

DISCUSSION DURING THE VMI EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ZOOM MEETING WITH THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC – JANUARY 16, 2026

Sister Nayda Nuñez reported the election of a new president by the National Committee during its December 2025 meeting: Magnolia Tirado (a laywoman).

The situation of *Vida Ascendente* in Santo Domingo was significantly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The original seven groups were reduced to two due to travel restrictions imposed on the elderly by their children to prevent infection. These two groups comprise approximately 43 members—who are fortunately very active—meeting every Monday. These meetings tend to be lengthy due to the discussions held on various aspects of life.

They dedicate one day a month to visiting *Vida Ascendente* members who, due to limited mobility, can no longer attend meetings. They also organize gatherings for reflection, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, and specific missions proposed by the groups to be carried out within their communities.

These missions include distributing Holy Communion (not only to group members), visiting the sick on special occasions—such as Lent—to offer personal support, and jointly celebrating holidays like Friendship Day and Easter.

The group in the northern region has a spiritual advisor who meets with them every two months. The group in the capital has a spiritual advisor who meets with them once a month. During Advent and Lent, parish retreats are organized in which the *Vida Ascendente* group participates, accompanied by either their spiritual advisor or Sister Nayda herself.

The members range in age from 55 to 70. The oldest women in the groups are 83 and 90 years old. When asked about her role within Vida Ascendente, Sister Nayda explains that it involves supporting, organizing, and facilitating existing groups, as well as establishing new ones.

Father Frankello, who is on a mission in Peru, was invited by Goyita to attend a Latin American congress on evangelization. She introduced him to two individuals interested in starting Vida Ascendente groups in the Dominican Republic.

During the first national meeting of Vie Ascendente, it was agreed to meet with these individuals to discuss setting up the groups. The congress in Peru was not organized by Vida Ascendente; it was a gathering of doctors.

Jairo Morales, the continental coordinator, chairs monthly coordination meetings for Latin America and the Caribbean, attended by a representative from each country (Fulgencia, President Emeritus for the Dominican Republic). At these monthly meetings, each country presents a report on activities completed and those planned for the future. These updates are interspersed with exchanges of ideas and projects.

Regarding relations with the local episcopate, the bishop emeritus was well acquainted with the movement; however, the current bishop—appointed three months ago—is in the process of restructuring the diocese, and it is still too early to establish a relationship.

Information regarding Vie Montante Internationale (such as newsletters and the proceedings of the Rome congresses) is being well received.