informally.
- RC directors have been established in 22 localities. Some locality leaders find that the personal authority associated with the RC director structure is necessary to ensure decisions are made in a timely manner. Other leaders prefer the RC local college structure as collaboration is built into locality leadership. Some RC directors see the value of having an RCD council; others do not.
- Section directors now report locally to the RC director, rather than to the territorial director. While most believe this structure works better than before, they see the challenge of finding RC directors with the necessary formation to lead a locality leadership team and adequately support their section directors.
- Efforts have been made to distinguish between the RC directors' direct authority over RC section life and their responsibility to facilitate collaboration across all RC entities (communities, RC institutions, etc.) in the locality.
- Localities are finding that there is a sizeable responsibility associated with properly administering Regnum Christi at the local level: banking, bookkeeping, budgeting and financial reporting, safe environment, member registration, websites, member communications, event registrations, fundraising and donations. Some localities find it necessary to hire local administrative support. Other localities look to the territory to provide administrative support.
- Some members believe we place too much emphasis on administration and not enough on evangelization. Some RC members are discouraged by the amount of administration implicit in running a non-profit organization and choose either not to run an apostolate or to set up their apostolate outside of Regnum Christi. Others are frustrated that people do not see or value the vital connection between having sound finances and administration as a base to support the sustainability of our mission.
- Regnum Christi lay members have long been generously supporting the mission of Regnum Christi. In particular, lay members have been financially supporting

section life in their localities along with the Legionaries and Consecrated Women. Localities have taken on increasing responsibility for helping to coordinate locality fundraising and contributions to the territory. Some localities see value in contributing funds to support the territory, others do not.

- The growth and development of the Regnum Christi mission is enabled by the financial stability of all four entities: the Legionaries, Consecrated Women, Lay Consecrated Men and the Regnum Christi Federation.
- There are hundreds of lay RC members who live outside the established 25 localities. Many of these lay members have limited access to Legionaries and/or Consecrated Women. Some RC members feel that the Legionaries and Consecrated Women need to dedicate more personnel to go out and serve the diaspora. Other RC members feel that the limited number of Legionaries and Consecrated Women we have need to dedicate themselves to building strong and vibrant localities to serve as hubs to which the diaspora members can come for events, formation and retreats.

### Questions:

1. Does the above description align with your experience?
2. What are the causes and consequences of these realities?
3. How is the Lord calling us to respond to this reality?

### Propositions:

7.1	We need to invest more effort in helping all those who participate in the various programs and apostolic works become aware of Regnum Christi and understand its identity and mission.
7.2	Even with a significantly increased effort to communicate with all members, we recognize that a good number of members are not aware of the changes, the new resources, the Statutes, etc.
7.3	The Territorial Directive College provides sufficient direction - enabling localities to assume the appropriate ownership for the local mission.
7.4	The territory needs an evangelization strategy with concrete priorities to guide the evangelization strategies of localities.
7.5	The Territorial Directive College needs to have a more visible presence in the territory. RC members need to know who their leaders are and have access to them.





7.6	RC members need to be made aware of the importance and need of their generous financial support to collaborate in the mission of Regnum Christi at the service of the Church.
7.7	The Federation needs a comprehensive fundraising strategy to support the long-term growth and development of the mission.
7.8	We need to look at alternative ways of funding the Regnum Christi territory as RC members are already tapped out financially supporting RC locally.
7.9	Legionaries and Consecrated Women living and working in localities need to take responsibility for providing basic support for RC lay members living in the diaspora.
7.10	The limited number of Legionaries and Consecrated Women requires that they dedicate themselves to the growth of Regnum Christi in established localities. RC lay members living in the diaspora need to be more creative in finding ways to live the five elements and grow Regnum Christi in their locations without the support of Legionaries or Consecrated Women.
7.11	We need to find creative ways of supporting localities with the administrative burden associated with operating a non-profit organization dedicated to evangelization.
7.12	Each locality needs to assume full administrative responsibility for operating a non-profit organization dedicated to evangelization.
7.13	The RC director should focus on overseeing the section directors and the development of Regnum Christi locally, allowing collaboration across all RC entities in the locality to happen naturally.
7.14	The RC director should work intentionally to facilitate communion and collaboration across all RC entities in the locality.