

ASSISI Chapter of Mats

FRANCISCAN MISSIONARIES OF THE DIVINE MOTHERHOOD



CHAPTER OF MATS:

Day 1: 29 January 2017

The pilgrimage continues but in the setting of the meeting room as they begin to look specifically at the **purpose of the meeting** which is:

In the light of our vision of... celebrating and living gracefully the diminishment as well as investing in, and nurturing new life in the congregation whilst holding all the members on this journey.



To continue the process of implementation of new models of leadership and explore their implications for the Congregation after July 2017.



The day began with Morning Prayer followed by a 'Community Experience' exercise by using strings.

In groups of five two were connected by a string and members had to work out how to separate them. This caused much laughter, much puzzlement, perseverance, a little frustration but an **excellent exercise with many learnings about team work**, looking for the simple answers, thinking outside the box etcetera!

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ADMONITIONS for the Chapter meeting

In the spirit of Francis and in the light of our days of pilgrimage, members were invited to write their own **Admonitions** for their meeting.

Each small group could offer two admonitions to the whole group. These will serve as an encouragement and inspiration for us throughout their time together.

Here are some of the admonitions.

- ◆ Dream courageously from that place within, where I am fully and infinitely love.
- ◆ Recognising the Spirit of God within each sister we are called to receive every idea/suggestion with reverence and respect.
- ◆ Let God be God. Stretch your eyes to the furthest horizon.
- ◆ Live in an attitude of minority in order to become what you love!
- ◆ Taking the risk in letting go of their comfort, fears, the familiar. (Both Francis and Clare).
- ◆ As sisters strive to be your truest selves, put on Christ and live the Gospel.
- ◆ Cast aside all fear and doubt. The Lord is your strength.
- ◆ Leave the familiar and move freely to where the Spirit is leading us.



CONTEMPLATIVE DIALOGUE

Members spent the remainder of the day to explore issues the Congregation is facing in a spirit of *Contemplative Dialogue*. This way of conversation is introduced to them by Margaret, the facilitator.

30 January: Members will begin work with the **Consultation Responses**.