

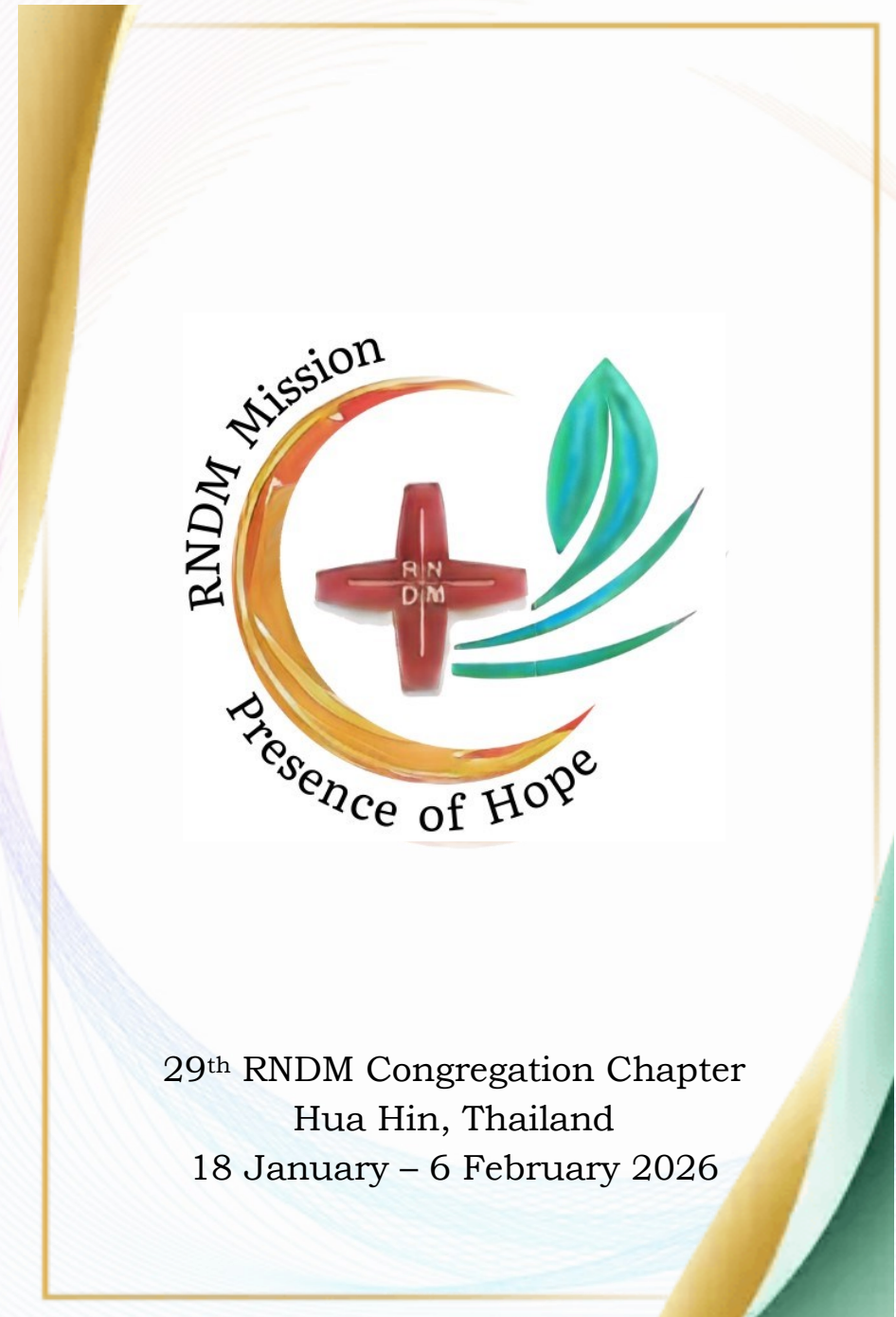


Logo Design: Janette Alejandro

In a world where there is great flood of chaos and difficulties, we RNDMs are like messengers of God’s hope. Daring to carry with courage and commitment, God’s sign of unconditional love to the marginalized and oppressed. Bringing the very life of the Trinity wherever we are called to serve with burning zeal, giving praise and glory to God all the days of our lives.

(Noah’s ark: During the Great Flood when Noah let go of the bird to look for signs of life and the bird came back with leaves on his beak. This is a powerful image of us RNDMs as presence of Hope, that we courageously seek God in the flood and carry the life-giving love of God with our mission wherever we are.)

Document Layout: Vo Thi Thuy Linh RNDM



29th RNDM Congregation Chapter
Hua Hin, Thailand
18 January – 6 February 2026



Governance

Personal Level

- Share stories of changed Governance structures in our Congregation and other congregations across the world

Community Level

- Be engaged in discussion about future options – both benefits and challenges

Province/Region/New Foundation Level

- Explore new models of governance where possible
- Cooperate with the CLT in exploring the possibility of the Congregation becoming one canonical unit

Congregation Level

- Facilitate both future governance structure and mission sisters internationally
- Explore the possibility of the Congregation becoming one canonical unit

Congregation Level

- Promote governance structures towards synodal and sustainable models
- Offer opportunities for sisters to connect globally for input, sharing on Ecological Conversion
- Encourage sisters to write reports on their ministries for Global Sisters Report and other avenues
- Join “Sisters Worldwide”



Rome

Feast of Pentecost

24 May 2026

Dear Sisters,

Warmest greetings to you all.

It is our joy to present the Congregation Chapter Document on this Patronal Feast of the Congregation. On this day, Jesus’ disciples were filled with the Holy Spirit and were able to understand and accept one another, though they spoke in different languages. On this day, the presence of the Holy Spirit broke down their fears, “transformed their hearts and instilled in them a serene courage which impelled them to pass on to others their experience of Jesus and the hope which motivated them.”¹ As the Holy Spirit acted on that first Pentecost, so do we pray the Spirit to act again in us: to transform our hearts, to weave us into one, and to enable us to walk together in unity with joy and hope.

The theme of the 29th Congregation Chapter, ‘RNDM Mission: Presence of Hope’ echoes the Church’s Jubilee Year 2025 theme, “*Pilgrims of Hope*,” inviting us to become builders of hope in a world marked by fear and despair.

¹ St John Paul II, *Redemptoris Missio* (1990), §24.

In the introduction to his new book, “A Light in the Night: Meditation on Hope”, Pope Francis emphasised that hope is a gift from God that sustains us during difficult times and opens our eyes to future possibilities. He invited us to deepen our relationship with Jesus and to be tangible signs of hope for others.

Over the years, as RNDMs, we have offered hope to the people and continue to do so through our presence, our prayers, our ministries, our relationships and even our sufferings. This remains our call and mission, to be persons of hope in today’s fragmented and volatile world.

The Congregation Chapter 2026 was an experience of oneness. It was an event where we were guided at all times to think as ‘congregation’ blessed with its internationality and its myriads of cultures. Thus, the deep desire to reclaim our International Religious Missionary Identity strongly surfaced and was expressed by the sisters in many ways.

Our Chapter Directions invite us, as a congregation, to have an open spirit to explore together new ways of being ‘one’, and to bring about deeper unity, by sharing resources with a culture of care for one another and the Earth.

In the coming years, the congregation will develop processes and a roadmap for each direction, to gather wisdom and expertise to discern and restructure aspects of the congregation, so that we can live our International Religious Missionary Identity fully.

Ecological Conversion

Personal Level

- Join climate action groups
- Be conscious of not purchasing products which have involved slave labour or human trafficking
- Update oneself with materials which address current issues and build capacity for critical analysis

Community Level

- Encourage community conversations on articles, books and issues related to climate change
- Create green and clean environment
- Join local justice organisations
- Ensure paying of just wages to our co-workers and staff
- Sign letters and network with local like-minded organisations, parliamentary petitions

Province/Region/New Foundation Level

- Integrate ecological commitment to mission plan and ministries
- Offer sisters possibilities to join groups like Avaaz
- Organise seminars, webinars, and encourage sisters to join action groups
- Train sisters in Integral Ecology

Safeguarding Policy

Personal Level

- Be aware of why a safeguarding policy is needed in religious life
- Take responsibility for creating a “safe” community

Community Level

- Agree on a set of values that will guide community living
- Create time and space to listen to one another, and share life stories

Province/Region/New Foundation Level

- Reflect with the communities to understand the quality of community life
- Educate and implement the Congregation Policy

Congregation Level

- Create a ‘Culture of Care Policy’ for the Congregation

As courageous women, each of us has a committed role to play in this journey towards oneness for the mission. We value your cooperation and active participation as we embark on this path united in hope, trusting one another and trusting the God who is leading us at this time.

May Mary and Euphrasie speak to our hearts as we seek God’s will and hear His voice calling us to a new future.

With blessings of peace and hope

Margaret Scott *Joyce A. Phuong* 

RNDM Mission Presence of Hope

As a discerning body of the 29th Congregation Chapter, we were aware of the need to nurture, foster and keep alive the charism of our congregation, and move beyond where we are, to deepen our understanding of our missionary identity. We believe that the future of our congregation depends significantly on our ability to live our charism authentically and interculturally/ internationally.

“The spirit and vision entrusted to us by Euphrasie Barbier urges us to respond boldly to the needs of our time grounded in communion, contemplation and mission.” (*Synthesis of Phase Two of Congregation Chapter Preparation*). We walked this synodal journey together looking at the local realities and responding to the invitation to what God is calling us now. Our reflections and conversations led us to identify the changes and challenges of our times, engaging us deeply with the present moment, asking how we as a congregation can respond with relevance and transformative power.

In setting the directions for the future, we were attentive to every voice and listened deeply to the wisdom of each person. Our call is to live RNDM life characterised by missionary zeal, integrity, accountability and transparency, based on gospel values, and be a presence of hope in a fragmented world.

Formation

Personal Level

- Live faithfully and joyfully our religious vocation
- Listen to young people, reach out to them and welcome them
- Make the Congregation known through the ministries

Community Level

- Create communities of joy and hospitality
- Have zeal and enthusiasm for mission

Province/Region/New Foundation Level

- Have clear vocation promotion plans among youth and professionals
- Cooperate with the CLT in exploring one congregation novitiate
- Emphasise the importance of International Religious Missionary Identity to those in formation
- Evaluate the formation ministry annually

Congregation Level

- Ensure training of formators
- Explore the possibility of one congregation novitiate
- Update website with section for formators
- Organise meetings of formators at least every three years

Ministry Review

Personal Level

- Understand the purpose of the Ministry Review in the Congregation
- Be open to reflection to see beyond own ministry
- Accept and cooperate with the guidelines given by the CLT for the Ministry Review

Community Level

- In the light of what has been shared regarding the Ministry Review, the community engages in conversation about ministries
- Have courage to let go of ministries that are not viable

Province/Region/New Foundation Level

- Prepare the sisters for their participation in the Ministry Review by sharing information, engaging in dialogue and listening to their needs
- Receive and share accurate information to the CLT for Ministry Review.

Congregation Level

- Identify and form a Team of RNDMs and professionals to prepare a comprehensive proposal
- Present an update at the next EGC

CHAPTER DIRECTIONS

International Religious Missionary Identity

“By our vocation and by the grace of God we are not only religious, but also religious missionaries”.

Euphrasie Barbier, 2 June 1873

International Religious Missionary identity is a gift for mission. We reclaim this gift by creating intercultural communities for mission where possible.

We recommend PLT/RLT share resources for developing skills and capacities for living communion interculturally, fostering transformative communities to be a symbol of oneness and a prophetic presence of hope in a fragmented world.

Ministry Review

In fidelity to our charism and mission priorities (Constitution #35 and Chapter Document 2014 Pg. 12 and 13) the CLT reviews the ministries of the Congregation with a team of professionals engaging the sisters and leading to a comprehensive Congregation Mission Plan:

- to recognize our strengths and challenges,
- to ensure responsible sharing of our resources, i.e. personnel and finance,
- to have the courage to let go of ministries that are no longer viable.

To explore new possibilities and training needed for mission in collaboration with others, we affirm the need to have clear criteria, needs assessment, strategic planning and evaluation.

Formation for Mission

Vocation Promotion

Vocation ensures the continuity of life and mission in the congregation. We recognize it as a priority which is rooted in prayer, authentic personal and community life witness.

We encourage the formation of a vocation team where possible, who will work in collaboration with National Vocation Promoters of dioceses, parishes and other congregations.

We embrace the challenges of promoting vocations in a digital world to engage actively with youth and young professionals. Where possible we will use updated websites and other digital tools to promote vocations.

We encourage developing and sharing resources for vocation promotion across the Congregation.

- Ensure opportunities to study in depth RNDM Constitutions and Directives and other documents
- Encourage sisters to share their reflections on their lived experiences of international religious missionary identity

Congregation Level

- Facilitate the forming of intercultural / international communities and leadership teams for mission
- Collaborate with leadership teams to understand their realities
- Organise ongoing formation programs to strengthen intercultural living

International Religious Missionary Identity

Personal Level:

- Live our charism (contemplation, communion and mission) authentically and passionately, embracing our international religious missionary identity in mission
- Live in a spirit of forgiveness and reconciliation
- Live a prophetic presence of hope

Community Level

- Practise synodality, reconciliation and forgiveness
- Live harmoniously with mutual respect and create a safe space and a loving atmosphere
- Foster transformative communities of intercultural / international living as a symbol of oneness
- Have intergenerational sharing to strengthen our sense of connectedness with the wider congregation
- Offer hospitality to all and by the witness of our life we can inspire vocation in young women life.

Province/Region/New Foundation Level

- Commit to work in a spirit of unity
- Be aware of the signs of the times and mission needs in the world
- Give priority to the pastoral care and spiritual animation of the sisters
- Encourage sisters to be open for international missioning

Initial Formation

To strengthen our International Religious Missionary Identity, the CLT will explore the possibility of one congregational novitiate that will be staffed with an intercultural team of formators.

The Congregation Leader and team, in consultation with all concerned, may mission sisters internationally at Temporary Vows to enable better planning for education, mission sending and language learning.

Ongoing Formation

The CLT will continue to organise Congregational Renewal Programmes as needed.

Safeguarding

We affirm Directive #35 and recommend that each Province/ Region has their respective Safeguarding Policies and procedures which will be reviewed and updated annually.

To ensure quality of community life, the CLT will create one Congregation Policy and procedures for all to foster a culture of care, right relationships, respect and harmonious living.

Education is an imperative for implementation of the policy and procedures which includes ongoing training and consultation with Conferences of Religious and other appropriate organisations which can offer some common guidelines and resources.

Ecological Conversion

“... entails a loving awareness that we are not disconnected from the rest of creatures, but joined in a splendid universal communion”²

Ecological conversion remains an urgent missionary imperative as we witness the devastation of the Earth community due to climate change and human greed. This requires us to build capacities for critical analysis so as to be educators and advocates for justice, peace and dignity for all.

The PLT/RLT in consultation with CLT will ensure the training of sisters and our co-workers in Integral Ecology (New Cosmology, Environmental Justice, Eco- Spirituality and Sociology).

We commit to working in collaboration with other organizations regardless of culture, faith and ethnicity.

Governance

To strengthen our International Religious Missionary Identity, we discern new models of governance to meet emerging needs.

We affirm and recommend the CLT engage a team of professionals, including those with expertise in organisational change, to explore moving towards a single administrative and Canonical Unit to strengthen our oneness for mission. The CLT will report their findings at the EGC.

² Laudato Si', Pope Francis, 2015, § 220

PRACTICAL GUIDELINES

Suggested by 2026 Congregation Chapter Body