FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY FINAL CONCLUSIONS

A. VERNIAN IDENTITY

Vernian lay people see themselves as ca community of believers involved in the growth of our faith, living the Gospel and the values of gratuity, availability, respect, solidarity, humility, simplicity and service, especially for the poor, as Mother Antonia lived them, getting inspiration and strength from the mystery of The immaculate Conception.

These concepts have been affirmed by most people, with some extension: we acknowledge that ours is a calling, a vocation, to which we have to give a clear, convinced, strong response, based on faith and perseverance that come from every day adhesion to the word of the Lord, to Jesus present in the communion and donated to us in the Cross.

The lay Vernian is a person that "seeks Jesus" with passion and a profound desire to find him.

This is the reason why all of us are called to rediscover and rekindle our relationship with God in prayer (God's word, Communion), in our own vernian community with various fraternity moments, our relationship with each brother, especially with the poorest, such as demands Mother Antonia: *especially to the poor.*

From the sharing of the "work instrument", arise beautiful positive things being done, while we also notice the diverse aspects that stop or block the way.

Negative aspects challenge us, while the positive ones stimulate us to dream of a future when it will be possible to make a wider opening to brothers, a more audacious testimony and Gospel announcement, a livelier way of involving the young in a vernian cristian maturity path, a greater degree of collaboration among groups.

Our own call deepening, the conviction that each of us must live it with serious commitment, both demand us to use all the energy and formation received to work actively among the young

We need courage, a deep sense of belonging, of availability, commitment and sacrifice spirit, give ourselves to become the "*seed that accepts to die in order to make others live",*in order to take Jesus to those who seek him.

B) FUTURE PERSPECTIVES

Charisma deepening

We seek Jesus, the Gospel is our life rule, the style in which we want to incarnate it has been indicated by Mother Antonia`s charisma. It is important for every Lay Vernian to deepen the charisma and grow solid bases through study, sharing, prayer and concrete works:

- With exhaustive explanations and theological, spiritual, docrinal and practical deepening,
- Sharing in the group and also in praying moments the richness that the charisma and the missionary experience communicate us,

- Participating in the activities and missions that express the charisma and frequenting people that live it deeply (Sisters, missionaries and laici) even with limits,
- Doing everything to have a Sister capable of transmitting vernian spirituality in all aspects,
- Working in charity projects that may express the mission aperture of our charisma, in syntony with the "Verna fraternitas Onlus", also in collaboration with other groups.

Sense of belonging

The lay vernian must be aware of belonging to a family founded by Mother Antonia, besides the work in other realities of voluntary work in his place. His/her distinctive trace will be the charisma left to us in inheritance by our Founder.
Furthermore, the discrete use of media (radio, TV, local newspapers) in a world wher visibility is vital, may be a means of spreading *our gratuitious way of living the Gospel.*

Formation
It is considered fundamental; it assumes various manners in relation to the culture in which it is carried out.
It must be *permanent and diversified*, for those who have already made their pledge and those who are sympathizers.
It includes

- Maturity in our Faith, received in our Baptism, in the continuous search for Jesus, the Word, the Communion and our brothers.
- Maturity of our calling and in the mission, along with the Gospel and vernian charisma.
- Ability to interpret the present situation, with its problems, in the light of our Faith (This requires adequate study and analysis)

Formation may occur in the groups, in the regions or at a general level.

<u>In the groups</u>, with sustained assistance, with a sincere fraternal sharing, with a deep sense of belonging, with the utmost aperture inside the group and exchange and communication with other groups.

<u>In the regions,</u> through study, strong prayer times and common projects. We must know how to pray and work together, *hand in hand.*

<u>At a general level,</u> the Council will have to program two formation days in Rome, as it did at the beginning, all vernians will be invited, besides the annual proposal of *spiritual lines.*
It will also promote
a)A Statute close analysis, integrated with the Assembly decisions,
b)A " Promise" analysis.
c) A prayer day in which all the vernian family (all three branches) in Italy and abroad unite to invoke Mother Antonia`s intercession for our family.

d) provide information regarding the various groups and regions, their activity and the formation path they are following, using adequately the opportunity offered by the site www.laiciverniani.net

All this will occur with the strength provided by the *Word of God*, by feeding on the *Communion,* with the passion *for the brother and for fraternity*, in Mother Antonia's style and charisma : humility, simplicity, gratuitous charity.

The young and young couples
Where there are groups with the young it is needed to:
-propose activities according to their characteristics and awaken their human and spiritual potentialities,
-attract them to Jesus and the Gospel, living the charisma,
-pay special attention to young couples, using as bases for activity the schools or our Sisters, involving them in their activities, developing questionings, promoting meetings where they learn about vernian spirituality, and our Association's characteristics.
A good example, given by convinced vernians, as well as reception, are undoubtedly the key to open young people's hearts.

Sense of family

The General Council, with the aim to improve group and region contacts, to understand their problems and to promote an authentic *vernian fraternity*, will become *itinerant and enlarged*, at least in Italy. It will last two days, this will allow the visit of various regions and their groups, the sharing ,whenever possible, of their activities, also inviting the Regional Presidents and their Counsellors.

Life style
"Seeking Jesus" will have to be the true spiritual objective for all Vernian lay people Next four years, with a life choice according to the vernian charisma.

We`ll seek Him *with enthusiasm and conviction*.
We`ll seek Him with *faith in God`s action*, knowing that He never abandons anyone.
We`ll seek Him with *simple sincere joy.*

In the Word, both individually and in the vernian community to which we belong.
In the Communion, through the most frequently possible participation in the Holy Mass and frequenting the Sacraments.
In fraternity and in our brother, through creative opportunities for opening to others and the possibility of meeting our fellow men.
We must search our fellow man in the near and distant peripheries, with *missionary spirit and attentive eyes, to everyone`s needs, such as our Holy Father demands us.*
We may find him on the Cross, if we ourselves accept our own crosses, when we accept them with Christian patience and evangelic spirit.

THIS IS THE ONLY WAY OUR ASSOCIATION WILL BE ABLE TO BE VITAL, TO BRING FRUIT,TO FACE THE GREAT CHALLENGES THAT THE PRESENT TIMES FACE US WITH.

SOLO COSI' L'ASSOCIAZIONE POTRA' ESSERE VITALE, PORTARE FRUTTI, AFFRONTARE LE GRANDI SFIDE CHE IL TEMPO IN CUI VIVIAMO CI PRESENTA.

President: Mario Trombetta_____

Secretaries: Anna Bratti and Francesco Domenico Pompeo