

12TH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF CHRISTIAN LIFE COMMUNITY KENYA Carmelite Community, Karen, 29th – 31st July 2022

Statement of Mandate

We, the Christian Life Community in Kenya delegates, gathered at Carmelite Community, Karen, between 29th to 31st July 2022, and guided by the desire to **deepen our Charism for the world**, embrace this as our mandate for the next two and a half years.

Today, 31st July 2022, is the Feast of St. Ignatius of Loyola and the closure of the 500 years' Jubilee of his conversion. We are grateful for our 33 years of graced existence as CLC Kenya, a holy age, being the period Jesus lived on this planet. In awe we acknowledge the way the Lord has walked with us and our families during the difficult period of COVID 19 pandemic. We are especially consoled by our two main missions, St. Aloysius Gonzaga Secondary School and Zaidi Centre of Ignatian Spirituality, the progress and achievements made this far, especially in mitigating against the effects of the pandemic and the continuation of the programs.

Responding to the call to deepen our charism, the delegates put emphasis **on the youth especially at the university and those leaving the university, and on formation of CLC members for mission.**

We will continue to enhance our collaboration with the Society of Jesus in the Province of Eastern Africa, other Ignatian Communities, and other CLC communities around the world.

I. In relation to Ignatian Spirituality:

EXCO will focus on sustainable-growth of members, community, hence CLCK, through:

- 1) Special focus on formation programs at universities,
- 2) Promoting spiritual exercises for new and senior members.
- 3) Reviving the formation programs and retreats for CLCers
- 4) Exploring ways to include the concept of '*see clearly, judge right and act boldly*' and being outward looking in the formation of CLCers.
- 5) Integrating leadership skills training in formation programs.
- 6) Encouraging use of the four pillars, *daily examen, Spiritual Exercises, contemplative prayer, and discernment.*
- 7) Sensitizing and encouraging members to use existing CLC library/training materials, other spiritual materials, and any other training resources, including www.cvx.net
- 8) Reviving the use of Jesuit scholastics as Group and Retreat guides.

II. In relation to Community

EXCO will undertake activities that will form existing CLC members as well as build on the pool we have by:

- 1) **Membership evaluation:** EXCO will undertake a complete evaluation of CLC groups and members in line with CLC Charism (General Principles and General Norms).
 - a) This will be accomplished through a matrix which will aid groups' self-evaluation. This will inform and help groups/members discern their continuity in CLC, through the support and guidance of EXCO.
 - b) This will enable EXCO develop a current and actual list of bona fide CLC members.
- 2) **Graduate transition:** Formalize university graduate transition, by developing a system that assigns fresh graduates to new or existing CLC groups.
- 3) **Reporting:** Develop an appropriate and fit-for-purpose ongoing reporting system, both narrative and financial. This can be aided by having a monitoring and evaluation system to track progress that is measurable.
- 4) **Enhance Communication:** Have a communication strategy that will ensure all CLCers are updated in ways that are effective, using appropriate ways and channels for all.
- 5) **Experienced Group Guides:** These are especially necessary for university groups and newly formed groups.
- 6) **Training of Group Guides:** Continue with capacity building of Group Guides and Coordinators.
- 7) **Succession:** Deliberately invest in succession management
- 8) **Exploit technology:** This will increase participation, as a viable option where physical meetings are difficult. This can be applied to:
 - a) Group meetings,
 - b) Quarterly meetings
 - c) Have an active website and Facebook page
- 9) **Financial Sustainability:**
 - a) EXCO will review the idea behind Kitale income generating project and propose alternatives e.g. moving it to the proposed Hekima Jesuit University.
 - b) EXCO will lead the National Community in discerning how to develop one and half acres of land in Turbo, gifted to CLC Kenya by Lucy Gichuru's late mother.
- 10) **President for CLC Kenya:** The EXCO will oversee a discernment process towards selection of a new CLC Kenya President within three months from the end of the National Assembly.

III. In relation to Mission:

- 1) EXCO will give emphasis to revival of Mission as a strong component of CLC Kenya. This will focus on sending members to participate in Zaidi Centre programs, and any other in accordance to the mandate.
- 2) EXCO will pursue mission in the Universities, beyond the formation programs.

- 3) EXCO will include visits to the missions, Zaidi Centre and St. Al's during the National Assembly.
- 4) EXCO will plan participation of the leadership of Zaidi centre and St. Aloysius Gonzaga School in the National Assembly.

May the Blessed Virgin Mary, Our Lady of Africa, pray for us and show us the way.