



Position Description for Spiritual Facilitator

Position Title:

Conference Spiritual Facilitator

Appointment:

The Spiritual Facilitator is appointed by the Conference President in consultation with the Conference members. The Spiritual Facilitator's term ceases with the election of a new President.

The spirit of poverty and encouragement

Members of the Society are united in the same spirit of poverty and of sharing. They encourage one another to live a profound spiritual life and to share in the spirit of prayer. For this purpose, the role of the Spiritual Facilitator is very important.

The Rule, 2012 Edition, Part 1, 3.13.

Meetings of the Vincentian Members

The members meet as brothers and sisters with Christ in the midst of them, in Conferences that are genuine communities of faith and love, of prayer and action. Spiritual bonds and friendship between members are essential, as is the common mission to help the poor and marginalized. The entire Society is a true and unique worldwide community of Vincentian friends.

The Rule, 2012 Edition, Part 1: 3.3.

Primary Objectives:

The Spiritual Facilitator holds a key role in helping Vincentians in a Conference to achieve their primary purpose within the Society: growth in holiness, supporting them in their ongoing formation in the Christian Gospel, service to the poor, advocacy for those who are disadvantaged, and Vincentian spirituality. Their role is to facilitate the Conference to be 'genuine communities of faith and love, of prayer and action' and 'meet as sisters and brothers with Christ in the midst of them.' (The Rule, Part.1, 3.3)

Key qualities and skills of a Spiritual Facilitator

A Spiritual Facilitator:

- Is an active Catholic and a person of prayer who is grounded in Gospel values and knowledge of, or prepared to develop, a good understanding of Vincentian Spirituality.
- Has a genuine desire to continually deepen their own spiritual and faith life and encourage others to do so.
- Is willing to grow in what it means 'to follow Christ through service to those in need and so bear witness to His compassionate and liberating love.' (The Rule, Part 1, 1.2).

- Is able to share good counsel.
- Has experience in building and nurturing relationships.
- Is able to listen with sensitivity and openness to others.
- Is willing to grow in their capacity to lead prayer and facilitate sharing.
- Is committed to nurture the Conference to be 'a community of faith and love'.
- Values the spiritual, formative and life experiences of all those in the Society and encourages the gifts and talents of all members.
- Is committed to and familiar with the Rule, values, vision, mission and ministry of the Society.
- Is prepared to work with the Conference President to nurture the three essential elements of Conference life: Spirituality, Service and Community, within their Conference (The Rule, page 58).

The Role:

1. Attending Conference meetings and encourage regular attendance by members.
2. Preparing reflections for Conference meetings, based on scripture, the Society's resources or other resources and encouraging others to also prepare and share reflections.
3. Creating opportunities for individual and group reflection and prayer.
4. Encouraging members to participate in reflection days and retreats and Regional, Territory Council gatherings for members' spiritual enrichment (e.g. festival events).
5. Liaising with the Conference President to offer Eucharistic and other liturgical celebrations.
6. Confidentially offering support and advice to the President as they seek to develop the Conference in Vincentian service and being a community of faith and action engaged in spiritual growth.
7. Providing inspiration, challenge, advice and support to the Conference or individual members of the Society in their ministry.
8. Promoting a sense of unity and belonging among members in the Vincentian family.
9. Collaborating with other Spiritual Facilitators and the Director of Mission and Spirituality to grow in understanding of their role and new ways to support Vincentian formation.
10. Attend gatherings with other Spiritual Facilitators to undertake spiritual and role focussed reflection days and retreats
11. Taking appropriate action based on their own personal limitations and strengths in their role as Spiritual Facilitator