



Bernardine Franciscan Sisters

General Chapter ~ June 12 – 26, 2022

Our General Chapter

In June 12 – 26, 2022, the Bernardine Franciscan Sisters representing the United States, Brazil, Dominican Republic, Mozambique, and Liberia will gather for their 18th General Chapter. The General Chapter is a body of elected members which convenes to:

- ❖ reflect upon and evaluate
 - ~ the spirit of our congregation,
 - ~ our fidelity to the mission in light of the Gospel,
 - ~ the charism of our congregation,
 - ~ the teachings of the church,
 - ~ the signs and the needs of the times.
- ❖ give direction to the life and the mission of our congregation
- ❖ elect the leadership for our congregation

We invite you to pray with us as we gather for our congregational event that we may be open to the movement and power of the Holy Spirit and that with passion and courage we may follow the inspiration of the Spirit with trust in Divine Providence.

The Theme for Our General Chapter

The theme for our General Chapter is:

“Together Creating Transformation.”

We use the ***“ing”*** form of the verb ***create*** which indicates an ongoing process. The word ***transformation*** implies ***knowledge*** of the past, ***awareness*** of the present, and the ***hopes*** and dreams for our future. We are in this ongoing process ***Together***.

Prayer for our General Chapter



Prayer of the People for the Eighteenth General Chapter of the Bernardine Franciscan Sisters

Gracious God, we bless You and thank You
for Your great love and mercy.
We know You are always with us
and we trust in Your Divine Providence.

We ask You to be present with the
Bernardine Franciscan Sisters
Enlightening, guiding and blessing them
as they prepare
for their Eighteenth General Chapter.

Help us to be united with You and them
in the universal mission of the Church
respecting creation
and welcoming and serving all
as brothers and sisters. Amen.

Our General Chapter Logo

Our Chapter Logo has five figures. These figures represent the five countries in which the Bernardine Franciscan Sisters presently serve. These figures are each embracing each other, but their hands are not touching so as not to close the circle. The one hand on the top represents openness, sharing, and the giving of oneself both in community and in ministry. The other hand is underneath and represents the act of receiving, welcoming, and accepting.

The different colors represent the diversity and multiculturalism of the people to whom we minister to as well as our own diversity and multiculturalism as a community.

Each figure is linked to the globe, despite differences in language, culture, race, and creed, - opening, listening and forming partnerships to spread gospel living to all. They represent our work together to do our part to transform ourselves and the congregation as we move forward to help change the world by witnessing Franciscan peace and joy.

As with all that we are and all that we do, our 18th General Chapter of June, 2022 will ask of us to be and to do all in the Name of Jesus.