

Thy Kingdom Come!

## GUIDELINES FOR THE AFIRE TEAM

### *Introduction*

The Regnum Christi Movement wants each of its members to be capable of offering a genuine witness of the living Christ, of the transforming power of the Gospel, and of the truth of the Church.

To achieve this ideal, the Movement offers its members five concrete, simple ways to organize their life in the heart of this Spiritual Family, and to help them forge their Christian and apostolic identity. These aspects of following Christ also permeate the life of the sections and of Regnum Christi's various works and apostolic programs. These elements are apostolate, formation, integration, recruitment (growth) and economy.

Every Movement member is called to live out these aspects of life in the section, both on a personal and on a team level. In Regnum Christi sections, the section director and his assistants are responsible for making sure each of these elements is lived out and supported.

When the number of section members requires it, he can form a team of people to build up and promote one, several, or all of these elements through "coordinators." The team of coordinators is known as the "AFIRE team."

### **Common functions of the AFIRE team**

- Collaborate consultatively with the section assistant/group leader in developing the annual section program.
- Promote the vitality of the section in everything that falls under their area, fostering the fulfillment of the objectives and priorities marked out in the program.
- Write the part of the semester report for the section that falls under their area of responsibility.
- Have apostolic dialogue with the section assistant.
- Participate in the monthly meeting of the section director with the AFIRE coordination team.

## APOSTOLATE COORDINATION

### *Introduction*

1. Regnum Christi is a Catholic movement of apostolate. Its service to the Church is not only the presence of its members in the world through testimony, but also commitment; that is, work accepted and taken on, battle and effort to transform temporal realities through direct apostolate until they are imbued with the spirit of the Gospel. Regnum Christi should be a humble but effective force at the service of the Church Christ founded. Its members are active apostles of Christ's cause.
2. The apostolate is a major way of giving meaning to life. No one can honestly say that he has no time to be an apostle, because that would be like saying he has no time to be a Christian. No one can say he has nothing to give; that would be unjust toward God.
3. "Another trait which distinguishes your charism is *apostolic fervour*. You show this in all the many works you have undertaken, especially in education, evangelization, social communications, the spreading of the Church's social teaching, the cultural and human promotion of the disadvantaged, and the training of diocesan priests. In all of this you strive to follow the lead of the Holy Spirit, who constantly renews the face of the Church with gifts and charisms which enrich and strengthen her. In a secularized world such as our own, built in large part on neglect of transcendent truths and values, the faith of many of our brothers and sisters is sorely tried. Because of this, there is a need today more than ever for a confident proclamation of the Gospel which, casting aside all crippling fears, announces with intellectual depth and with courage the truth about God, about man, about the world. To you, Legionaries of Christ and members of *Regnum Christi*, I repeat the words of St Catherine of Siena which I proposed to the young people at the World Youth Day: "If you are what you should be, you will set the whole world ablaze!"<sup>1</sup>

### *Main functions of the apostolate coordinator.*

1. The apostolate coordinator works with the section director and his assistant in promoting the apostolic activities of the members of the section. He works in close relation to the growth coordinator of the section, the local directors of apostolates, and the local program directors
2. Help forge a passionate apostolic zeal in all the section members, born of true love for Christ and neighbor. He should motivate them so that through their apostolic action they will aspire to commit themselves to the mission of the Church and proclaim and extend the Kingdom of Christ.
3. Be attentive to the needs of the local Church so that we can offer apostolic resources and actions that respond to the most urgent needs.
4. Ensure that the section centers and events have at hand all of the apostolic resources and training resources offered by Regnum Christi.

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<sup>1</sup> Words of Pope John Paul II in the audience held in St. Peter's Square on January 4, 2001.



5. It is best for Movement members to do apostolate with their teams if possible. Thus, he should help the team leaders to choose those apostolates that best respond to the needs of the time and place, and put at their disposal all the resources they need to carry out an effective apostolate.
6. He should ensure that his team has an auxiliary for the growth of ECYD, another for the growth of the young men's and young women's sections, and another for vocational promotion.
7. Put into play the necessary measures for the section members to know the institutional models of their apostolate, study them, and put them into practice (manuals, resources, guidelines, online formation, etc.).
8. Keep the members of the section informed about the different apostolates that are being carried out, either through displays at events, email or other means. For this, he should keep the photographic and statistical archives constantly updated.
9. Promote the electronic newsletters of the apostolates so that as many members as possible subscribe to them, thus keeping informed about the Movement's apostolic activities.
10. He should already have one or several people in charge of the communication, promotion, and public relations of the section's activities.
11. Communicate apostolic activities to the communications office to build a sense of community among cities and sections by sharing news.
12. Meet with new members to connect them right after incorporation to the apostolate they are best suited to work in by interest, skills, availability and needs. Meet with members who are looking for a change of apostolate or advice in beginning a new apostolate.

### *Lines of dependence*

The apostolate coordinator reports to the section director's assistant.

## FORMATION COORDINATION

### *Introduction:*

1. The Regnum Christi Movement has a vital mission: to extend Christ's Kingdom in every heart and in society as a whole, in the midst of very complex circumstances and environments that are hostile or often simply indifferent. Thus, the Movement's ranks should be filled with men and women who are outstanding for their mettle, preparation and self-giving to Christ's cause. To achieve this, each Regnum Christi member must strive to acquire an integral formation that will enable them to live out their spiritual commitment to the maximum and carry out their apostolic mission effectively and responsibly.
2. The integral formation of the man and woman of the Kingdom is one of the strongest guarantees that the Movement will be able to serve the Church effectively in the world, especially when lifestyles and societies are proving to be more averse to the things of God. God's grace uses man's efforts and asks for his collaboration as a base and platform to act upon. Our formation never ends; the human person has an unlimited capacity for growth, and also a fundamental need to be nourished in his soul. We have a whole lifetime in the Movement to form ourselves with ecclesial sensitivity and to serve our fellow man better.<sup>2</sup>

### *Functions of the formation coordinator*

1. The formation coordinator works with the section director and his assistant to prepare apostles with a solid integral formation (spiritual, apostolic, intellectual, and human) that will enable them to grow in their vocation to holiness and work more effectively at the service of Christ the King. With well-formed apostles, the Church and the Movement will gain in efficacy and apostolic reach.
2. Apply the proper means to enable Regnum Christi members to effectively know and love their Catholic faith, and thus be able to live it, proclaim it, and defend it. Seek to deeply engrave the certainties and convictions of faith in the souls of Movement members. Do not settle for giving them a superficial veneer of formation; go in depth, seeking to give each one of them an integral formation using all available means.
3. Foster knowledge and assimilation of the Member Handbook of Regnum Christi, aware that this is the backbone of every formation program.
4. Organize the formation programs of the section and submit to section assistant and section director for approval. Ensure that the section has excellent formators and good preachers.
5. Oversee the formation of the section's formators (spiritual guides, team leaders, group leaders, etc...) and ensure that the programs for formation are effectively applied, according to what is stipulated in the statutes. Ensure that there are always enough formators to cover the needs of the section's growth.

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<sup>2</sup> Regnum Christi Handbook, 323



6. Promote members' attendance at local, national, and/or international conventions, keep track of registrations for those activities, and disseminate key information about them.
7. Communicate the formation plan and its objectives to the members, as well as the courses, retreats and events that the Movement offers.
8. Provide the means for teams to fulfill their formation program. Ensure that the section's bookstore or library is kept updated
9. Organize participation in ecclesial events

*Lines of dependence*

The formation coordinator reports to the section director's assistant.



## INTEGRATION COORDINATION

### *Introduction*

1. The integration coordinator works with the section director and his assistant to make sure that the section members are affectively and effectively integrated with their vocation, and that they live it coherently. The *Regnum Christi Handbook* describes it as follows: “The goal of a Movement member is to become deeply integrated with his vocation to Regnum Christi as a Christian vocation, a vocation in the Church. To be integrated is to shape one’s mind and heart with the spirit and mystique of the Movement. This means becoming deeply imbued with the type of holiness of the man and woman of the Kingdom and aspiring to it in one’s own life. To integrate oneself is to know and love Regnum Christi spirituality and become holy within it. To integrate oneself is to take on the Movement’s criteria of formation and apostolate and apply them in one’s personal life and apostolic activity. To integrate oneself is to love the Movement as the fruitful earth where God wants one to bear fruit and live out the demands of this love in one’s own life.”
2. The integration coordinator should use all the resources at his disposal to imbue a passionate love for Jesus Christ, the Church, and souls in the heart and conscience of each Movement member.

### *Functions of the integration coordinator*

1. Foster charity, communion and *esprit de corps* among all the Movement’s members and apostolates, especially through prayer, mutual collaboration, and “*benedicencia*” (speaking well of others).
2. Ensure that all of the section’s members receive personal attention through spiritual direction and their dialogue with the team leader. To achieve this, he should make sure that there are enough competent and trained guides in the section.
3. Ensure that the members of the section know and have easy access to the resources for spiritual formation of Regnum Christi.
4. Foster the knowledge and assimilation of the core convictions of a Regnum Christi Movement member, aware that these are the backbone of any formation program.
5. His most important tasks include organizing and promoting the following activities:
  - a. Triduums of renewal or spiritual exercises.
  - b. Monthly retreats
  - c. Local conventions
  - d. Eucharistic Hour in the section
6. Help the recruitment or growth coordinator organize the incorporation triduums.

7. Help section's members actively participate in Christ the King, the Youth and Family Encounters, local, national and international conventions, social events, etc. Organize the Movement feast days as explained in the *Regnum Christi Member Handbook*.
8. Promote the active participation of the members of the Movement in the activities of the diocese and local parishes: congresses, pilgrimages, jubilees, etc.
9. Let the section members know the section's calendar of activities and the Movement's general activities on the local, national, and international levels.
10. Promote a spirit of generosity in the section: promotion of vocations to the priestly and consecrated life as well vocations to lay life in Regnum Christi.
11. Preserve and promote the customs and traditions of the Movement.
12. Some practical functions:
  - a) Organize and set a date for the annual pilgrimages to shrines in honor of Christ and the Blessed Virgin.
  - b) Have prayer books, commitment cards, incorporation rites, bibles, crucifixes, Gospels, available for incorporations.
  - c) Make sure that there is a Bible and a crucifix at the entrance of the center if the locality has one.

### *Lines of dependence*

The integration coordinator reports to the section director's assistant.

## RECRUITMENT or GROWTH COORDINATION

### *Introduction*

1. Christ's words: "*The harvest is great and the laborers are few*" continue to be current. The needs of the Church are many and urgent. Our love for her must lead us to work enthusiastically and generously to collaborate in extending the Kingdom of Christ and to help the Church in her most pressing needs. Therefore, it is urgent for us to have many apostles who are convinced of their faith and imbued with a passionate love for Christ, apostles who will commit themselves to the task of the New Evangelization and enthusiastically preach the Gospel.
2. The growth of the Movement and of apostolates is not a task reserved for just a few; it is the duty of all. Therefore, growth is the apostolate common to everyone, and everyone should give the best of themselves to it if we want to have convinced Catholics who will help the Church as her faithful sons and daughters.
3. For us, the word "growth" means drawing as many people as possible to Christ and helping them to experience his love so that they will know him, love him, and imitate him in their own life. That is why we invite them to become part of an apostolate (and/or join Regnum Christi if they are called to it): it is to offer them a means of personal sanctification among the many other means offered by the Church.
4. Bringing another person to Christ is a process; it requires a gradual approach, yet without ever losing its spontaneity. This is how the grace of God normally works. We find the key to this process in Christ's example. He offers all people his love and personal friendship. He does not love us generically or *en masse*, but personally. We, following the example of Christ our Master and Redeemer, will have to draw near to people, offering them warm personal attention full of authentic charity.
5. When the Samaritan woman met Christ, after just one conversation she went from an initially hostile attitude to an enthusiastic gift of self, convinced of the newness of the person and message of Jesus Christ. The conviction, zeal, and authenticity that flowed from Jesus' person and words made her connect with him and change the direction of her life.

### *Functions of the growth coordinator*

1. Helps to promote available means for people to discern a call to the Regnum Christi Movement. Organize and promote periodic information nights and discernment courses. He should work in close communication with the team leaders and take special care to make sure that each and every Movement member works in a healthy and positive way when inviting people to discern a vocation to Regnum Christi.
2. Work in close collaboration with the local coordinator of apostolate and the local directors of apostolates so they have the information needed to invite people they are in contact with to get to know the Movement better.
3. Help to maintain a keen apostolic awareness in each member of the section so that they will draw more people closer to Christ and the Church. This zeal should spring from a





love in the heart that cannot be kept back, and that needs to communicate itself to others, sharing the gift of God with them. The Love of Christ Impels Us. 2Cor 5:14

4. The members of the section should foster the witness of a life spent in service to Christ and the Church in such a way that this testimony draws others to follow Christ and make a personal commitment in the Church to extend the Kingdom of God.
5. Infuse a deep mystique of growth and vocational promotion on all levels, for the good of the Church.
6. Program for at least two incorporation ceremonies per year. One should be around the solemnity of Christ the King, another at Easter, so there is a certain rhythm of incorporations and so that there are clearly defined moments of discernment and closure for the growth process during the year.
7. Help all members promote and invite others to participate actively in the apostolic activities organized by the section's teams, in the formative activities, and in the spiritual activities organized by the Movement.
8. Ensure that in events there is an atmosphere of charity and apostolic dynamism that will be positive and attractive for anyone who visits and has contact with the teams of the Movement.
9. Organize and promote discernment courses and spiritual exercises for those who are discerning incorporation into the Movement.
10. Make sure that all people discerning a call are offered personal attention. This is of paramount importance.

#### *Lines of dependence*

The recruitment or growth coordinator reports to the section director's assistant.

## ECONOMY COORDINATION

### *Introduction*

1. Although Regnum Christi's purposes are fundamentally spiritual and religious, it is still an institution situated in time, and therefore, human. It needs material means to develop and grow to serve the Church.
2. The Regnum Christi Movement does not wish to acquire economic strength for itself. Nevertheless, the Movement needs generous economic support from its members in order to build and run apostolates and help support the Legionaries and Consecrated members. In this way, it will be able to accomplish its fundamental mission of bringing the Kingdom of God to all men and women, and to all nations.<sup>3</sup>
3. Economy in Regnum Christi is also a form of apostolate. God makes himself present in the world through Movement members' efforts to offer material support to works that help spread the Word of God, guide youth, or catechize adults.

### *Main functions*

1. The economy coordinator works with the section director and his assistant to promote a strong economy in the section and in its apostolates. He especially seeks to encourage all the section members to take responsibility for economically supporting the Church and the Movement so that they can more effectively extend the Kingdom of Christ.
2. Promote awareness among section members that they are stewards of their God-given talents as well as of their material goods, and that they should be generous and put them at the service of others and of the Church.
3. Help the section to have a strong and healthy economy that can sustain and support the creation of new centers and apostolic projects, and that will help sustain priestly and consecrated vocations in the Movement.
4. Motivate and help the members to contribute to the needs of the Movement. When explaining the meaning of this to the members, help them see that their contributions are not only to defray the operating expenses of the section and its centers, but are above all to help multiply our efforts to make the message of Christ reach all men. It is also a concrete way of living the spirit of gospel poverty.
5. In collaboration with the section administrator, make the yearly budget for the section and present it to the section director for review.
6. In collaboration with the section administrator, write up the monthly economic report of the section.
7. Organize the yearly collection that the sections make on "Christ the King Day" to send a donation to the general director of Regnum Christi.

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<sup>3</sup> Regnum Christi Handbook, 326



8. Plan, organize, and promote fundraising activities that will help increase revenue and strengthen the Movement's economy.

*Lines of dependence*

The economy coordinator reports to the section director's assistant.