

A CHAPTER WE WROTE IN OUR HEARTS

Who calls us to “*widen the space of our tent?*” It is no other than Jesus Eternal Wisdom. We, the Sisters of the Philippine Delegation responded to that call on December 26-30, 2012 through our Delegation Chapter facilitated by Sr. Evelyn Eckhardt of the US Province.

The Chapter started with silence, with a time of personal reflection to better hear the call of Wisdom as we have experienced Her in the past, as She journeys with us in our present realities in preparation for the new phase of our journey. Now that the group was ready to listen, the Chapter formally began with the procession of chimes. These chimes were given during the last Chapter to symbolize Wisdom continuously calling us to new frontiers. These chimes were the faithful witnesses of what each one of us had lived since one year.

Sr. Evelyn led the group to read and reflect individually on the General Chapter Orientation. The sisters were divided into three groups of five to share, discuss, and summarize the important points and priorities in the Orientation. After which, this was shared in the big group. The prevailing thoughts of the group were very evident in the similarities of priorities based on the group sharing. The two prevailing priorities were: (1) to be transformed by the gentleness, compassion, and welcoming attitude of Christ Wisdom; and (2) Interculturalism. Different suggestions were given on how to live these two priorities for the next six years of the Delegation.



The group then proceeded to agree on the logo. The artistic gifts of the sisters were revealed as different forms of the logo were presented to the group. The group also agreed to use short words for the theme as follows: Transformation, Interculturalism, and Liberating Wisdom at the Heart of the World while keeping the theme of the General Chapter “Widen the space of your tent”.

Towards the end of the session, the group decided on the revisions proposed on the Statutes and Policies of the Delegation.

To lighten up the mood, the Delegation was given a glimpse of the transformation that is at hand as we live in the priorities of the Delegation Chapter

In high spirits, the Chapter ended with a prayer highlighting the commitment of each sister present to live out the essence of the Chapter in the next six years. We left the Chapter, chimes in hand, and with hearts singing to Wisdom's calling, ready and eager to respond.



*Jesus Eternal Wisdom,
Your love is for all
Calling us to widen
The space of our tent.*

*Jesus Eternal Wisdom,
Your gentleness is for all
Calling us to listen
To the cries of the universe and the poor.*

*Jesus Eternal Wisdom,
Your compassion is for all
Calling us to defend
Women, children and nature.*

*Jesus Eternal Wisdom,
Your hospitality is for all
Calling us to welcome, respect, and
honor others' culture.*

*Jesus Eternal Wisdom,
Transform us, Your daughters,
To be caring and visible
At the heart of the world..*