

## The General Assembly of Regnum Christi begins

- The Extraordinary General Assembly of the Regnum Christi Movement will take place in two sessions: The first session will be from April 9-18 and the second in November. It brings together 91 delegates from all the realities that constitute Regnum Christi: Legionaries of Christ, consecrated women, lay consecrated men and lay people. Thirty-one percent (29) participate by office and 69% (62) have been elected by members of their own branches.
- The purpose of the General Assembly is to discern and approve the legal configuration of Regnum Christi as a whole, and to propose this configuration to the Holy See for final approval. In turn, it reviews and gives its judgment about the draft General Statutes of Regnum Christi proposed by the Regnum Christi General Committee.
- General meetings of the consecrated branches preceded the assembly: the
  first session of the Legionaries' General Chapter and the general assemblies
  of both the lay consecrated men and the consecrated women. Each
  consecrated branch has contributed its initial considerations to the General
  Assembly for all branches to work on jointly in the coming days.
- Convinced that what concerns Regnum Christi concerns all its members, each consecrated branch has put its proposals on the table for everyone at the General Assembly to work on together, as we walk the path of discernment. These proposals address issues such as the existence of a common charism, the participation of the laity in the whole of Regnum Christi, the autonomy of the branches, the canonical configuration of the federation, the proposal of the draft Statutes presented by the General Committee, the type of government of the federation, and the way to govern works of apostolate.
- The consecrated women and lay consecrated men have agreed, in their respective assemblies, to request from the Holy See that they become societies of apostolic life.

The Regnum Christi Movement goes through a process of revision of its General Statutes, hand in hand with the Holy See, in order to provide the whole Movement with an appropriate canonical form. For this, 91 representatives of the different vocations that make up Regnum Christi – Legionaries of Christ, consecrated women, lay consecrated men and laity – will meet in a General Assembly celebrated in two sessions. The first session begins on Monday, April 9; the second session will be in November.



Prior to this General Assembly of Regnum Christi, representatives of the <u>Legionaries of Christ</u>, the <u>consecrated women</u> and <u>lay consecrated men</u> of Regnum Christi met in separate extraordinary meetings. They have elaborated proposals and considerations to offer to the General Assembly of Regnum Christi as subject of study and dialogue among all members of the Movement.

The communications that made these proposals public show a strong convergence between the different branches of Regnum Christi (Legionaries of Christ, consecrated women, lay consecrated men and lay people) on the existence of a common charism and mission. The Legion of Christ has expressed itself on this subject in continuity with the General Chapter of 2014, and has reiterated that the Legion belongs to Regnum Christi, and that the two are inseparable realities.

All the consecrated branches have reaffirmed the importance and desire of a full participation of the lay branch, even if an adequate canonical expression of this reality cannot be found at this moment. The three consecrated branches agree that a federation is currently the best canonical form to express, safeguard, and promote the common charism.

Regarding the government of this federation, the consecrated women and lay consecrated men propose a personal authority, moderated by a council, and with most of the works governed by the federation, which was the initial proposal of the draft Statutes. The Legionaries' General Chapter wanted to offer the General Assembly of Regnum Christi an outline of a new proposal for discussion: a collegial government for the coordination of the federation, but the government of the works of apostolate to be entrusted ordinarily to the higher levels of authority in one of the consecrated branches, while encouraging the active participation of members of all branches in each work.

No consecrated branch established *sine qua non* conditions for their participation in a federation: They are all convinced that what concerns Regnum Christi concerns everyone and, therefore, it is important to follow the path of discernment.

All recognize the identity of the other vocations and the contribution of each one to Regnum Christi, as well as the autonomy of each one of the consecrated branches. In this sense, the consecrated women and lay consecrated men have agreed in their respective assemblies to propose to the Holy See that they be configured as societies of apostolic life.



## **Overview of the General Assembly**

The General Assembly consists of 91 delegates from 14 countries: Argentina, Austria, Brazil, Canada, Chile, El Salvador, France, Germany, Italy, Mexico, the Philippines, Spain, the United States, and Venezuela. Thirty-seven Legionaries (40%) (16 by office, 21 by election); 30 lay people (32%) (1 by office, 29 by election – 13 women, 17 men), 18 consecrated women (19%) (6 by office, 12 by election); and 6 lay consecrated men (6.5%) (all 6 by office).

In total, 29 of the delegates (31%) participate by office and 62 (69%) have been elected by the members of their own branches.

## Resources

Photo gallery, <u>click here</u>.
Bios of the delegates, <u>click here</u>.
More information is on the web page <u>www.rcstatutes.org</u>.