

Instrumentum Laboris

From the Objectives and Spirits of the 16th International Bishops Assembly, 2021-2023, as shown in the Instrumentum Laboris of this Chanthaburi Diocese's Assembly in Chapter 2 on Walking in the Life and Mission of the Church, Chapter 3 on the Reality of the Chanthaburi Diocese today. This was accompanied by a call from representatives of People of God to complete a 512 - assembly preparatory questionnaire.

Chanthaburi Diocese would like to share the dream of Pope Francis with all diocese around the world and all Christians to walk together in the third millennium by listening to each other's voice and the voice of the Holy Spirit. Keeping the Church alive, give hope to all people without leaving anyone behind, bring joy to the preaching of the new good news in a new and innovative way. According to the title of this General Assembly, "For A Synodal Church: Communion, Participation, and Mission.

1. Communion

The people of God are all those who have been baptized in the Chanthaburi Diocese, are united in the awakening of the "Sense of Faith" (Sensus Fidei) in the mind, by participating in and owning the Church (Sense of Belonging), seriously living according to the Word of God and its teachings until it was named "Christ's Disciple" and a "Testimony" of the Gospel in daily life, especially in love and service.

This unity is manifested in "Act of Love and Mercy" (Charity) towards others equally, without discrimination, especially with fellow brothers and sisters who are in need, sick, poor, elderly, disadvantaged, disabled, incarcerated, troubled, neglected, the weak in society, people with racial, religious, cultural differences, by honoring, defending rights, respecting

liberties, and making personal decisions, promoting justice, caring for the environment, and making the best use of natural resources.

"Eucharistic Celebration" is at the heart of unity in a community of faith that manifests unity, love, forgiveness, reconciliation, the celebration of the Word and the Eucharist, and the power of being the "Missionary Disciple". The community of faith should therefore encourage a lively celebration of Mass, the participation of all faithful, the exposition of the Word of God, and the preaching in accordance with the daily life of the faithful, in a language that is easy to understand, impressive, encouraging, hopeful, and joyful.

The community of faith should foster activities that create unity in the community such as collective prayer, encouraging Christians to come to the Church on Sundays, regularly serving sacraments. By explaining the importance and meaning of various religious performances, reading the Bible, sharing the Word of God and experience of faith, promote Basic Ecclesial Community or BEC, pastoral care of married couples who are about to create a new Christian family especially marriage in disparity of cults, exchanging family life experiences, continuing family pastoral, struggling families, and partnering with them, to build the Domestic Church, catechism for children, catechism for adults by adapting the process of Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults or RCIA to create a new group of Christians to walk together and welcome to meaningful community atmospheres of faith, the transmission of faith from generation to generation, pastoral work for children and youth, leadership building and on-going formation of Christians in various fields.

Dialogues and pastoral visits provide opportunities to experience social realities, to listen to the voices of others, to seek appropriate, creative, scientifically rational approaches, and respond to the needs of people both physically and mentally, unity with other Christian sects (Ecumenism), brothers of different faiths (Interreligious Dialogue), the process of Inculturation deeply rooted in the local culture, including those who do not know Jesus Christ, those who reject and deny Him.

This is to bring about unity between the People of God, friendship, between brothers and sisters of different faiths and cultures, being family in a community of faith, interdependence between communities of other faiths, cooperation in the diocese, relations between other diocese, and conformity with the policies of the Universal Church or the Pope.

2. Participation

People of God in Chanthaburi Diocese imitates the unified relationship of the Holy Trinity, expressing oneness and accountability according to one's duties with a Sense of Faith (Sensus Fidei). Walking together is imperative to listen to each other's voices with empathy, expressing their participation in each other's joy and hope, based on fraternity and family, and listen to the voice of the Holy Spirit that is in our own hearts and in the hearts of our brothers and sisters, to seek the will of God in our daily life. Working together for the common good will appear in all sectors of the diocese.

Brotherly Love manifested by listening to each other with courtesy, generosity, empathy, a deep understanding of identity, respect for other people's differences, and less individuality, deny our own will, humble ourselves, share in suffering, forgive, support and encourage each other, welcome everyone in the community, do not let anyone behind, use our own blessings to promote one another, create equality, fairness, and equality with all, non-discrimination, harmonious attitudes for the sake of the common good, are sensitive to perceptions the needs of everyone in the community.

This manifested unity will be a "testimony" of the sense of faith that concretely exists within a community of faith, among different brothers and sisters. Many want to see the Christian faith alive and touchable, and make the image of the Lord of Love (1 John 4:20) is true among us, by visiting and experiencing the reality of society, to change the method and paradigm shift in working all the time.

In order to contribute to unity, all People of God must vigorously fulfill their roles, be able to work with others at all levels, in all organizations, to be collaborative, flexible in working methods, adapting work processes to the realities of the community and individual needs, transparency, trustful, good relationship, interdependence, and depend on each other.

Working in the modern era requires adjusting the processes, methods, tools, as well as the use of communication technology to suit people of different ages, having a variety of channels, in public relations, educating, answering questions by means of being creative, proactive, approachable and clear, without sacrificing traditional media that remains productive, efficient and still in the needs of some people. All organizations at all levels must move in the same direction or achieve the collective goals that have been set forth, relying on cooperation, planning, coordination, active collaboration, periodic monitoring and evaluation.

Catholic schools are the important places of pastoral, mission, and evangelization, to cover all target groups, such as students, teachers, parents, pastors, male and female religious, brothers and sisters of different faiths and cultures, different nationalities, officials, and personnel in various fields. This is to be a center for learning, developing all people to become complete human being.

The community of faith must promote the role, duty, and participation of all faithful to their abilities and the realities of life, creating laity leaders, youth leaders, for working in organizations or departments. Especially pastoral care for youth, women, family, the elderly, promoting various popular pieties, caring for the vulnerable in society, the poor, migrants or migrant workers, the disabled, promoting vocation, caring for the environment, and the urgent need of the community stems from the voice of the community, and also the voice of the voiceless in society.

3. Mission

All People of God in Chanthaburi Diocese have a sense of faith (Sensus Fidei) which is obtained from the sacrament of baptism, to participate in the life of the Holy Trinity, to carry out three functions according to one's roles and duties in daily life with responsibility: 1) Being a Prophet, is the duty of preaching and witnessing, 2) Being a Priest, is the duty of praying and creating sanctity to the world, and 3) the King is the duty of governance and serving everyone especially the poor.

With this sense of faith call on all Christians to have the mission of evangelizing according to their own vocation, to fulfill the command of the Lord Jesus Christ that "Go all over the world and proclaim the good news to all mankind" (Mk 16:15). This outreach is tantamount to an effort to make the world unified and inclusive. Like the relationship in the Holy Trinity. This proclamation of the good news fulfills the commandment of the Lord Jesus Christ and to use the fruits of the Holy Spirit to be effective in our daily lives.

When Christians are truly united will cause the image of the Body of Christ (cf. Col 1:18 and Eph 4:25) to appear among our brothers and sisters. Especially In the Church's ceremonies, the consecration and service of the Holy Sacraments, with the Lord Jesus Christ at the center between God and mankind, has made the nature of the Church to be "Sacrament" to bring blessings and salvation to the world come true.

The mission of building this unity calls for true repentance that expresses listening to one another with understanding, acceptance, generosity, sincerity, and service to one another, as in the communion of the Eucharist. This mission, therefore, aims to achieve unity at all levels, both within and outside the Church without boundaries and conditions (race, religion, culture, gender, diverse opinions of faith, politics, philosophy, lifestyle, etc.), but with respect to rights, liberties, freedoms, honor, dignity, in consideration of the signs of time, including all the creations of God.

The Mission of Participation calls for all parties, divisions, departments, organizations, churches, schools, seminaries, according to the administrative structure of the diocese, as well as

male and female clergy institutions, families, until individual Christians, working together earnestly, constructively, continuously, by a) Well-planned work, processes and methods of work are adapted to the environment or actual conditions, allowing everyone to work together, listening to the recommendations of everyone, constantly reviewing, evaluating, and improving. b) Carry out daily life as a witness of the Gospel and adhere to the teachings of the Church to walk towards perfection in the Lord Jesus Christ (cf. Jn 10:10). Especially in love, kindness, service to all fellow brothers and sisters in society, in order to achieve unity and participation. with clear concrete indicators of success. ✍