



Missionary Discernment Worksheet

Communications and social media offices of the entities

Facilitator: Communications Coordinator of the Conference and his counterparts in each of the Entities (Provinces/Custodies).

This worksheet is offered as a working tool to facilitate a listening process aimed at engaging in missionary discernment that will help enrich the preparatory journey towards the General Chapter of 2027. The worksheet proposes holding one or more working sessions involving members of the Communication Offices and Social Services of each Entity, together with their respective collaborators.

Those involved in the work should receive the worksheet before the meeting, together with the Letter of Introduction to the process, so that they may prepare themselves through personal reflection and discernment. The facilitator should establish the timetable before the group gathers to engage in communal discernment.

The worksheet proposes three stages of work, in keeping with the distinct phases of discernment. The first stage involves sharing an interpretation of the signs of the times and places, *recognising* in them the initial elements useful for discernment. The second stage involves *interpreting* what emerges in the light of the charism, by developing criteria for discernment. The third stage calls for a *practical synthesis* of what has been shared in the first two stages, highlighting the issues to be addressed and the guidelines to be proposed to the General Chapter.

Each phase proposes a number of questions to stimulate personal reflection and to identify the elements perceived as important to bring to the discernment process. It then suggests engaging in a dialogue leading to a synthesis; it is recommended that this synthesis be arrived at by taking into account what recurs with the greatest frequency and convergence, whilst also considering those prophetic intuitions recognised as valid and bearing evangelical and charismatic potential.

HOW SHALL WE PROCEED?

1. The summary of the work carried out in each Entity (Province or Custody) should be prepared in writing and sent to the facilitator of the Conference by 10 October 2026.
2. The facilitator of the Conference will organise a meeting with his counterparts to discuss the experience of the work carried out in each Entity. As a result of this meeting, which may take place either in person or online, a process of gathering information and preparing a synthesis will be undertaken according to the indications provided by those responsible for the methodology. The deadline for these meetings is 1 November 2026.
3. The facilitator of the Conference will transmit the results of this worksheet to the President and Secretary of the Conference, providing a unified style and preparing a synthesis according to the outline established by the methodological team. This synthesis will be sent to the Preparatory Commission of the Instrumentum laboris by 29 November 2026.



OPENING PHASE – RECOGNISING

In the light of the signs of the times and places

- ▶ Humanity is at stake (technologies, AI, pluralism, fragility) and this raises radical anthropological questions: what does it mean to be human in the age of the algorithm?
- ▶ Where lies the boundary between person and machine? How is the irreducible dignity of every human being safeguarded?
- ▶ How are interpersonal relationships and those with institutions changing in this era and on your continent in the context of the digital revolution?
- ▶ What signs of hope do you see? For a return to humanity, for a search for life, for greater communion and shared responsibility?
- ▶ What threats?

In light of these questions, engage in a discussion and list up to 5 key considerations. What you feel is most important, necessary, useful, and profound.

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)
- 4)
- 5)



EXPLORATION PHASE – INTERPRETING

In the light of the charism:

We are called to a digital inculturation of the charism that is both creative and critical. Taking into account what emerged in the Recognising phase, try to answer the following questions:

- ▶ How does the character of minority engage with inhabiting the digital world?
- ▶ How does the character of itinerancy invite us to inhabit the digital world?
- ▶ How does the element of fraternity ask us to think about our presence on the web, in relation to influencers who act individually?
- ▶ What are the minimum criteria for technologies/AI in the service of fraternity and mission?

In light of these questions, initiate a discussion and list a maximum of 5 key considerations. What you feel is most important, necessary, useful, and profound.

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)
- 4)
- 5)



SYNTHESIS PHASE – CHOOSING

Towards God's future:

We are now called to draw up guidelines for the future, having the courage to inspire choices and raise questions so that the capitulars are enabled to deepen the debate.

► **Open questions:**

What topics do you think should be discussed at the chapter? How would you formulate useful questions for the capitulars?

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► **Guidelines for the Order:**

What suggestions would you bring to the attention of the General Chapter regarding 'following Christ and proclaiming the Gospel today towards God's future' in relation to the digital world as friars on mission?

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