

A SHARED CHARISM

VATICAN II

All are called to sanctity

**Movement from a hierarchical model
to a model of complementary
states of life**

POST VATICAN II PERIOD

Birth of many new movements

**Religious Life – Period of transformation and
questioning**

Emerging of new religious communities

**Birth of the concept of being associated to
the charism of a Congregation**

**THE PHENOMENON OF ASSOCIATES' LIVING
THE CHARISM OF A CONGREGATION**

**How do we interpret the phenomenon of
Associates?**

What is their call?

**How do we interpret their inner call as rooted in
their baptismal call?**

BAPTISM

Foundation of Christian Life

BAPTISM

**The call of associates
to a Congregation
is rooted in
the fundamental call of Baptism.**

"Where do you live? – Come and see...."
John 1:39

BAPTISM:

A call to follow Christ as he related
to the Father
to his brothers and sisters
to creation

A call to participate in Christ's mission

"I shall no longer call you servants...
I call you Friends..." John 15:15

Through Baptism we

become sons and daughters of God

are disciples of Christ

share equal dignity as children of God

are on different paths...with a common vocation -
sanctity

« That all may be one... »
John 17:21)

By BAPTISM

We become brothers and sisters.

We share a common bond with Christ
which roots us in communion
with one another.

"I am among you
as one who serves."
Luke 22:27

By BAPTISM

We share the mission of Christ.

We share a variety and diversity of gifts.

BAPTISM

confers a unique vocation
to each person

Our Unique Call

The Spirit gives to each disciple
the means to actualize
his/her following of Christ
in a specific state of life.

**What is the meaning of
the CALL of associates
to live the charism
inherent to a Congregation?**

What Is A CHARISM?

**A gift of the Spirit
given to the Church
to build up the Body of Christ**

The call of associates to live the charism inherent to a Congregation

...a specific call of the Spirit
to be associated with a particular, strong insight or
intuition
to define a way to live one's Christian life in the world
to make a commitment to one's chosen way of following
Christ in one's particular historical and social context.

How is a charism lived?

Lay persons live the charism in accordance with *the secular nature of their call.*

“God has handed over the world to women and men, so that they may participate in the work of creation, freeing it, and sanctifying themselves in marriage or the celibate life, in a family, in a profession and in various activities of society” (Christifideles laici 15, 1)