

Table Reports from the Conversations in the Spirit – The Synodal Process

Wednesday Morning, June 19, 2024

What are our gifts to the Church at this time? To what is the Spirit inviting us?

Table 2 1.The Spirit is inviting us to be healthy listeners. 2. The Spirit is inviting us to be positive and not give up hope. 3. The Spirit is inviting us to “speak up” and be the voice for the voiceless, especially “Mother Earth.”

Table 3 1. We are being invited to continue growing in knowledge and love of each other, especially as women in the Church. 2, Acknowledging and appreciating the roles and gifts we have contributed to the Church, we are called to challenge ourselves to think bigger than our current “worlds.” 3. We have all been called to this Community. We have all answered the call. We move forward together.

Table 4 1.We agreed that prayer should be a focus in our lives not just to pray with the church, but also for the Church. The Spirit is calling us to be witnesses to prayer. 2. We agreed that in the midst of change we need to be examples of hope not of fear and despair. 3. We agreed that we need to be examples of our commitment to our community of Associates and Sisters and to our Church. We need to model a welcoming community in this world.

Table 5 1. *Confiança* (confidence in others). 2. Listening to the spirit is a call to open our hearts to the stories of all people. 3. In the spirit of Mother Alfred, we are open to responding to the call to change.

Table 6 1.We are women with a rich history of passion and feeling of responding to the needs of the People of God. 2. We each respond to the needs of others with the gifts and flaws we have, knowing we are whole in God’s eyes.3. We express a pastoral bent in listening to the Spirit and helping empower others to attend to what is going on in our world.

Table 7 1. The Spirit is challenging us to be unafraid and faithful as Franciscan women to live with open hearts and open minds to be what we can be. 2. We are called to keep up the dialogue for justice, for diversity in local situations and globally and to be involved in the synod as one way to do this. 3. We are called to live Franciscan, family values, embracing all Creation from the unique perspective and gifts women bring.

Table 8 1.Women to be more visible, recognized, respected, and empowered to serve our Church. 2. To continue with our precious Franciscan values and extend them into the future and wherever we find ourselves. 3. We are called to be people of hope with listening hearts responding to the needs before us.

Table 9 1.The Spirit is inviting us to use our voices and individual experiences to serve in ways we do not expect. 2. The Spirit is inviting us to open our hearts before we can change someone else's. 3. When we listen to the Holy Spirit, "If it is to be, it is up to me."

Table 10 1. We are invited to share new ideas, realizing we are the Church, determining our role, trusting in a new Church for tomorrow, finding our way, and being quiet at times so we can be open to listening and accepting new ways of thinking. 2. We are women of courage who enlarge the space of our tent by listening to all voices to broaden the ideas of church, to include those who serve and those who are served. 3. To believe that without women religious, the church will not be without strong women, hopeful women, women of faith — who we once were when many lay women were not able to be. They are now hope for the future of the church.

Table 11 1. The Spirit is inviting us to: 1. Grow in our awareness (total Church) that women are a BIG GIFT for and in the Church. 2. Seek unity/harmony in the Church, grow and show harmony, harmony with equality. 3. Speak up/out about the gift we as Franciscan women are; do so with courage & hope.

Table 12 1. The Spirit invites us to listen to our gifts and to how God is work through us. 2. We are called to be compassionate peacemakers, a mirror of Christ to others, joyous, hopeful and courageous as we inspire others to welcome and create change. 3. The Spirit invites us to build binding relationships in the Body of Christ, sharing our Franciscan teaching charism as prophets and challengers.

Table 13 1. We believe the Spirit is inviting us to pursue further the questions that the Spirit is raising in us. 2. We believe the Holy Spirit will guide us in our continued faithfulness. 3. We believe that our presence as Women in the Church will lead our Church to openness.

Table 14 1. We "widen our tents" and welcome all God's people in our circle of love. 2. In the Spirit of prayer and contemplation, we follow Francis and Clare in "rebuilding the Church" for our times. 3. We are called to be peacemakers and create an atmosphere where trust and HOPE are possible.

Table 15 1. We remain open to the Holy Spirit in revealing our value system to the world and church. 2. We offer our charism of Franciscan values to our continued ministries. 3. Our legacy is the cumulative ministries we offer our gifts to the Church and world.

Wednesday Afternoon, June 19, 2024

What are the gifts we are bringing to the world? To what is the Spirit inviting us?

Table 2 1. The Spirit is inviting us to find the balance in life between quiet and interaction with others. 2. The Spirit is inviting us to recognize the gifts of both men and women and the complimentary nature of each. 3. The Spirit is inviting us to bring a sense of security and peace to a world that sorely needs it.

Table 3 1. The Spirit invites us – to know we ARE the Spirit’s presence no matter where we are or what we are doing. 2. The Spirit invites us to live the Peace Prayer and mean “let it begin with me.” 3. The Spirit invites us to acknowledge how actively the Spirit has worked for each of us and all of us.

Table 4 1. The Spirit is inviting us to re-define our relationships between humans and humans, humans and creation, as well as humans and God. 2. The Spirit is inviting us to ponder more frequently and be open and listen to what the Spirit is saying. 3. The Spirit is inviting us to be open to a personal Pentecost and an urgency to action where we become bolder, collaborative, trustful, hopeful, relational and risk takers.

Table 5 1. Spirit invites, we mess up often - 6 words. 2. We need to expand our horizon and stretch our vision (sometimes it hurts.) 3. Women of wisdom accept limitations.

Table 6 1. We have similar ideals – accepting the good from others while recognizing the value of others. 2. We need to share these ideals with each other as well as the world. 3) It is important to recognize each person we meet

Table 7 We are invited to have an influence in the world by our goodness, by our faith, our openness and connectedness to others, to the Church, the World and the Cosmos. 2. We invite people to share our wisdom in the world including being bold enough and willing to help solve conflicts in our world. 3. Invited to “Be Not Afraid,” to be honest, to welcome and embrace the surprise that birth can bring; All Will Be Well.

Table 8 1. To realize more deeply that we are all in relationship and connected with one another. 2. To recognize that wisdom comes from experience and our collective “we.” 3. To realize all is gift brings greater responsibility to the cry of the earth and its people.

Table 9 1. Meet others where they are and be their companion on the journey to bring them where Christ wants them to be. 2. The Spirit is calling us to influence people in their daily lives so that we may reach out to the world we have yet to know. 3. The Spirit is calling us to speak from the heart and express our experiences, thoughts, and feelings with boldness and clarity.

Table 10 1. Instead of feeling like specks in the cosmos, we believe we are part of God's great work of art. 2. If we can believe that we are all in relationship with creation and one another, what problems could be eliminated? 3. The Spirit calls us to think big, to think differently and to use our gifts.

Table 11 1. Look at what is presenting itself in our world and meet it with prayer and our Franciscan values such as joy, peace, hope, gratefulness, simplicity. 2. Use our collective wisdom to differentiate between truth and untruth; promote the truth. 3. Live in the moment; trust the Spirit will invite and lead us where the Spirit wants us to go.

Table 12 1. Give to the world our Franciscan charisms of joy, peacemaking, hospitality, simplicity, graceful aging and dying ... while living with the rhythms of the Spirit. 2. Continue our environmental activism and social justice actions regarding racism, human trafficking, immigration and incarceration ... while discerning new ways to reach out to our chaotic world as the Spirit inspires us. 3. Find ways to dialogue kindly, with courage and understanding for others, as we raise awareness of issues in our country and our world.

Table 13 1. To continue to be women of courage and strength in meeting the needs of the world today as we have been in the past (education, social service, and health care). 2. To continue to give a feminine presence and perspective to this chaotic world in so many ways (environment, race, human trafficking. 3. Inviting us to be active and do more one person at a time; if I do not do it now – when, if not me – who?!

Table 14 1. The majesty of the Cosmos inspires care of the earth and all creation and gratitude for God's love of us. 2. God insists us to be a part of the bigger picture invites us to be respectful to people and to give good example and educate to bring back good manners. 3. God takes delight in us and from that flows respect for the beauty of all creation.

Table 15 1. The Spirit is inviting us to be living witnesses to the interconnectedness of the universe through concrete efforts of diversity and ecology. 2. The Spirit is inviting us to be witnesses to our diminishment with peace and wisdom to the world. 3. The Spirit is inviting us to take care of, and appreciation for, God's creation.

Thursday Morning, June 20, 2024

What are the feelings I need to share with others at this time in my life?

Given what we have heard, to what is the Spirit inviting us?

Table 1 1. The Spirit is inviting us to understand endings and accompany losses. 2. The Spirit is inviting women to accept our vulnerability and not suppress our feelings but to talk from our heart. 3. The Spirit is inviting us to take care of ourselves, in order to take care of others including our emotional and mental health

Table 2 1. To continue our Franciscan values through our life as Associates; to keep us grounded as we face life's challenges so the Holy Spirit can guide us in the right way. 2. The Holy Spirit is calling us to recognize our humanity and likeness in life. There is no "other." We need to be honest with our feelings and open to the honesty of others who are on this journey as well. 3. Through talking to the Holy Spirit, we are asking for God's guidance to help us live a life that helps us to find inner peace.

Table 4 1. The Spirit is inviting us to identify our feelings, process our feelings, and express our feelings with love and kindness. 2. The Spirit is telling us it is never too late to learn how to share our experiences and emotions which may encourage others to do the same. 3. The Spirit is inviting us to be compassionate listeners to others' trials, blessings, emotions and how love was expressed in their lives.

Table 5 1. Even if many fears and uncertainties, there is a prevalent gratitude and a dynamic movement to the future together. 2. "For what has been - Thanks!" For what has yet to be – yes! Dag Hammarskjöld. 3. Spirit is saying "trust – *confiança* – God will take care of us."

Table 6 1. We move together with trust, hope, surrender, supported by the power of prayer into our unknown future. 2. Everything has an ending time; we are born, live, and die – this is a part of life not to be feared. 3. We are all unique; beautifully and wonderfully made; God's work of art!

Table 7 1. Develop meaningful relationships by listening to, recognizing and accepting the negative emotions of fear, discouragement, what-ifs, stress and conflict, in ourselves and others, so we can do something positive with that energy. 2. Live with love and care, embracing the positive feelings of trust, happiness, care for others, resiliency, excitement, letting go, hope and gratitude, so we can bring out values to address issues in our world. 3. Live the life to which we have been called, recognizing diverse feelings among us, so we can embrace the diversity in our Sisters and Brothers, stretching our hearts to welcome the pain of others in the Church and in the world.

Table 8 1. The Spirit is inviting us to be aware of the many surprises God has for us and to live what is ours to do with wisdom, kindness and simplicity. 2. The Spirit is inviting us to embrace the unknown – the space between and realize what is essential and non-essential. 3. The Spirit is inviting us to look at the bigger picture of life – Our families continue with nieces and nephews, etc. So, too, our Franciscan charism will continue.

Table 10 1. Spirit calls us to deepen our sharing and be willing to risk saying what we have never shared before. 2. As JF together we are called to be our authentic selves and to express this authenticity with an open heart. 3. We are invited to recognize the rich deep soil of our lives so that we may create a new harvest to give away to the world.

Table 11 1. The Spirit is calling us to express our gratitude to speak our God and to our leadership for their courage and willingness to lead us to look realistically at our Congregation's future. 2. The Holy Spirit is leading us to be prayerful, courageous and trusting to place our future into God's hands. 3. The Spirit is asking us to trust in one another and continue to speak our truth to one another.

Table 12 1. The Spirit is inviting us to recognize and accept our own feelings and our ability to share our feelings honestly with each other. 2. The Spirit is inviting us to trust the process and bring intentional and purposeful in accepting the unknown future.

Table 13 1. We are being called by the Spirit to trust in God and in one another. 2. We are being called by the Spirit open to new ideas and situations. 3. The Spirit is calling us to be available and to have the courage to accept and assume what the Spirit is calling us to.

Table 14 1. While grateful for the past, we are invited to focus on the present, read the signs of these times and face them with courage. 2. We are invited to continue what we have been doing here — to share our truths and listen to others' truths.

Table 15 1. The Spirit is inviting us to figure out how to celebrate having “done what is ours to do.” 2. The Spirit is inviting us to acknowledge what has been and move toward what will be. 3. The Spirit is calling us to walk together knowing that we walk at different paces, leaving no one behind.