

CSC Gathering
April 2016 – Canada
Charism – Reflections

1. A Charism is like a unique flower cluster in the garden of the gospel. This cluster draws us by a special attraction and it catches our attention. Perhaps this attraction occurred a long time ago, maybe only recently but we know that this flower touches our life and offers us treasures as no other can or ever will.

As you reflect on charism, what caught your attention? What attracted you?

2. In every charism, there predominates “a profound desire to be conformed to Christ and to give witness to this mystery.” This specific aspect is meant to take shape and develop according to the most authentic tradition of the institute.

Vita Consecrata, Par. #36

What feelings, emotions, sentiments arise in your heart when you reflect on this statement?

3. The gift is given at a particular period of history and situated in a distinct culture. However, the charismatic gift is living and organic. It will continue to be shaped by the historical, situational, and cultural contexts in which it is planted and in which it develops.

What encourages you by the organic nature of the charism?

What challenges you by the organic nature of the charism?

4. The Lord said to Abraham:

“Go forth from the land of your kinsfolk and from your father’s house to a land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation and I will bless you. I will make your name great so that you will be a blessing... Abram went as the Lord directed him and Lot went with him. Abram was 75 years old when he left Haran. Abram took his wife Sarai... Abram came to the land of Canaan.... From there he moved on to the hill country east of Bethel, pitching his tent with Bethel to the west and Ai to the east, Abraham built an altar there to the Lord and invoked the Lord by name.”

(Gen 12:1-9).

5. How do you see your own call mirrored in these elements of the charismatic call?

God calling you and naming you.

God directing you on the journey.

God leading you on unknown paths.

God blessing you and enabling you to be a blessing for others.

God calling you into an ever deeper relationship of mystery and transformation.