

# Revision of Constitutions Journey

A Memory Brief – Recent Stages in Process Story

## Lent 2017 -

*Who will roll away the Stone? ....*

- **Draft 1**, chapter 4 (Buff paper)
- 'Communal Units' to replace provinces?
- 29 pages of comments and questions .....

Outcome: Acceptance of need for an intermediate structure

## Lent 2018 -

*I go before you into Galilee ....*

- **Draft 2** – (White paper)
- 'Diverse communal Branches' to replace provinces?...
- 1,300 sisters attended meetings and signed questionnaire

Outcome: 1,268 sisters 'could live with it' and looked to Congregation Chapter to consider and vote on it.

## Easter 2018

- **Draft 3** - (White Booklet)
- all four chapters of Constitutions revised
- Statutes included

## May 2018

- **CLT make formal proposal to Congregational Chapter** to consider and vote on Revision of Constitutions (chaps 1- 4)

**July 2018**

**CONGREGATIONAL CHAPTER**

- Civil Lawyers – implications re Trusts/finances/companies etc
- Advice of Canon lawyers as to timing of canonical and civil changes: agree canonical changes first, and then seek civil alignment
- Chapter Delegates affirmed Model ('Branches' in draft 3), directed that further work was needed, and mandated the CLT to continue the process
- **Vote** on Statement (*Chapter Card – God's Call*) – each part separately
- Unanimous vote – 65 yes, on each. (cf minutes of Chapter 2018)

**November 2019**

**Plenary Conference - Options explored and presented–**

- (1) Virtual Branches – focused on common interest
- (2) Geographical Branches - area based
- (3) Charism carriers – incorporating lay colleagues

- **Strong preference indicated for option (2) - Geographical Branches**
- **CLT endorses a similar approach**

**March 2020 – December 2020**

- **Community Process to engage with and explore 'geographical branches'**
- Chapter 4 of Draft 3 updated to reflect '*God's Call*' and preference expressed by Plenary Conference (4.2)

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