

# Franciscan Missionaries of the Divine Motherhood



## General Chapter 2019

Chapter Happenings No 10  
Monday 13 May 2019



The day began with the song: **'Come Back To Me'** (*Song of Hosea*). Members were then invited to find their space and to pray with this scriptural text

**"Therefore I am now going to allure her; I will lead her into the desert And speak tenderly to her heart'**

Hosea 2:14

The Chapter Process resumed on **Sunday, 12th May 2019 at 2pm**. We felt the absence of our lay partners and our chaplain Fr. Pat Murphy.

### Personal Chapter Message

Each member was invited to bring their personal chapter message which was written on a large strip of paper and these were placed on the wall. Here are a few of them:

- ◆ **Live the Gospel**
- ◆ **Become what I love for the world, listen to his voice.**
- ◆ **Journeying joyfully with Jesus.... through emerging realities.**
- ◆ **Expanded Heart for / with the vulnerable.**

**Monday, 13 May 2019**

**The work of today: Discerning the Way Forward with conversations on the following:**

1. Distilling the Chapter Message / Vision
2. Yesterday's language
3. Completion
4. Initial Formation
5. Indigenous Religious Life.



### Personal sharing from our Lay Partners

"It has been a privilege for me to participate in, and contribute to, the FMDM journey at this crucial time of change for the Congregation. It was truly a very inclusive, welcoming, collaborative, thought-provoking and enriching experience – with

each of us doing our small part in God's big plan.

Hallelujah!" **Sean O'Healy (Ireland)**



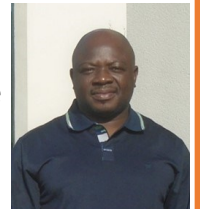
"It was an education to see how things worked at a Chapter, and I was very impressed by the attention span and quality of questioning from the sisters on 'Finance Day'. It was an honour to be one of the first Lay partners to be invited to the Chapter

and a real pleasure to spend quality time with many sisters that I had previously only briefly met. I'm already looking forward to the next one!" **Shaun Cooper (England)**

Welcome to our Chaplain for the second half of the Chapter:

**Fr Blaise Agwom** who hails from the Archdiocese of Jos, Nigeria

- Studied for MSc, African Peace and Conflict Studies at Bradford University
- PHD Researcher at The University of Jos, Nigeria on Peace Studies
- The Director—Dialogue, Reconciliation and Peace (DREP) Centre, Jos, Nigeria



"Caroline (Smith), Shaun (Cooper) and I felt like three orphans in Belfast airport on Saturday having left the rest of the family behind in Larne. Those eight days of being part of the FMDM Chapter deliberations had meant so much to each of us.

During those first days of the Chapter the invitation to us all was "what is God calling, indeed demanding, from you here and now?" I feel sure that this will continue to be the summons of God's Spirit to the FMDM Chapter Members in the coming days."

**Jim Simmons (England)**

