

TOPICS AND QUESTIONS IN VIEW OF THE DRAFTING OF THE *VADEMECUM*

The Holy Spirit has guided us to share the Xaverian charism in diverse ways. Starting from a reflection on the Testament Letter and your experience, we ask you to provide some indications and suggestions on the traits and contents that could be common and constitutive of the Xaverian Laity throughout the world.

1.- Charism and Xaverian spirituality

- a) Which elements of the Xaverian Charismatic Family fascinate you the most and are foundational to your being a Lay Xaverian?

- Family characteristic/fraternity

We admire how Xaverian Priests live as a family. As far as we know they live harmoniously because they support, love and care for one another and they even share their belongings when needed. As a family, they also treat the sick and elderly Priests very well. All of these examples teach us as Lay Xaverians that we are also called to love one another especially those who work together on the same path as a family.

- Poverty/Detachment

We like the way Xaverian Priests detach from the profane things. Their lifestyle reflects modesty. They also live by faith or trust in God's providence.

- Missionary passion

Xaverian is focusing more on ministering the non-Christian communities. They are ready to leave their family and country to spread the Gospel especially to those who haven't known Jesus. In Jakarta, Indonesia, Xaverian Priests build a good relationship with non-Catholic people. It is really a reflection of making the world as one family. Therefore we also have to be able to reach out others and spread God's love.

- Humility

We know that all Xaverian Priests are knowledgeable; yet they are humble.

- Totality in service

Xaverian Priests are always available for everyone that needs support, primarily the spiritual one. We notice that they are very committed to their mission.

- b) What phrases from the Testament Letter best express your life and vocation as a Lay Xaverian?

Paragraph 1:

The Lord could not have been more benevolent towards us!

God loves us unconditionally; we have received and continue to receive His grace. Start with the redemption that we received, our lives, our family, our health, our work; there is not more that we should ask from Him. Therefore, loving others is not a moral burden for us, but is a consequence as a beloved.

Paragraph 6: *Even if a man has held the highest leadership position in the Society to the credit and benefit of all the members for a long period of time, then let him repeat the words of the Gospel: "We are useless servants" and see himself primarily as those who the lowest of the confreres, and are obliged to submit to the rules of living together.*

In our organization as Lay Xaverians, regardless of our status in the society or church, we sit together at par as a member and follow our leader's direction.

Paragraph 10: *A living spirit of faith, which makes us seek God, see God, love God in all things by igniting our desire to advance His Kingdom.*

After joining the Xaverian Laity, we actively look for God in every aspect of our lives and in good or bad people we meet. Basically we are motivated to see God in others.

c) Which aspects of the Xaverian charism are most evident in the Xaverian Laity?

Makes the world as one family – we reach out and love others as brothers and sisters. We care for one another.

2.- Organization of the Xaverian Laity

Following Conforti's dream of "making the world one family." (LT 1)

a) How is your Lay Xaverian group set up at the organizational level?

In Bintaro- Indonesia, we have a Coordinator (Chairperson), Secretary and Treasurer . They are selected by the members for a period of 3 years and can serve for 2 consecutive periods. Besides, we have a Moderator , a Xaverian Priest, appointed by the Provincial Priest.

For the period of FY 2019 - 2022

Chairperson : Albertus Binardi
Secretary : Andreas Oei
Treasurer : Susanty Budiarto
Members : around 15 people are actively involved
Moderator : Fr.Yakobus Sriyatmoko,SX

b) In what areas does the Xaverian Laity operate preferentially, and through what actions?

We are active in these three areas:

- Interfaith dialogs : organized by ourselves or in collaboration with Skolastikat Xaverian
- "Rumah Sahabat" : we provide a house where we receive people (by appointment) who need friends to listen to their problems.
- "Rumah Baca" (Library) : we plan to build a semi-permanent room on Xaverian's land near Noviciate House in Bintaro, Jakarta for a library where the kids living in the neighbourhood may spend their idle time by reading books or socializing with others.

c) How do you imagine the organizational structure of the Xaverian Laity at the global level?

We envision that an organizational structure at the local level is replicated at the national / country level and at the global level. There can be national / country and global alignment and coordination in order to share the experience and best practices or encourage one another.

3.- Juridical and economic autonomy of the Xaverian Laity

a) The Xaverian Charismatic Family comprises of men and women religious and lay people who live their identity in a specific vocation. Which relationships of communion and autonomy (at an organizational, economic, juridical level ...) exist or should be there between these different realities?

At this moment, we do not have a formal relationship between Lay Xaverian and the Congregation other than we have a Moderator who supports us and acts as a liaison to the Congregation. However, we do have a strong fraternity relationship between the Lay Xaverian and the Congregation.

4.- Formation

a) On what is your formation journey as a Xaverian Laity based?

In the beginning, we were invited personally by Fr. Francesco Marini, SX. He conveyed his idea of establishing the Xaverian Laity which means that Catholic people who are amazed by Xaverian Charism and would like to live the charism are invited to join this group.

Then, some of us who are interested meet every month in Xaverian Noviciate House to learn more about Xaverian Charism and the sessions taught by Xaverian Priests.

Among other subjects are :

- Biography of St. Guido Maria Conforti, including the Letters, the Will and the Testament.
- The living Gospel
- The Xaverian Charism
- The Spirituality of Xaverian: Family and Openness.
- Xaverian Motto
- St Francis Xavier
- Interfaith and intercultural Dialogues
- Experiences on their Mission Land

At the end of the year, we signed Commitment Letters and it becomes the inauguration of our membership as Lay Xaverians.

- b) How do the lay people re-read the 5 Xaverian essential values present in the Testament Letter, making them the foundations of the Lay Xaverian formation and life?

In our daily lives, we always see cases from these 4 perspectives.

- Christocentrism:

We try to always remember that every action we take in our daily lives is our witness to share God's love. We seek God in every person we meet. We attend Mass daily if possible, read the Bible, do the confession, have retreats or recollections. We make Christ as the Centre of our lives. We always end our regular meeting with Eucharist.

- Missionary Purposes:

In every action, we have to show God's love consistently, even to non-Christians. We meet and mingle with people regardless of their religious belief. Our activity and service is reaching out to non-Christian people.

- Family Characteristic:

We support and care for one another and we treat others as brothers and sisters. After each meeting, we usually have lunch together while chit-chatting in the dining-room to create fraternity among the members and the Priests. We also schedule to have a recreation together. Once we stayed together in our member's villa for 3 days to do a retreat with our Moderator and also had fun together.

- Xaverian's humanity:

We practice humility, open to new knowledge and be inclusive. All of these aspects must be reflected in our daily lives.

- c) What stages and directions are conceivable for a cohesive formation journey for the International Xaverian Laity?

We have no ideas and open for suggestion.

5.- Interactions between the Xaverian Laity and the other components of the Xaverian Charismatic Family

- a) Regarding the point "*forms and methods of interaction between the Xaverian Laity and the other components of the Xaverian Charismatic Family [...]*" (cf. *Letter from the General Direction to the confreres on the occasion of the Xaverian Jubilee Year 2020-2021*; *iQuaderni de iSaveriani* n.114, July 2020, n.71-72), how do you live and how could the interaction between the Laity and the other components of the Xaverian Family be realized in the future?

We can support the Congregation with expertise that we have, deliver extra hand for their work and any other possible help that we can offer, such as to raise fund for certain purposes, etc.

Reciprocally, the congregation helps us in our spiritual lives, brings us closer to God by giving retreats or recollections. Basically we can support each other to optimize our work and actually such a cooperation has been done in the Xaverian Laity in Jakarta and of course it has to be maintained and developed.

b) What collaborations are in place, and which ones could be developed?

- Participation in the celebration of St. Francis Xavier Day and St. Guido Maria Conforti Day.
- Participation in Assembleia of Xaverian
- Conducting Interfaith Dialogues
- We may also work together to invite people from various communities outside the Church to discuss current topics that do not always related to religions.

c) How can the Charismatic Family be translated into experiences of life or mixed communities?

We can visit each other, attend each other's events, share experiences .

6.- Suggestions from the Xaverian Laity present in the Circumscriptions

a) What appropriate name should be given to this document called for now "*Vademecum*"?

Guidelines of Xaverian Laity.

b) **What are some** other reflections or other topics to be included in the "*Vademecum*"?

We are open for suggestion.