

Training Session in Zimbabwe Province Africa Capricorn

Theme: United in Jesus – Consolidating our journey within Faith and Light

Dates: July 26-28, 2024

Location: Gweru Catholic Church Center

Participants: community coordinators, coordinating teams and community chaplains

Because it is difficult to gather communities from all the countries of the Africa Capricorn province in a common place, the formation sessions will pass in each country and will bring together the local communities of Faith and Light. In Zimbabwe, the communities of Bulawayo, Gweru, Kwekwe will meet in Gweru.

The aim of this formation is to listen, to support each other and revitalize communities which have faced many challenges during Covid-19 and confinement.

The desire and need to be together again, to meet in person is a priority. After years without being able to exchange or see each other because gatherings were interrupted, no meetings were authorized, and formation sessions could not take place... finally, it is possible today. The challenges were huge due to transportation problems, political instability, poverty and unemployment, long travel distances between regions, lack of finances, loss of leaders and members due to covid... this has left a big void and created the need to meet face to face and to feel united again in Jesus.

In recent years, Zimbabwe has lost many communities. Today it is important to:

- revitalize those who are still active by strengthening the bonds that unite them so that they support each other in difficult times and find hope,
- create new communities in areas where there is a need.

During these two days of formation, there will be time for sharing experiences of community life, practical workshops and reflection on the way in which we can learn from each other, times for discussion on the major challenges encountered, on how to exist in a declining economy and in a constantly evolving environment...etc.

- On July 26 and 27, 2024, five communities from the three regions of Zimbabwe will gather in Gweru, to participate in times of reflection, sharing, praying, workshops and musical activities.

A schedule will be established to define how the province can support communities in their efforts to restart.

There will be sharing times on how to adapt to new ways of meeting, promote Faith and Light and respect the code of conduct. A conference on the theme “Facing challenges and overcoming difficulties while remaining united in Jesus” will be followed by a time of reflection.

- July 28, 2024: each community will gather in their local church to participate in a “Faith and Light” thanksgiving mass/service. The communities will actively participate by offering to sing during the celebration or to welcome the faithful at the entrance of the church to invite them to discover the movement and participate in a meeting. The idea is to show that the Faith and Light movement is present and alive in churches and meeting places.