

## GENERAL COUNCIL GOALS 2013 – 2017

### Overall Goal:

We commit ourselves to promote and strengthen our international unity

## COMMITMENT

As a congregation comprised of diverse cultures, we commit ourselves to strengthen our international unity.



### Directions

## SSM Five Year Plan 2013-2017

1. To learn and understand our roles and responsibilities
2. To implement the 21st General Assembly Mandate in collaboration with the SSM Leaders
3. To move the Congregation toward development of a more global vision of the world and church
4. To foster unity and promote a deeper appreciation of the diversity and internationality of all members
5. To promote openness to ministries across borders sharing personnel and resources
6. To invest more time, energy and resources in vocation ministry

1. We are called to revitalize our community life in ways that give Franciscan witness for evangelization.

**Strategy:** We will root and deepen our spirituality in scripture, theology, and Franciscan values.

2. We are called to evangelize the people of our times and diverse cultures.

**Strategy:** We will come to a common understanding of evangelization and actualize it within our diverse cultures.

### MISSION STATEMENT

of the Sisters of the Sorrowful Mother  
Third Order Regular of St. Francis of Assisi

*The Sisters of the Sorrowful Mother  
participate in the mission of Jesus  
to bring fuller life to others  
by revealing the love of God for all,  
especially the poor.*

2013

**TO MAKE VEN. MOTHER FRANCES STREITEL BETTER KNOWN AS A FAITHFUL WITNESS OF THE GOSPEL**

International Commission  
Rome, October 22-25

**OTHER ACTIVITIES**

Orientation G.C. Planning – *December 28-31, 2012, Rome*  
Provincial Assembly – *April 2-7, Oshkosh*  
Orientation US/Caribbean Province – *July 5-7, Oshkosh*  
SSM Leadership Conference – *November 23-25, Rome*

2014

Significant date to remember:  
**February 9, 1914**  
Centenary of SSM Admittance to the Franciscan Order

**REMEMBRANCE AND GRATITUDE**  
*50 Years of Presence and Service of SSM's in Brazil*

Celebration  
*Goiania, February 2*

**FRANCISCAN WITNESS FOR EVANGELIZATION**

To further our Franciscan witness for evangelization we commit ourselves to work against human trafficking throughout the congregation.

Reflections on the topic of evangelization will be presented in congregational publications, website.

**EVANGELIZATION AND VOCATION / FORMATION**  
*Future challenges for SSM*

International Gathering - Youth Ministry, Vocation Encouragement, Formation Teams and General Council  
St. Lucia, *July 1-10.*

**OTHER ACTIVITIES**

Pastoral Visit of the General Superior (Regions and Delegation)  
Appointment of the Delegation Superior (*October*)  
Update "Journeying" and the Appendices in the General Directory

2015

Historical event:  
**December 1, 1885**  
Arrival of Mother Frances and first community in Borgo S. Spirito - 130<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

**"...TO BRING FULLER LIFE TO OTHERS"**  
*Evangelized to evangelize*

The twelve-day program of renewal / pilgrimage will offer an international experience in Rome and Assisi for the sisters with perpetual vows.

Theme: Reconciliation with myself, God, others and creation.

This program will be offered three times during the year (*March 9-20; July 6-17; 12-23 October*); the first session is for local leaders and councils.

An alternative program will be provided locally by the province, regions, delegation for our elderly sisters who are unable to travel.

**FOLLOWING IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF MOTHER FRANCES IN THE U.S.**  
*Evangelized to evangelize*

A three-week formation program will be held in the U.S. for the sisters who are close to perpetual profession.

**OTHER ACTIVITIES**

Pastoral Visit of the General Superior (US/Caribbean Province)  
Consultation and Appointment of the Regional Councils (*July*)  
Selection of the Facilitator and Establishment of the Planning Commission for the 22<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly (*November*)

2016

**SSM MINISTRIES FOR EVANGELIZATION**

Have province, regions, delegation promote brief international experiences for the sisters who are currently working in the ministries of healing, teaching, social work.

**FOLLOWING IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF MOTHER FRANCES IN EUROPE**  
*Evangelized to evangelize*

A two-week formation program will be held in Italy, Austria and Germany for the sisters in their first years of temporary profession and novices who are close to temporary profession.

**OTHER ACTIVITIES**

SSM Leadership Conference (*May*)  
Convocation of the 22<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly (*October*)

2017

**22<sup>nd</sup> GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**OTHER ACTIVITIES**

Consultation Process and Appointment of Leaders for the US/Caribbean (*April*)