

Zimbabwe Dominicans: SWOT synthesis of Reflection Circles

<p>Guiding principles or Identity statements - We are Dominican women called to....</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ One can make a difference in his/her area of specialization acting out of compassion. As Dominicans we are aware of our call, diversity and mission and what we ought to do.(We are informed). ❖ Continuous catechism and study, continuous assessment of our faith. ❖ Gospel of humanity which was preached by Jesus Christ and St Dominic: compassion, prayer, mercy, service, care, love ❖ To continue the mission of Christ inspired by St Dominic
<p>Strengths</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ We are all echoing the same thing, Dominican spirituality has to continue, the zeal is still the same. ✓ We are aware of our mission/call as Dominicans. Issue of truth is universally acclaimed by all. ✓ The zeal to follow Dominic's footsteps and live Christian values. (or Guiding Principle)
<p>Weaknesses (internal challenges)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ The lack of resources: personnel/financially to implement or sustain the charism in certain relevant ministries. ❖ Address the need for training in the various media approaches e.g. facebook, twitter, whatsapp
<p>Opportunities (i.e. concrete ideas for situations/needs to address in the world outside the cong)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sacrifice: move from our comfort zones (in a challenging world) ● Address today's heresies (false teachings) ● Engagement in exchange programs across our boundaries and collaboration in our diverse ministries. ● International broadcaster: media (combined efforts) ● Ways of how to inspire people so that they identify with our spirituality. ● Call to involve the youth more in Dominican spirituality. ● The zeal to follow Dominic's footsteps and live Christian values. ● Ways of engaging youth in the Church ● Engage in new ways of evangelization <p>Internal opportunities (i.e. identified need and response)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Ways of strengthening our faith e.g. study of theology, spiritual workshops etc. ➤ Engaging and embracing non-Catholics in Dominican spirituality just as Christ said "....for whoever is not against us is for us". Mark 9:39 and John 17: 20-21
<p>Threats - what might hinder us?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Strategies of how we can break-through the barriers which are hindering us from preaching the truth as Dominicans. ○

Challenges (internal suggestions)

- ✓ How to balance the needs of traditional apostolates and new needs.
- ✓ To strengthen the formation of young Dominicans e.g. torch bearers, DYM, Associates and sisters to ensure continuity of the Dominican Charism
- ✓ Use diversity as a strength not a weakness

Observations on the process:

- Engage others to find out how the communities we serve feel about our work/how we impart on them: this will lead us to know where we need to change and what we need to uphold.
-