

Cluster Dominican Life & Mission Response Sheets

New Orleans Gathering • September 24-26, 2004

We Dominican Sisters through continuing the mission of Jesus search for truth by our presence, by preaching, teaching and healing. United in our diversity by the power of the Holy Spirit, we seek to transform oppressive structures of society by responding to the signs of the times.

Based on the wisdom of our lived experience, we will continue to walk in solidarity with each other and with the oppressed. We commit ourselves to be truth as we preach Gospel values.

We Dominicans: stand firm in the truth for the sake of the mission
celebrate the unity that is birthed from diversity
risk and bear the consequences

We preach from the pulpit of our lives, knowing that we discover grace in a world always in process of becoming, in a world where we find one another and God.

We are called by God and led by the Spirit to preach the Gospel. Preaching not only by our words but by our lives. We, like Jesus, continue to reach out to the marginalized and oppressed.

As Dominicans through our prayer and listening to the Spirit we are led to preach the gospel however the spirit leads us.

Supportive communal life strengthens us. Eucharist is our sign of unity and self offering. Telling our stories is liberating and we experience transformation in the process.

Grateful contemplative women of the spirit, rich in relationship, rooted in prayer hearing and proclaiming the word, are free for an itinerant life for mission.

Rooted in the truth who is God and standing in the Dominican tradition, in the flow of daily life we hear the needs of the day and, inspired by the Holy Spirit, we respond in companionship to those in need.

In the experiences we related at our table the common thread was that we answered the signs of the times to relieve oppressive structures and to empower lay people to collaborate with us in the mission of Jesus. Strengthened by prayer and by reading the signs of the times we preach the gospel to the unchurched, the poor and the marginalized of society.

Our experiences of unity in our diversity compel us to search for truth wherever it is found, name the grace discovered for the sake of transforming lives.

Like Dominic we meet people where they are, seeing needs and responding to them. Our actions have wider impact than the deeds themselves, drawing people into community. These results flow from a contemplative stance which draws us to the margins, as agents of change.

We, at this table, are at a time in our lives when we have new and different ways to celebrate life. We are changing but still working for the Lord. We find that we are preaching in new ways while continuing the mission of the Order, inspired by Dominic and Catherine.

The challenge of pioneering

The rediscovering of community life in new forms

The search for truth in prayer and study

The Preaching of the word in all our forms of ministry.

Common prayer, study and play nurture and enkindle us to respond to the signs of the times.

The Gospel roots us and thrusts us into itinerancy which gives us a freedom to become who and what God has in mind for us.

Compelled by the Word of God...

To be in right relations hip with God, self, others, and all of creation.