

Ursuline Sisters, Congregation of Tildonk

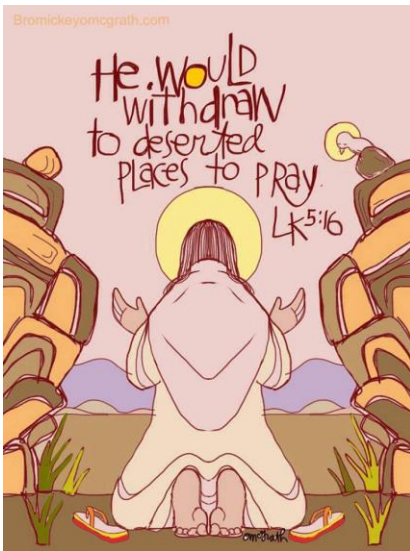
E-News - January 2014

From Congregation Leadership:



Happy feast of St. Angela!

Today we honor and celebrate a remarkable woman, our beloved Founder, St. Angela Merici.



Angela was a woman of good sense and well-balanced judgment. Contemplation was the source of her joy and of the fundamental optimism which shines through her writings...

...It is difficult to speak of her prayer apart from her life...

...It is herself of whom she speaks when she says in her Counsels to her children, "Your only refuge will be at the feet of Christ."

Angela Merici and the Company of St. Ursula, Teresa Ledochowska OSU, Page 192.

We are simple, ordinary women who desire with all our hearts to fulfill God's dream for us every day. We are aware of our weaknesses and our mistakes. Yet each morning we arise with the hope that we will live the day as God's Beloved, remembering our own belovedness as well as that of each person we meet.

With humility, like Angela, we place ourselves at the foot of the cross. We implore God's grace and mercy for the coming day and then strive to live with faith, with hope and especially with love.

St. Angela, pray for us.

Sr. Margaret O'Brien

Extended Council Meeting: Congregation Leadership Team (CLT) welcomes all the members of the Extended Council Sr. Sushma Kindo from Ambikapur Province, Sr. Ann Cuppens from Belgian Province, Sr. Deodata Bunzigiye from Congo Vice-Province, Sr. Jacinta Baxla from Gumla Province, Sr. Eve Juntina

Romould from Ranchi Province, Sr. Mridula Khalkho from Tezpur Province, Sr. Catherine Talia from United States Province, and the facilitators - Sr. Ellen Doyle and Edwige Maria to our house in Brussels, Belgium. The meeting will be from January 31st through February 6th, 2014.

We pray For God's blessings. We invite Angela and John to accompany us in all our deliberations and help us with openness to new inspirations to continue to lead our Congregaion in the right direction.

From United States Province:

Celebrating the Feast of St. Angela Merici

On Saturday, January 18, 2014, the Sisters and Associates of the US Province will gather at St. Ursula Center in Blue Point to celebrate the feast of our Founder, St. Angela Merici.

The day has been prepared by the Charism Circle and will include readings and prayers taken from the booklet, "Praying with Angela Merici and John Lambertz", written by Ann Cuppens, OSU.

The day's readings are from the writings of Angela Merici, excerpts from letters written by John Lambertz, and the Charism Statement approved by the Province Chapter in June 2013. The day also includes prayer, small and large group discussion, and time to be with one another as we enjoy a festive meal!

During the Closing Ritual, two Associates will share with us how they experience the Charism in their everyday life. The Associates will receive a copy of the revised Associate Handbook and all Sisters and Associates will receive a copy of the booklet, "Make All Hearts One."

Please join with us as we pray in thanksgiving for our Founders:

*Loving God,
we thank you for the lives of Angela Merici and John Lambertz.*

They were amiable and simple persons, filled with the gifts of respect, understanding and patience.

*Inspired by them we want to create communities where hospitality and kindness, cordiality and warm affection prevail. (76)**

*May we provide one another with a home where we can enjoy the freedom of the children of God. (81)**

May the gentling forces in us grow into peace and joy for many, above all for those who have neither warmth of affection nor a home in the deepest sense.

In this way, may we be a sign of the love and reconciliation which Jesus, your Son, continually spreads among us. AMEN.

*Fullness in the Life of Christ

Opening remarks at first press conference of the year 2014

Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, UN Headquarters, 10 January 2014

Good morning, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a great pleasure to see you at the beginning of the New Year, and I would like to extend my warmest regards and Happy New Year to you. Thank you very much.

The year ahead needs to be a period of intensified diplomacy, inroads against poverty and action on climate change.

2014 will be crucial for the Millennium Development Goals as the 2015 deadline approaches fast.

We need clear progress on the post-2015 development agenda, a set of sustainable development goals and the financial means to make it happen.

... ..

As we focus on these long-term foundations for prosperity and peace, the United Nations also faces an overflowing inbox of conflicts and disasters of growing severity, frequency and complexity. These will require much more from the international community - more political attention, more resources, more support.

... ..

2014 will see the United Nations strengthen disaster resilience and push for progress towards a nuclear-weapon-free world.

... ..

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In this year that marks the 100th anniversary of the First World War, we will strive to push the boundaries of [diplomacy] and collective action. Despite crises and concerns, 2014 also brings major opportunities to build a safer, more just and prosperous world.

I am determined to make this a year of progress for people and the planet.

I thank you, and I wish you and your families continued good health, happiness and prosperity in this happy new year. Thank you.

To read the full opening remarks of the Secretary-General please log on to:

<http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs/2014/sgsm15577.doc.htm>