REGNUM CHRISTI

GUIDELINES REGARDING RC APOSTOLATES AND PERSONAL APOSTOLATES

The types of support Regnum Christi can offer members engaged in apostolate, depending on whether they are engaged in RC apostolate, or in personal apostolic initiatives.

This document applies to Regnum Christi apostolates and to personal apostolates carried out by any Regnum Christi member, including members of the consecrated branches. Outside of defining terminology, it does not address those apostolates and institutions under the governance of the federated institutions.

1. Introduction

a. As an apostolic body, Regnum Christi counts on its members, teams, sections and localities to be vibrant sources of apostolic action. That apostolic action can be carried out either on behalf of Regnum Christi itself, or personally. Cf. SRCF 7, SRCF 40, RL 9.5.

b. Regnum Christi sections, localities and territories are equipped to provide the accompaniment, legal, and administrative support necessary for members' apostolic initiatives. Regnum Christi strongly encourages its members to make use of these resources and support as an aid to the apostolic initiative they commit to as Regnum Christi members, and to offer those initiatives to the mission of the whole apostolic body of Regnum Christi. Cf. RL 17 and SRCF 7.

c. Individual members may also carry out apostolic initiatives on their own. While these personal apostolic efforts are not official efforts of the section, locality, or territory, or of their consecrated branch in the case of Legionaries, consecrated women, and lay consecrated men, one of the ways members can express their RC identity and vocation is by applying the RC principles of apostolic action to all their endeavors, even when they minister on their own, or within non-RC ministries and organizations.

d. As RC members' apostolic initiative has rekindled and grown during our process of renewal, we have seen the prudence of offering clearer guidelines to help sections and localities manage the interplay between personal apostolates, and official RC apostolates, and to clarify the different types of

support Regnum Christi can offer its members based on whether they are engaged in a personal or in an official RC apostolate.

2. Terminology: (Cf. SRCF 40)

a. **RC apostolate:** an apostolate that is run under the oversight and direction of an RC section, locality or territory, either directly (using RC bank accounts and policies) or through the use of an RC board or mandatory number of RC board members. E.g. Territory: Mission Youth, Challenge, Conquest. Locality: Atlanta Mercy Missions. Section: Manos a la Obra – Dallas RCM. Cf. SRCF 40, 46.

b. **RC institution:** an institution that is run under the oversight and direction of an RC section, locality or territory, either directly or through the use of an RC board or mandatory number of RC board members. Institutions typically have a physical location and facilities. (E.g. Pinecrest Academy, the RC Center in New Orleans.) Cf. SRCF 42.

c. **Apostolate of the federated institutions:** an apostolate that is run under LC/CRC/LCRC oversight and direction, either directly (using LC/CRC/LCRC bank accounts and policies) or through the use of an LC/CRC/LCRC board or mandatory number of LC/CRC/LCRC board members. E.g. Lumen, Catholic Worldview Fellowship. Cf. SRCF 40, 46.

d. **Institution of the federated institutions:** an institution that is run under LC/RC/LCRC oversight and direction, either directly (using LC/CRC/LCRC bank accounts and policies) or through the use of an LC/CRC/LCRC board or mandatory number of LC/CRC/LCRC board members. Institutions typically have a physical location and facilities. E.g. Divine Mercy University. Cf. SRCF 42.

e. **Personal apostolate:** an individual RC member's (lay/LC/CRC/LCRC) apostolic initiative that is not under the oversight and direction of an RC section, locality, or territory, or of any of the federated institutions (LC/CRC/LCRC). E.g. First Fruits, All Things Women, His Way At Work.

3. Personal apostolates and Regnum Christi:

a. Support Regnum Christi localities and sections can offer for members' personal apostolates:

i. Accompaniment:

1. RC members directing their own personal apostolic initiatives or participating in those of others receive coaching and counsel through team dialogue with their own RC team leader, and from RC spiritual directors.
    a. Team dialogue includes accompaniment for living one's own RC identity in the area of apostolic action.
    b. Spiritual direction includes accompaniment for living one's vocation, in this case the vocation to RC, in all aspects of one's life.

ii. Collaboration:

1. The RC locality, sections and teams are encouraged to collaborate with these initiatives to the same degree as they would with any other ministry within the local Church. When doing so, RC localities and sections discern the extent of that collaboration according to the initiative's alignment with Regnum Christi's purpose, mission and apostolic principles, as well as with the locality's evangelizing focus.
2. These collaborations are often particularly fruitful, given the frequent resonance between Regnum Christi's purpose and mission, and the personal apostolates launched by RC members with the same identity.

iii. RC principles of apostolic action:

1. The RC principles of apostolic action guide members towards the most fruitful apostolic expression of their RC vocation. Individual members' living of the principles of apostolic action in their own personal apostolates is a natural outcome of their RC identity and vocation, but as part of their personal life is free from Regnum Christi oversight.

b. **What Regnum Christi is unable to offer for members' personal apostolates:**
    i. **Finances:**
        1. Members who direct a personal apostolate are responsible for their own finances and fundraising, not the RC locality or section.
        2. Personal apostolates can't make use of RC bank accounts or corporations for non-profit tax deductible purposes.
    ii. **Insurance and liability coverage:**
        1. RC members directing their own personal apostolates take on any potential liability and legal responsibility themselves. They may not make use of RC insurance since they are not directed by Regnum Christi.
c. **Principles that foster clarity and collaboration between Regnum Christi and members' personal apostolates:**
    i. **Communication:**
        1. Members who direct a personal apostolate may not always be able to leverage RC communications networks to promote their initiatives. RC localities and sections will evaluate any promotion requests according to the collaboration principles outlined above.
        2. Personal apostolates are not RC locality or section endeavors, and do not use the RC logo or branding.
        3. This is to avoid unfair expectations on either end: it helps RC localities and sections refrain from assuming they have a say in the running of a member's personal apostolate or taking credit for the individual member's personal efforts, and helps members take full ownership of their own personal apostolates without being dependent on Regnum Christi.
        4. This also allows personal apostolates to freely develop their own identity and goals.
    ii. **Conflicts of interest:**
        1. Foreseeable conflicts of interest may prevent RC members who direct personal apostolates from accepting the role of section director or local director or other positions of authority. This is

especially the case when members derive income from a personal apostolate, or when there is close collaboration between a personal apostolate and the RC locality or section. This is ultimately evaluated by the TDC when approving the appointment of members to these leadership roles.

4. RC apostolates and Regnum Christi

a. Approval:

i. RC apostolates are approved and established by the respective authority: section apostolates by the section director, locality apostolates by the RCD, territorial apostolates by the TDC.

b. RC principles of apostolic action:

i. All RC apostolates should respect and embody Regnum Christi's apostolic identity as expressed in its purpose, mission, and principles of apostolic action.

c. Communication:

i. RC apostolates are part of the RC locality's or territory's apostolic footprint and are presented as such. They use the RC logo and branding.

d. Intellectual property:

i. RC apostolates are carried out in the name of Regnum Christi, and all resources and income generated for and by them are the property of Regnum Christi, at the service of Regnum Christi's evangelizing mission.

e. Finances:

i. These apostolates are part of the RC section, locality or territory budgets. The RC section, locality , or territory may support these initiatives financially and fundraise for them.

f. Leadership:

i. The directors of RC apostolates are RC formators, and do participate in relevant RC section or locality leadership meetings.

g. Liability:

i. By approving and establishing an RC apostolate, the respective section, locality or territory accepts responsibility for that apostolate, and

enforces the corresponding policies put in place to manage liability and guarantee safe environments.

h. Support:

i. Directors of RC apostolates receive apostolic dialogue from their respective section director or RCD.

i. Collaboration:

i. RC apostolates are part of the respective section and locality annual plans and are established and operated taking into account the locality's evangelizing focus.

5. Recommendations:

a. Regnum Christi sections and localities should encourage members to launch their apostolic initiatives within their Regnum Christi section or locality. This helps participants recognize the RC charism at work, and decreases the effort needed to launch each apostolate by bringing more resources to bear and taking advantage of already existing RC legal and administrative structures.

b. Regnum Christi localities in general, and RC sections in particular, should make it a priority to facilitate and streamline the launching of new RC apostolates, fostering and empowering RC members' initiative and following the Holy Spirit's urgings. Sections, localities and the territory may need specific formators whose mission is to help RC members launching new initiatives to take advantage of the RC Federation's resources and tools.

c. Regnum Christi sections and localities should not rely on members' personal apostolates to meet essential member or section life needs, or to respond to priority mission fields within their locality's evangelizing focus.

d. When supporting or contributing to other RC members' personal apostolates, RC lay and consecrated members, especially prominent ones, should do so in a way that respects the identity and ownership of the initiative they're collaborating with, and avoid giving the impression that the personal apostolate in question is an RC-owned initiative or project.