

Spring '25 Report of Implementation of CSL's Five-Year Plan

CSL's *Five-Year Plan* was adopted by Chapter in June 2022 and its implementation began with the guidance of the Council and its oversight committees in July. Regular detailed progress reports have been provided to the Chapter. The most recent one was dated January 12, 2025. Members can contact Abbess Martha for a copy of the original plan or subsequent Chapter reports, as needed.

A nutshell perspective of the past three years and the year ahead is provided below. The CSL is at the half-way point for implementation of the plan.



Worship and Convocations (c/o Abbess Martha, Zoom and Convo Coordinators, Worship Committee)

Goals	Key Deliverables thru 1/25	2025 Priority Tasks
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be centered by Christ and the Rule of Benedict. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitated seasonal discussions related to CSL's charism and the Rule have occurred. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Offer at convocations (and afterward) discussions related to the rule and vows for development of members and the community.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Worship communally in-person and online. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The <i>Opus Dei</i> application has been updated for convocations and for expanded zoom-based weekly prayer – that now includes time for fellowship, contemplative silence, praying in harmony, and a semi-annual Liturgy of Remembrance. Prior research of new on-site options for convocations led to changes for '25 and beyond. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to update the <i>Opus Dei</i>, including the <i>Rituale</i>, use of inclusive language, and praying in harmony. Include a Liturgy of Remembrance as part of a special All Souls Day Matins or Vespers, similar to special Lent Matins held on 3/22/25. Begin meeting at NE site in July; and coastal sites in MD & OR for October convocations.



Communications (c/o Tech Team) and Outreach (c/o Sr Mary Magdalene)

Communications Goals	Key Deliverables thru 1/25	2025 Priority Tasks
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide accessible resources for members and adapted technology platforms for community use. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordinated and updated resources (list_serv, zoom and hybrid services: public/private Facebook sites: newsletter; directory; and website) have been updated CSL's website and <i>Opus Dei</i> applications via Webcitz contractor were updated, with input from website content reviewers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tech Team (Brs. Florian, Jude T, John D, Jérôme, and Ronan) continue to provide members and committees updated, accessible resources. Working with others: (a) provide website and <i>Opus Dei</i> edits, and new CSL-funded zoom domain for community use; and (b) explore use of M365 documents platform (see F&E below).
Outreach Goals	Key Deliverables thru 1/25	2025 Priority Tasks
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Re-engage with CSL community partners (ex., NAECC, ABC, TEC). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Member and CSL services and ministries in support of CSL's charism have been reviewed to identify CSL priorities. New trifold brochure developed in 12/24 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Abbess or her representative to attend NAECC annual meeting on behalf of CSL; and Outreach and other members to attend quarterly online ABC gatherings. Trifold brochure copies to be printed by mid-year. Update online profiles of CSL; and build on CSL member ministries and Religious Life Sunday as bridges to TEC and local parishes.



Formation and Education (c/o F&E Committee and Three Deans)

Goals	Key Deliverables thru 1/25	2025 Priority Tasks
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meet Formation Program needs of members and the CSL community. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Professed-life, Oblate-life, and Formation Guide manuals were updated to better reflect the Journey of a Lifetime theme, Rule of Benedict key messages, and CSL's Customary. More support of members was provided via orientation of new members, transition meetings, facilitated discussions for novices, and celebration of milestone anniversaries. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Document corollary procedures and practices not in CSL's Customary or Formation Manuals to assist members with program details. Issue <i>draft</i> Manual changes to affected members for input. Rebalance availability of formation guides and support for shifting needs of professed-life and oblate-life members.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide innovative educational and community-engagement offerings. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New initiatives offered include Abbess-sponsored forums about the Rule of Benedict; member-proposed Advent/Lent books for discussions; and Saturday Night fellowship. Reassigned areas and new partnerships related to continuing education and community development include Safe Church training; library resources in support of formation work and continuing study; and Archival Records for access by members. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide online offerings related to prayer, study, and service that further develop or enhance information in the Formation Manuals. Develop document platform (with Tech Team) to ensure user-friendly and sustainable access to formation and education documents and resources.



Finance (c/o Br Jean Baptiste) and Investments (c/o Br Robert)

Goals	Key Deliverables thru 1/25	2025 Priority Tasks
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrate standard financial practices for CSL type of community. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Financial Management framework (structure, policies, and job descriptions) was approved by the Council in 2023 and implementation (including regular financial reports to the Council and Chapter) was begun by the Superior, Finance/ Investment Committees, and Business Manager. Some investment account oversight changes have been implemented; and performance of investments continued to be monitored. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support internal annual review task group and approved follow-up actions; and budget for external audit every five years. Make banking changes that reflect member moves and new information. Continue to monitor performance of investments, and any needed investment support for the operating budget.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop charism-driven annual budgets, within a five-year budget planning process 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Calendar-year based budget reports have been regularly provided to the Council and Chapter. A rolling-year budget, with 2024 actuals as a basis for moving forward, has been developed; and fund categories for both continuing operations and new initiatives have been identified. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update stewardship strategies and pledging information, consistent with 2025 budget and CSL needs. Continue to discuss charism-related goals for investment of CSL funds.