

Ursuline Sisters Congregation of Tildonk



E-News - July 2016

From Congregation Leadership

In a spirit of friendship and gratitude, three sisters from the Generalate drove from Brussels to France on June 8, to visit the Ursulines living in Saint-Saulve, close to Valenciennes. There is a connection between our two groups of Ursulines since Sister Marie Seynaeve (Ursuline Sisters of Roman Union) shares her many talents with us by translating E-News and other material from English to French.

Sisters Bernadette, Jane and Jyoti were cordially welcomed by Sister Marie and Sister Annie Dru who showed them around the beautiful grounds. We felt very much at home as we strolled by the apple orchard, fish pond, roses and huge farm cart wheel reminiscent of the days when farming was a part of daily convent routine. The statue of Notre Dame de la Garde at the far end of the garden reminds everyone of Mary's protection.



Sisters Marie and Annie shared the historical importance of the area and the story of the eleven Ursulines who in 1794 were sent to the guillotine for their religious beliefs and for teaching the catholic religion; all forbidden during the French Revolution.

Sister Annie drove us to the tomb marking the burial place of our Blessed Ursuline Martyrs of Valenciennes. We all stood in silence and were struck by the simplicity of the site amidst countless other tomb stones in the huge cemetery.

We admired the two chapels we visited, commenting on how in one chapel, the natural wooden beams blended magnificently with the greenery outside the windows, while in another the stained glass windows reflected the sunlight beautifully.

All in all, the mutual sharing during the visit was heart-warming and was a wonderful outing. We met many sisters whose hospitality and welcoming spirit as well as their involvement in the apostolate all combined to make the outing to France a successful day.

From the Belgian Province



On Sunday, June 12, The Belgian Province gathered at Floordam in Melsbroek for the Installation of the newly appointed Provincial Team. Sisters Hildegarde, Lea, Ghislaine, Celestina and Felicite began their new

ministry of service as Province leaders with the reassuring prayer by Sister Bimla during the installation ritual "May you have the courage, strength and wisdom to carry out the mandate of the Province Chapter of 2016." The message from the Chapter: "*Be not afraid, it is I*" (Mt.14:27) was the central theme throughout the liturgy.

The installation was held at Floordam to provide an opportunity for as many sisters as possible to gather for the Eucharistic celebration and meal which followed: a true expression of *Ut Unum Sint*.

It was a very happy occasion for all present. A universal feeling of heart full gratitude to the Sisters for



The members of the General Government join the group of newly elected sisters

accepting to lead the Province for the next five years was apparent. A prayer sums up the day "for all that has been, we give thanks and for all that will be, yes."

From the Gumla Province

MUSIC COURSE RENEWAL

"LIFE IS MUSIC, SING IT."

We received the surprising invitation through Circular letter No. 4, to come together for a Western music renewal course. Our hearts throbbed with joy at the news. Filled with hope, eleven of us went to our Provincialate with our Keyboard on 28th May 2016.

Our joy knew no bounds as we were greeted by our Provincial Sr. Maria S. Kujur who inaugurated this renewal programme. A thunderous round of applause echoed in the Provincialate. We followed a three day renewal course, for during the course of 3 years, the systematic operation of Yamaha had been forgotten by some of us. With the co-operation of each other, our keyboards were tuned and played successfully.



The signs and key signatures, counts, beats, rhythm and chords were recalled along with their meaning and functions. Our painstaking efforts helped us acquire new skills and brought forth hidden songs from our memories and renewed our love of music. The forgotten art of music was revived thanks to our dear music guru Sr. Gracelet PDDM. Our final session ended with the Marian Hymn, the Jharkhand Psalm following the thanksgiving chanting addressed to our dear Provincial Sr. Maria and Council members for organizing the refresher music course.

We departed with renewed vigour and zeal for our mission of making God known and loved through the very art of music*sa re ga ma pa dha ni*.....

Sr. Mangla Minj and Sr. Kumudini Soy

From the Ranchi Province

All of us whole heartedly congratulate Sr. Clara Anand for having qualified for the award of Degree of Doctor of Philosophy in the subject " Relationship between soft skills and Teaching competency of Secondary School Teachers" from AISECT (All India Society for Electronics and Computer Technology) University. Well done dear Dr. Sr. Clara Anand! May you prove to be a true instrument for the fruitful mission of the Congregation.

Blessing & Inauguration

May 7, 2016 was a memorable day since it marked a milestone in the Ranchi Province. The Ursuline Inter College Hostel building on Purulia Road, Ranchi, was inaugurated by cutting the ribbon at the main entrance by the Provincial Sr. Suchita Shalini Xalxo. She opened the main entrance door symbolizing the opening of the building for the students. Thereafter all present for the programme proceeded to the roof-top of the building singing hymns. On the roof top the Holy Eucharist was celebrated. During the homily, the celebrant emphasized the wisdom which is being imparted by the Ursuline Sisters, a great mission of education. He further mentioned that sisters are giving precious contribution to the society by imparting good education. The new hostel building is a part of education where young girls from near and far will be accommodated for quality education.

After the Eucharist, the whole building was blessed by the two priests by sprinkling holy water with mango leaves thereby symbolizing the tribal and local culture and seeking God's blessings for the newly constructed building.

Sr. Mary Grace, Principal of Ursuline Inter College briefed the gathering about the constructed building. She started her speech quoting the lines of the Bible, "Homes are built on the foundation of wisdom and understanding. Where there is knowledge the rooms are furnished with valuable, beautiful things." Proverb 24:3-4

From the US Province

Sister Cecilia Moloughney was honored for her 100th birthday at a party in Blue Point.



Assisting those affected by Alzheimer's disease

June 20th, the day of longest light, the Alzheimer's Association sponsored an event called the Longest Day to show those affected by Alzheimer's disease they are not alone. Efforts were made to raise awareness, increase understanding, and engage in actions to assist those we know who are living with this disease. Some suggestions were offered:

- Create a "Memory Book" with photos, stories, quotes, etc.

- Visit with a person who has dementia and/or a care partner
- Practice listening to and affirming someone with dementia
- Pray for those with this disease and their partners
- Encourage someone showing signs of dementia to get an evaluation including providing information on where to go and how to get there.
- Practice patience listening to the same story or question
- Take time to consider what you would do if you were diagnosed with dementia
- Take someone with dementia to view the sunset

Parish Outreach

"We adapt to the needs of our times and we become messengers of joy, peace and hope especially to the vulnerable"

Sr. Lisa Bergeron is the outreach coordinator in St. John Nepomucene on Long Island. The Parish Outreach program is celebrating its 40th year, for which they recently had a Gala Fundraising event -- a soup spectacular which received donations from more than 50 vendors who donated soup, bread, desserts and beverages and from which they collected more than \$31,000 which will be used for special needs in the coming years. In addition, the parish is collecting new/nearly new clothing and school supplies to provide for the nearly 80 school-age children they serve (out of 135+ families) for returning to school in September. Sr. Lisa noted, "We generally collect so much from our parishioners and local community that we have enough to share with two other parishes."

This story, written by Sr. Lisa in the Parish Bulletin, shows how compassion and giving some help enables people to move on in life. "We are happy to report that two families that had been receiving assistance from our program have advised us within the last month that they are now in a position to be completely self-sufficient, and thus have "graduated" from our Outreach program. One of the families has been able to secure full-time employment to support their needs, and one family has been able to budget more effectively. They look forward to the near future when they will be able to donate their time and funds to pay forward all that they have received."

From Congo Vice-Province

Pictures to accompany the E-News June article on *The Angela Merici Literacy and Sewing Center*

Sr. Petronille pictured with three students showing their finely tailored dresses.





Students receive a valuable formation both professional and moral.



Sewing lessons include making artistic home decorations



Home economics classes include food preparation.



Basic sewing lessons are an important part of the program in the Center.

Significant events in the Vice-Province of Congo on August 13, 2016

Temporary Profession: Sr. Adeline Azina
 Sr. Consolata Kavira
 Sr. Evelyne Kavira
 Sr. Julienne Kavhugo
 Sr. Madeleine Bifuko
 Sr. Séraphina Bulonza
 Sr. Yvette Sifa

Perpetual Profession: Sr. Chantal Kanyamanza
 Sr. Francoise Fazila
 Sr. Marie Rose
 Sr. Scholastique Tambwe

Silver Jubilee: Sr. Deodata Bunzigiye
 Sr. Sylvie Sendegeya