

THE GENERAL CHAPTER 2018



PREPARATION - SHARING- DISCERNMENT

YOUNG BROTHERS

(BROTHERS OF TEMPORARY VOWS)

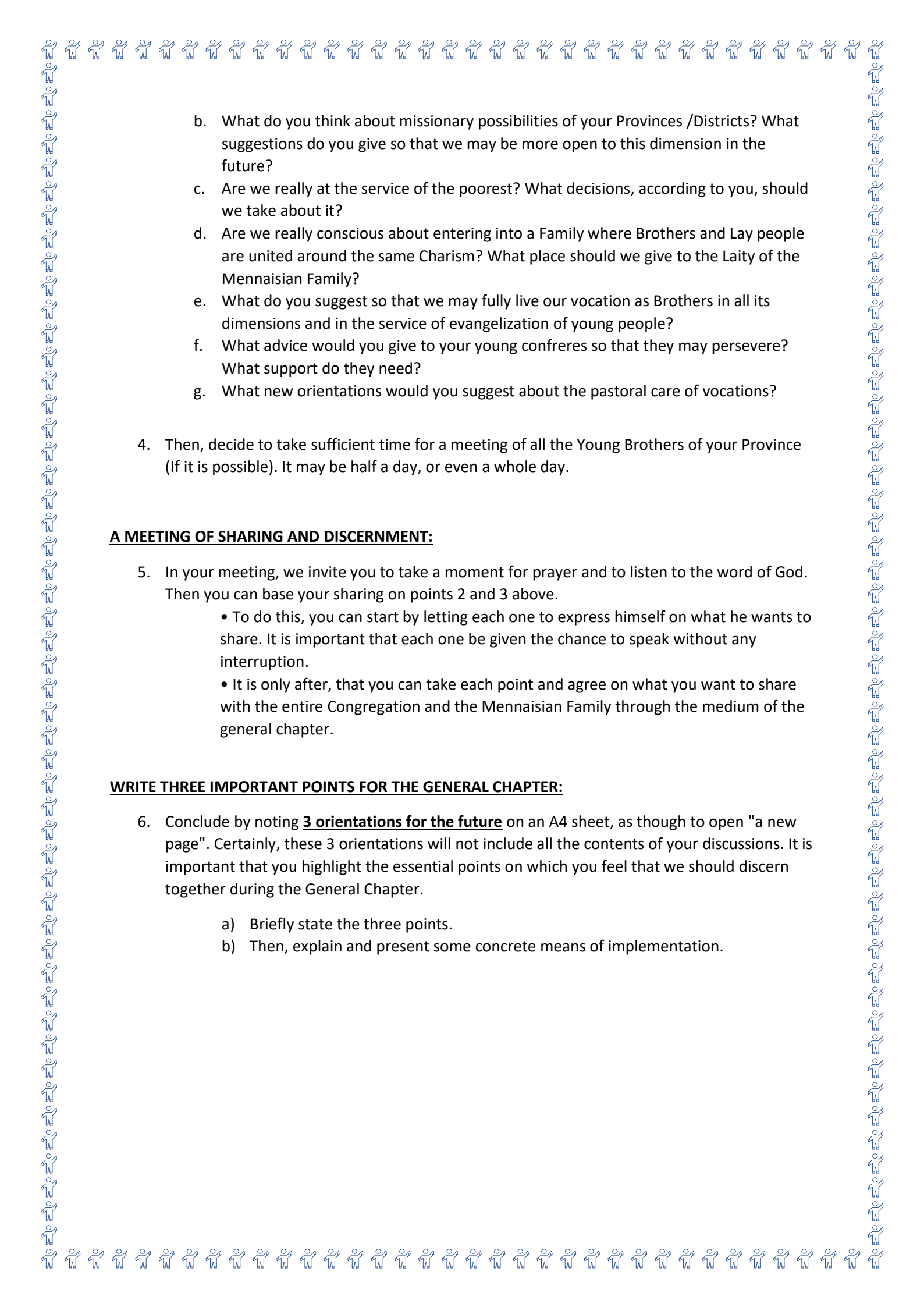
To prepare for the General Chapter, the general Council decided to invite you to make your contribution.

We therefore propose that you enter into this process in a spirit of community discernment of the demands which the Holy Spirit addresses to us today. You will carry out this discernment, of course, by sharing your own reality as young Brothers. You will also try not to halt there, but to open up to the Congregation as a whole.

We invite you to make a real effort to scrutinize the horizon beyond your own borders: As a way of helping you, here is the action that we invite you to take.

SEVERAL DAYS BEFORE MEETING TOGETHER TAKE TIME FOR PERSONAL REFLECTION:

1. Personally read the two texts attached to this letter:
 - I. A brief presentation of the Congregation and of the Mennaisian family, today.
 - II. N° 12 to 20 of : « Identity and mission of the Brothers in the Church »
A mystery of communion for mission : Memory of the love of Christ: "The same thing you must do ..."
or : An extract of « THE JOY OF THE GOSPEL » of Pope Francis.
2. Note what these two texts should inspire you in the following areas: formation; the Mennaisian Family; the educational mission; our openness to the most disadvantaged, shared culture; the pastoral care of vocations; etc.
3. Then try to respond individually to the following questions, by going beyond your own house of formation, and thus taking into account the entire Congregation.
 - a. How is interculturality lived in your communities?
What would you propose so that to enter this great Family that exceeds the limits of your country or your ethnicity? How can we better communicate amongst ourselves?

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- b. What do you think about missionary possibilities of your Provinces /Districts? What suggestions do you give so that we may be more open to this dimension in the future?
 - c. Are we really at the service of the poorest? What decisions, according to you, should we take about it?
 - d. Are we really conscious about entering into a Family where Brothers and Lay people are united around the same Charism? What place should we give to the Laity of the Mennaisian Family?
 - e. What do you suggest so that we may fully live our vocation as Brothers in all its dimensions and in the service of evangelization of young people?
 - f. What advice would you give to your young confreres so that they may persevere? What support do they need?
 - g. What new orientations would you suggest about the pastoral care of vocations?

4. Then, decide to take sufficient time for a meeting of all the Young Brothers of your Province (If it is possible). It may be half a day, or even a whole day.

A MEETING OF SHARING AND DISCERNMENT:

5. In your meeting, we invite you to take a moment for prayer and to listen to the word of God. Then you can base your sharing on points 2 and 3 above.
 - To do this, you can start by letting each one to express himself on what he wants to share. It is important that each one be given the chance to speak without any interruption.
 - It is only after, that you can take each point and agree on what you want to share with the entire Congregation and the Mennaisian Family through the medium of the general chapter.

WRITE THREE IMPORTANT POINTS FOR THE GENERAL CHAPTER:

6. Conclude by noting **3 orientations for the future** on an A4 sheet, as though to open "a new page". Certainly, these 3 orientations will not include all the contents of your discussions. It is important that you highlight the essential points on which you feel that we should discern together during the General Chapter.
 - a) Briefly state the three points.
 - b) Then, explain and present some concrete means of implementation.