

# SSCC

## 40<sup>th</sup> General Chapter

*Brothers*

**DOCUMENTS AND DECISIONS**



"Enlarge the space for your tent" (Is 54,2)



## Secular Branch

“Since its origin the Congregation has had a Secular Branch. Its members commit themselves to live the mission and the spirit of the Congregation, and it has its own Statutes approved by the Holy See.” (Const. 9).

The General Chapters of the sisters and brothers of the Congregation recognise the path travelled by the Secular Branch in recent years, in different parts of the world where we are present. We value the fact that sisters, brothers and members of the Secular Branch share the same spirituality and mission. We feel called to journey as a synodal Church on the basis of our common baptismal dignity.

To continue along this path we invite sisters, brothers and members of the Secular Branch to deepen what is proper to the identity of the SSCC laity, taking into account in particular the *Declaration of the General Governments on the Secular Branch* (2008) and the *Statutes of the Secular Branch* (2022).

As sisters and brothers, we dedicated a day of the General Chapters to reflect on our commitment to the Secular Branch. We have all been called to contemplate, live and proclaim to the world the love of God incarnate in Jesus, each branch in its own form of Christian life in the Church. In this sense, we have approved a set of recommendations and decisions to increase co-responsibility among all of us.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. To promote awareness, beginning with Initial Formation of the sisters and brothers, that we share our vocation and mission with the Secular Branch.
2. That in the next six years, reparative adoration be promoted as an important element of our charism, so that sisters, brothers and members of the Secular Branch strengthen this ministry entrusted by the Church to the Congregation, even more so in times when the world is suffering from violence and misunderstandings.
3. That formation, celebratory and recreational meetings, conferences and assemblies between sisters, brothers and members of the Secular Branch be encouraged in order to continue growing in fraternity and co-responsibility.
4. Where possible, that pastoral or social ministries be promoted among sisters, brothers and members of the Secular Branch facilitating a shared mission.

## **DECISIONS**

1. That the General Governments of sisters and brothers ensure the continuity of the Spiritual Animation Team of the Secular Branch, incorporating two members of the Secular Branch. The Secular Branch will design the election mechanism of those representatives.

2. That the accompaniment of the Secular Branch by sisters and brothers be ensured as far as possible, and that the formation of sisters and brothers for this service be promoted.
3. That the Secular Branch be strengthened where it exists, and that it be promoted where it does not.