

"Hearts Burning within Us as we Journey"

Our 2012 Provincial Chapter was an experience of unity and discernment. We recognised that God has walked with us "all along the way ...to this place" [Deut 1: 31] and we saw the present moment of our journey as one of contemplative listening, of living the questions and living our way into the answers. Convinced of the great potential of this present time, albeit a time of ageing and vulnerability, we affirmed the need to live it well, with courage, hope and compassion. It is a time for listening to the prophetic voices of others, making choices in freedom, letting go of what is no longer life-giving, and welcoming what is waiting to be born. We want to embrace the new, with faith and courage and to prepare ourselves as communities to accept new life. We go forward in hope, encouraged by the experience of our Chapter, and sustained by our faith in the God of love who walks with us.

To further the life and mission of our Province at this time we need to:

1. accept our shared responsibility to move forward, trusting in the body, with continued attentive listening to the big picture
2. make choices about what we need to "let go and to let in"
3. make decisions about closing houses and about how we organise ourselves in the future, for example, government, chapters.

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