STATUTES FOR THE PRIVATE ASSOCIATION
OF
THE COMPANIONS OF THE TRANSFIGURED CHRIST

PREAMBLE

In accordance with the Second Vatican Council’s teaching and the Code of Canon Law 1983, Christ’s faithful as part of the People of God have the right to establish and direct associations for the purpose of promoting their spiritual growth, serve charitable or pious purposes, and foster the Christian vocation in the world. [Apostolicam Actuositatem, n.15, Code of Canon Law 1983, cc. 215, 298, § 1].”

Pursuant to the relevant norms in the Code of Canon Law 1983 (hereinafter referred to as CIC’83), of these associations of the faithful, the community known as the “Companions of the Transfigured Christ” is a civilly incorporated company[Company ID No.: 1207917/ Company No.: GI851 (95): is an Association of Catholic men (lay, consecrated or diocesan clergy), who are given the opportunity to share in a common spirituality and mission inspired by the Gospel accounts of the Transfiguration of Christ, Our Lord and Saviour at Mt. Tabor (Matthew 17:1-13, Mark 9:2-13, Luke 9:28-36; (NRSV Catholic Edition) and as laid down by the founders of this Association.

ARTICLE ONE: NAME, ADDRESS AND DEFINITION

1.1 This private association of Christ’s faithful, in accordance with cc. 298, 299 CIC’83, is to be called the “Companions of the Transfigured Christ”, hereinafter referred to as “CTC Community” or “CTC” and was established on the Feast of the Transfiguration, August 6th in the Jubilee Year of 2000. CTC is also civilly incorporated as a non-profit organisation under the Laws of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago.

1.2 The Association’s principal address is # 23a Queen’s Park West, Port of Spain.

1.3 The Association reserves the right to change its principal address as maybe required in the future. This decision will be taken at its annual general meeting by members who have full voting rights.

ARTICLE TWO: PURPOSE OF THE ASSOCIATION

Pursuant to c. 304, § 1 CIC’83, the goals and objectives of this Association are defined as follows:

2.1 The principal purpose of the association is to assist men of the Archdiocese of Port of Spain and other territories in which the Association is established, to fully participate in living out their baptismal call.
2.2 The Association achieves its principal purpose through its specific Apostolate and Mission which is to respond to the needs of the men in Trinidad and Tobago and the wider Caribbean offering restoration, rehabilitation and holistic affirmation of their masculinity.

2.3 These responses include psycho-spiritual approaches, integral human development work, counselling services, therapeutic facilities and personal and spiritual enrichment courses all of which are to be in harmony with the magisterium of the Roman Catholic Church.

2.4 The members of the Association contribute to the fulfilment of the purpose by their commitment to live the spirituality of the CTC community and by their participation in the Apostolate of the Association, as is further highlighted in the Association’s constitution.

2.5 An essential aspect of the purpose of the Association is to call and form men for the consecrated life with the intention of establishing a religious institute of diocesan right once it meets the canonical requirements of the relevant ecclesiastical authorities.

2.6 Another important aspect of the purpose of the Association is to help its members to respond to the specific vocation to which the Lord has called them, and to support them as they fulfil this call.

2.7 The Association’s spirituality is built on its three watchwords: companionship, transfiguration and mission. Members live this out through their commitment to PEARLS:

- **P** – Prayer Daily;
- **E** – Eucharistic Adoration at any one of the Association’s weekly prayer meetings;
- **A** – Attending the sacraments regularly;
- **R** – Reading scripture daily;
- **L** – Living simply, exercising chastity and obedience proper to their state of life;
- **S** – Support of the other members in ministry by giving of their time, talent and treasure and by being a source of faith, hope and love on each other’s journey.

**ARTICLE THREE: GOVERNANCE OF THE ASSOCIATION**

3.1 As a private Association of Christ’s faithful, the Companions of the Transfigured Christ is governed in accordance with these statutes (c. 309, 321, CIC’83).

3.2 Although CTC Community as a private Association of Christ's faithful enjoys its own autonomy in accordance with c. 321, it is subject to the supervision of the Archbishop of Port of Spain, in accordance with c. 305, and also to the governance of his authority (c. 323).

3.3 **The General Assembly**

3.3.1 The general assembly is the highest governing body within the Association. Members only possess one vote when deciding on matters and are to abide by the statutes of the Association when executing their duties.
3.3.2 The general council is to set an appropriate date each year for the annual general meeting (AGM) and is to inform all members of this date, giving them at least three months notice.

3.3.3 At this meeting:
   a) The moderator presents the annual report for approval;
   b) The treasurer presents the annual balance sheet and budget for approval;
   c) The main activities to achieve the Association's purpose are decided upon;
   d) Officers are elected;
   e) Members agree on a change or purchase of headquarters;
   f) Modifications to the statutes or any other official documents are voted on.

3.3.4 The moderator with the consent of the general council can also call extraordinary meetings of the general assembly for just reasons which are to be communicated to the members, giving them at least seven days notice.

3.3.5 An Emergency meeting of the general assembly can be called by the moderator with the consent of the general council, giving members at least two days notice in the case of grave matters affecting the entire Association or its survival.

3.4 THE MODERATOR

3.4.1 The Association is governed by a moderator, who is one of the founders, so chosen by the other founders and who has indicated his acceptance of the office in writing to the vice moderator. This moderator is to fulfil his function and exercise his power according to the norm of the statutes, over all of the houses and members of the Association.

3.4.2 He is to hold this office until he has reached the age of retirement (sixty-five years) or until he voluntarily resigns, or until his death, whichever comes first.

3.4.3 At the death or termination of office of this first moderator, the next founder who meets the requirements for this office is to be considered as the next replacement.

3.4.4 If for some reason the other founder is not able to hold the office, an election is to be called by the vice moderator involving all of the Transfiguration Brothers who have made lifetime promises to elect the next moderator of the Association.

3.4.5 In order to be raised to the office of moderator the Transfiguration Brother must have at least a two-thirds majority vote in accordance with Association’s By-Law No.1.

3.4.6 This moderator is to be elected for three years, and can only serve for two consecutive terms. He can be elected to hold this office once again after a three year interval.

3.4.7 The moderator is responsible for:
   a) Representing the Association
b) Implementing the decisions of the general assembly with the help of his council
c) Chairing the meetings of the general assembly and of any other governing bodies of the Association of which he is a member
d) The calling of meetings and indicating the agenda of these meetings, and bringing such meetings to an end.

3.4.8 As the Association grows and expands to other territories the moderator with the consent of the general council is to appoint a “mission leader” to represent the Association in that territory.

3.4.8.1 The mission leader is to be chosen from the permanent Covenant Members or Transfiguration Brothers with lifetime commitments.

3.4.8.2 A permanent Covenant Member can only serve as mission leader when the Association has a covenant body in that territory. Once the Association with the consent of the Ordinary of the territory establishes a household with that diocese the mission leader is to be a Transfiguration Brother.

3.4.9 The moderator is to ensure that the association cooperate with other associations of Christ's faithful, where this is expedient. He is to ensure that the Association gives its help to various Christian works, especially those in the same territory. (c. 328)

3.4.10 If the moderator over a period of months acts contrary to the teachings of the church or the statutes of the Association, the moderator is to be corrected or removed using the following process:

3.4.10.1 The General Council is to meet with the moderator to discuss the misconduct.

3.4.10.2 If the behaviour persists the vice moderator is to issue a warning letter to the moderator outlining the misconduct, and guidelines for reform.

3.4.10.3 If these actions do not bear the desired fruit, the moderator is to be brought before the Archbishop of Port of Spain by the general council. If after the intervention by the Archbishop the moderator does not modify his behaviour, the general council is to issue a dismissal letter, releasing the moderator from his duties and if necessary removing him from the Association.

3.4.10.4 In this case the vice moderator will act as moderator until the next AGM.

3.5 THE VICE MODERATOR

3.5.1 The office of vice moderator is to be held by a Transfiguration Brother who has made a lifetime commitment to the Association and has the capacity to carry out the duties of this office. The appointment is for three years and is renewable.
3.5.2 The vice moderator substitutes for the moderator when he cannot act and also carries out the duties of the secretary of the Association.

3.5.3 Only Transfiguration Brothers present at the AGM are to vote for this office with a two-thirds majority vote required.

3.6 **THE SECRETARY**

3.6.1 As stated in Article 3.5 the duties of the secretary are carried out by the vice moderator.

3.6.2 The secretary is responsible for:

   a) sending the notifications and invitations to meetings;
   b) taking the minutes of the meetings in which all agreements are always to be recorded;
   c) issuing and receiving off all correspondence;
   d) keeping of the register of admissions and dismissals;
   e) taking care of the archives.

3.7 **THE TREASURER**

3.7.1 The office of treasurer is to be held by a permanent Covenant Member who possesses the necessary skills to fulfil the duties of this office. The appointment lasts for three years and is renewable.

3.7.2 The treasurer is responsible for:

   a) administration of the assets of the Association;
   b) gathering of members’ contributions;
   c) preparing the annual balance sheet and budget.

3.7.3 The Permanent Covenant Members present at the AGM are to nominate two candidates for this office to the moderator. The moderator then appoints one of the candidates to the office of treasurer.

3.8 **COUNSELLORS**

3.8.1 The office of counsellor is to be held by a permanent Covenant Member. He must demonstrate an exemplary commitment to PEARLS and dedication to the work of the Association.

3.8.2 Counsellors are to:
a) Ensure that the decisions of the general council are in keeping with the purpose of the Association
b) Ensure that the concerns of the other covenant members are voiced to the general council
c) Advise the moderator responsibly, seeking the common good of the Association at all times

3.8.3 Only permanent covenant members present at the AGM are to vote for this office with a simple majority vote required.

3.9 THE GENERAL COUNCIL

3.9.1 The general assembly is to elect a general council to assist the moderator in the carrying out of his duties.

3.9.2 This council is made up of the Vice Moderator, two Covenant Members including the treasurer, and the spiritual counsellor of the Association.

3.9.3 Any mission leaders, once legitimately appointed by the moderator, are to also sit on this council, functioning as additional counsellors.

ARTICLE FOUR: MEMBERSHIP OF THE ASSOCIATION

4.1 In order for men to be validly received into the Association as members they must have completed eighteen years of age. Younger members who have completed sixteen years of age with parental permission can also be validly received. They must have completed all of the appropriate formation; been accepted by the moderator and made promises at the Association’s Mass to celebrate the Feast of the Transfiguration or at another appropriate Liturgy approved in writing by the general council.

4.2 CTC Community provides for two categories of members within the Association: Transfiguration Brothers and Covenant Members.

4.3 Transfiguration Brothers refer to the men of the Association who have completed an appropriate period of discernment and formation, have been accepted by the moderator after consultation with the Association’s formation team, and have made a public commitment to live a consecrated life as a companion of the transfigured Christ, and live in one of the Association’s household communities.

4.4 Covenant Members refer to the men of the Association who have completed an appropriate period of discernment and formation, have been accepted by the moderator after consultation with those responsible for their formation, and have made either a temporary (one year), or permanent (Lifetime) commitment to observe the statutes of the Association, and to live the spirituality of CTC (PEARLS) appropriate to their state of life (c. 303).
4.5 **FORMATION AND APPOINTMENTS**

4.5.1 In accordance with c. 324, §2, the Association, through its moderator with the consent of the general council, is to select a spiritual counsellor, chosen from any of the priests who lawfully exercise a ministry within the Archdiocese of Port of Spain. However, for this priest to assume this office, the confirmation of the Archbishop of Port of Spain is required.

4.5.2 The moderator is to appoint a director of formation to be responsible for the initial and on-going formation of all of the members of CTC.

4.5.2.1 The moderator is to appoint a team to assist the director of formation with the formation of Transfiguration Brothers. This team comprises the spiritual counsellor, an external psychologist who either is living a consecrated life or works with consecrated persons, and one permanent covenant member trained in spiritual direction.

4.5.2.2 The moderator is to appoint another team made up of two permanent Covenant Members to assist the director of formation with the formation of covenant members.

4.5.2.3 The director of formation with the assistance of the formation team is to design a formation programme for Transfiguration Brothers inspired by CTC’s particular charism. This programme is to present an outline and content for all of the stages of formation from a candidate’s initial contact with the Association, all the way to a Transfiguration Brother’s final commitment to the consecrated life; his on-going formation and procedures for departure or dismissal.

4.5.2.4 For this programme to be implemented it must be approved by the general council or a special council set up for this purpose. Once approved it is to be sent to the Archbishop of Port of Spain for archival purposes.

4.5.2.5 The director of formation is to design a program outlining the formation process for new and existing covenant members. Before this programme or any modifications to it can be implemented, it must be approved by the general council of the Association.

4.5.3 **OBLIGATIONS AND RIGHTS OF THE TRANSFIGURATION BROTHERS**

4.5.3.1 All Transfiguration Brothers with lifetime commitments, once they have been validly accepted into the Association, have the right to participate in the general assembly as voting members, while those with temporary commitments can be present as observers.

4.5.3.2 The moderator is to appoint a team to work in collaboration with personelle approved by the Archbishop of Port of Spain to continue drafting the constitution that governs the life of the Transfiguration Brothers.
4.5.3.3 Once completed this constitution is to be presented to the Archbishop of Port of Spain for approval.

4.5.3.4 The *Transfiguration Brothers* are to take as their rule of life the “Rule of St. Augustine”, and are to be governed by the approved statutes of the Association and the “Draft CTC Constitution 2009” until the constitution is finalised.

4.5.3.5 *Transfiguration Brothers* are to have as the supreme rule of life the following of Christ proposed in the gospel and as expressed in the constitution of the Association.

4.5.3.6 Accordingly, the *Transfiguration Brothers* are committed to:

   a) Following the prayer schedule of the Association. This includes participation in the celebration of the Eucharist; Eucharistic adoration; the reading of Sacred Scripture; the praying of the Liturgy of the Hours and time for personal prayer and approaching the Sacrament of Reconciliation.
   
   b) Having a special devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary through various Marian devotions but especially through the praying of the rosary.
   
   c) Observing an annual 5-7 day directed retreat.

4.5.3.7 *Transfiguration Brothers* are to live in the house that they have been assigned to unless granted permission by the moderator of the Association in writing.

4.5.3.8 The *Transfiguration Brothers* because of their promise of poverty do not have the right to acquire or possess any goods. Therefore, anything acquired through personal effort or by reason of the Association, is acquired for the Association.

4.5.3.8.1 The *Transfiguration Brothers* may be permitted by the moderator, if a need arises, to possess books and equipment in moderation and may be granted permission to own goods that would not fit normally in the Association’s expression of poverty once the item helps the brother contribute to the common good, or achieve a specific goal.

4.5.3.8.2 *Transfiguration Brothers* are to wear the habit of the Association according to the norms of the Association as a sign of their consecration and as a witness of poverty.

4.5.3.9 The Association is to provide each *Transfiguration Brother* with proper meals, adequate accommodation, funds for personal items and the resources needed to carry out their assigned ministry.
4.6 **OBLIGATIONS AND RIGHTS OF THE COVENANT MEMBERS**

4.6.1 The obligations of *Covenant Members* are to be listed in a document entitled “Minimum Requirements of Covenant Members”. This document is to be prepared and modified by the director of formation and approved by the general assembly.

4.6.2 All permanent *Covenant Members*, once they have been validly accepted into the Association, have the right to participate in the general assembly as voting members, while temporary covenant members can be present at the general assembly as observers.

4.6.3 All members are highly recommended to live the spirituality of the Association (PEARLS) guided by the “Minimum Requirements of Covenant Members” Document, as expressed in Article 2.7.

4.6.4 The Association is required to provide *Covenant Members* with the formation, and pastoral care that are needed in living out their commitment to the Association, and their baptismal call.

4.7 **TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP**

4.7.1 If at any time a member of the Association decides that his place is no longer with the Association, he is to submit a letter outlining his decision, his motivation and process of discernment to the general council. Once the resignation is accepted by the general council the moderator can instruct the vice moderator to issue a letter formally releasing him from the Association.

4.7.2 Any lawfully enrolled member of CTC Community who has publicly rejected the Catholic faith, or has defected from ecclesiastical communion, or upon whom an excommunication has been imposed or declared, or a member who continues to not fulfil his obligations to the Association or at the wish of an absolute majority of the members of the Association can be dismissed after the following process has been followed:

4.7.2.1 Any incidents that can warrant the dismissal of a member are to be reported to the vice moderator. The moderator is then to appoint two members of the council to investigate the matter.

4.7.2.2 If, after investigation, there are enough grounds to warrant dismissal, the vice moderator along with the two investigators are to present the case to the entire general council.

4.7.2.3 The general council will call the member to a meeting with the vice moderator and one other designated member of the council where the information is to be presented and the member given an opportunity to respond to the allegations. At this stage a first warning is given to the member in writing signed by the members of the general council.
4.7.2.4 If the incident is legitimately reported again to the vice moderator the member is to be called into a second meeting where another warning letter is issued. At this stage the general council is to instruct the director of formation to provide the member with appropriate counselling or spiritual direction.

4.7.2.5 If there is a third report the member is to be invited to a final meeting with the moderator, the vice moderator, and another designated member of the council where a dismissal letter signed by the moderator is to be presented to the member making the termination official.

4.7.3 The only recourse that a dismissed member is to be allowed is an opportunity to present his case at the next general assembly of the Association where all the members present after hearing all of the relevant information will decide by a simple majority vote on the future of the member.

ARTICLE FIVE: ASSETS AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE ASSOCIATION

5.1 As a private Association of Christ’s faithful with juridical personality, the Association has the right to acquire and administer its own temporal goods in accordance to c. 310 and substantiated by c. 325 CIC’83.

5.2 The acquisition, administration and sale of temporal goods will be governed by the civil by-laws of the Association, and by the systems and procedures outlined in a financial directory that is to be drawn up or modified by the treasurer with the approval of the general council at one of their meetings.

5.3 For the sake of transparency, accountability and in the spirit of cooperation, the Association will undertake a yearly financial report to the Financial Administrator of the Archdiocese of Port of Spain.

ARTICLE SIX: MODIFICATION AND DISSOLUTION OF THE ASSOCIATION

6.1 Modification of the Statutes
Any modification to the statutes is to be approved at a meeting of the general assembly, requiring two-thirds majority of the vote in one valid scrutiny for approval.

6.1.1 The proposed modifications are to be attached to the agenda of the meeting and are to be received at least one week before the meeting by all members.

6.1.2 Legitimately approved modifications are not to be considered law until they have been reviewed by the Archbishop of Port of Spain.
6.2 Dissolution of the Association.

6.2.1 If the Association is no longer capable of achieving its objectives, or it has not received any new members for ten consecutive years, or after a period of discernment by the general counsellor in dialogue with the Archbishop of Port of Spain, it is possible for the Association to be dissolved by the will of the members, in accordance with the relevant process (cc. 326, § 1; 120, § 1 CIC’83).

6.2.2 The decision to dissolve the Association is to be made at a special meeting of the general assembly.

6.2.3 This special meeting is to be called by the moderator with the written consent of each member of the general council, and is to be called for the purpose of dissolving the Association.

6.2.4 The decision to dissolve the Association is to be made in one valid scrutiny, and a two-thirds majority vote of all present is necessary for dissolution.

6.2.5 The members present are to also determine the fate of the goods of the Association upon dissolution. The goods can be transferred to the Archdiocese of Port of Spain or to a charitable association chosen by the members.

6.2.6 If at any time the Association’s activity gives rise to grave harm to ecclesiastical teaching or discipline, or is a scandal to the faithful, the Archbishop of Port of Spain can suppress the Association (c. 326, § 1).

6.3 Before suppressing the Association the Archbishop of Port of Spain is to:

6.3.1 Call the moderator into a meeting to present the case against the Association and issue a verbal warning

6.3.2 If the ordinary’s verbal warning is not adhered to, the Archbishop after three warning letters have been issued and ignored by the general council of the Association, can suppress the Association via a formal decree.
IN CONCLUSION
TO EVERY MEMBER,
WE REAFFIRM:

“This being so, it appears sufficiently clear that the Code is in no way intended as a substitute for faith, grace and the charisms in the life of the Church and of the faithful. On the contrary, its purpose is rather to create such an order in the Ecclesial Society that, while assigning the primacy to faith, grace and the charisms, it at the same time renders easier their organic development in the life both of the Ecclesial Society and of the individual persons who belong to it.”

SACRAE DISCIPLINAE LEGES

THE FOUNDERS:

Kyle Dardaine

Mikkel Trestail