

Together for the Mission

20th Chapter of Sri Lanka
Direction Statement

Drawn by Love
Passionate for Justice

03rd - 13th September 2025

07

Journey towards Regionalization

CALL TO ACTION

- *In response to the call to action on the New Governance Structure of the 2021 Congregational Chapter, facilitate a process to collaboratively explore viable pathways towards forming a region with a global vision.*

"To Act Justly, Love Tenderly and Walk Humbly with Your God." (Micah 6:8)

Rooted in God's abundant love and attuned to the Spirit's gentle urgings, we, sisters and partners in mission, recognize anew the call to embody justice with humility, tenderness, and compassion in our ever-evolving universe.

As pilgrims of hope, guided by the Spirit, we, the delegates of this 20th Province Chapter, have discerned the Holy Spirit's invitation to all of us – Apostolic Sisters, Contemplative Sisters and Partners-in-Mission – to incarnate and live the Directions we now embrace together.

We move from fear to trust, from scarcity to abundance, from fragmentation to deeper communion, listen attentively to the constant cry of the poor and the wounded earth.

In fidelity to the call of the Good Shepherd, accompanied by Mary, our blessed Mother, we choose to act justly, love tenderly and walk humbly as individual persons and as a Province with a global heart.

Together we will be guided and live by these Directions that we have discerned and committed to:

01

Primacy of God is our Life

Journey inward into the heart of mystery to encounter God's ever-unfolding Divine Love. Rooted in the Gospels, with authentic prayerfulness, practice of virtues and openness, we respond to others and the whole of creation with compassion, reverence and joyful commitment.

CALL TO ACTION

- *Inspired by St. Mary Magdalene, initiate a transformative process that embraces our shared human vulnerability, opening the way to reconciliation.*
- *Integrate our prayer and reflection within the unfolding spirituality of our time, realities of our world and the enduring heritage and inspiration of Saint John Eudes and Saint Mary Euphrasia.*

06

Stewardship of Finances and Properties for Mission Sustainability

Ensure responsible stewardship and equitable sharing of resources.

CALL TO ACTION

- *Review the existing financial manual and operational policies to develop a comprehensive financial plan that speaks of equity and just practices.*
- *Update and Centralize finances in all areas of the Province, communities and ministries, ensuring the efficiency, transparency and accountability by further advancing the centralization of financial management across all ministries.*
- *Maximize the utilization of properties – both land and buildings – which are sustainable assets that advance and support the mission.*
- *Transfer the legal ownership of Congregation-owned properties to the Congregation.*
- *Formulate a strategic plan for employees that safeguards their rights and ensures access to appropriate benefits, while addressing areas, over and under functioning.*

05

Effective and Empowering Governance for Mission

Develop transformative leadership within the Province to embrace a collaborative, synodal approach at every level, and build a governance system that empowers all and energizes the mission.

CALL TO ACTION

- *In consultation with the Province, and with an external facilitator, explore an effective governing and administrative structure as well as an alternative to the current Sector system.*
- *As an interim measure, affirm the existing governance framework as the official structure of the province and accelerate the implementation of recommendations pertaining to local communities.*
- *Explore and appoint Advisory Teams composed of sisters and Partners in Mission, with expertise across various fields to assist the Province leadership team in Administration and relevant areas where support is needed.*

02

Communion in Community

Build joyful discerning communities, by recognizing our own dignity and honoring the rich diversity of all; sharing mutual love and reverence that lead us toward personal growth and collective transformation.

CALL TO ACTION

- *Make a firm commitment to create sacred spaces of conversation and dialogue, as a regular practice in our communities.*
- *Ensure that our communities are mission centered, intergenerational and guided by a strategic plan that fosters both communal life and a shared mission that is vibrant and relevant for our times.*

03

Witnessing to a Prophetic Mission

Embody the compassionate presence of Jesus the Good Shepherd and courageously integrate the universal culture of justice as a way of life. Anchored in deep discernment, respond with fearless creativity, choosing what is prophetic and timely for our world today.

CALL TO ACTION

- *Adopt best practices that foster equity, dignity, compassion and respect for all people, creation and the care for the earth.*
- *Create an environment where every individual who is involved in our life and mission is safeguarded and valued.*
- *Identify, recognize and nurture the commitment of partners-in mission, fostering mutual understanding, respect and trust.*
- *Review, develop and implement effective administrative structures and standard operating procedures for the Good Shepherd Social Ministries of the Province, while implementing existing standard operation system for the Education ministry.*
- *Enhance rights-based approaches and best ministry practices in all services, Pastoral, Educational and Social, taking to heart, integrating the position papers.*

04

Formation for Transformation

Interiorizing the spirit of Jesus the Good Shepherd through holistic formation, remaining open to the cries of our wounded world and the evolving mission of the Church. Encourage and nurture creativity, adaptability and a deep commitment to co-responsibility and collaborative action.

CALL TO ACTION

- *Design dynamic and relevant strategies for vocation-mission promotion that effectively respond to today's evolving realities.*
- *Reassess and enhance both initial and continuing formation programs to support the holistic development of sisters and the formation of partners in mission.*
- *Prioritize capacity building to empower sisters and partners in mission, to grow in spiritual leadership and serve effectively wherever we are called in the mission.*