



## E-News - October 2016

### From the Congregation Leadership Team

#### Guyana Mission Expands

On September 22 Srs. Nishi Susanna Kujur and Crecentia Toppo flew from New Delhi to Georgetown to join Sisters Seraphina Kerketta and Dibya Gulab Sanai to take up their new mission in Karasabai, Guyana. The initial time of adjustment will reveal how cultural values in Guyana are lived out on a daily basis. We wish them well as they respond to present day spiritual and physical needs of the people they will serve.



Srs. Nishi Susanna and Crecentia

#### Newcomers welcomed

Sisters Isabelle Matabaro and Madeleine Assina from DR Congo have come to Belgium for their medical treatment. They will be assets to the Borgerhout community. Their generosity and love during their stay will be appreciated by the Sisters.

#### From the Belgian Province Cordial Welcome

In a spirit of friendship and to celebrate the Feast of the Blessed Mother's birthday, on September 8, twelve sisters from Floordam accompanied by 13 helpers were driven in



vans and cars to Scherpenheuvel for a visit with the sisters and to pray in the Basilica. Upon their arrival, the visitors were cordially welcomed at the door by all the sisters. The sisters moved about the pilgrimage site at ease, prayed in the Basilica and were led in a Communal Prayer Service by Sr. Jozefa De Keyser.

A delicious lunch was served in the dining room followed by a prayer around a specially prepared setting for Our Lady. Sister Benigna, superior of the community, had special words of appreciation, "We are honored to have our sisters here from Floordam." From beginning to end, the mutual sharing during the visit was heart-warming and it was a wonderful outing. "The atmosphere was calm and satisfying - a fruitful time for all," commented Sr. Celestina.

To end the day's visit, all enjoyed crepes and coffee in the nearby restaurant appropriately called, "Restaurant of our Lady."

## From the Gumla Province

### "The Seniors' Day" Celebration

*"This is the day which the LORD has made; we will rejoice and be glad in it" Psalm 118:24*



"Senior Sister" refers to sisters who are finally professed. August 27<sup>th</sup> was the special day of appreciation and gratitude to the Lord for the unique gift of our sisters who have totally surrendered themselves to work in his vineyard and who are examples for the young ones. On this beautiful occasion our junior sisters offered a solemn Holy Mass for all the senior sisters of three

communities -Provincialate, school community and Novitiate community. They asked for blessings on each sister to have a long life to continue working for the people of God. Fr. Vijay Manohar offered Holy Mass. He mentioned that the senior members are a blessing for the young junior sisters. Joyful singing and dancing followed the Mass. In the evening, the juniors prepared a meaningful prayer service that symbolized the seniors as a garden with trees, plants and flowers. Trees, plants and flowers are very useful for different purposes, just as the senior sisters are giving themselves for the good of others in different areas. The senior sisters also prayed for the junior sisters who are the hope of the future and ready to share their fruit.

### Spiritual Exercises

We the 2<sup>nd</sup> year Novices of Gumla Province, are fortunate to have had a month long inner journey with the Lord. We started our retreat with a blessing by our mistresses and well wishes by our sisters. Our retreat started by a short prayer to the Holy Spirit led by Fr. Silvanus Kiro S.J. who reminded us that the Holy Spirit dwells in our heart, mind and in all physical structures. Inner silence, outer silence, and peace help us concentrate on finding God. God is a friend of silence. So God speaks in silence.

Every day was a new experience for us in the presence of the Divine Majesty. By this spiritual exercise our faith and devotion grew in God. We could feel the closeness of

Jesus and Mother Mary. Contemplation and meditation are the resources of the deep experience of Jesus, where He experiences the unconditional love of the Father. He lived the life of Poverty, Obedience, and Faithfulness and shared His Compassionate heart for us all.

We extend our gratitude towards our Provincial Sr. Maria Kujur and her counselors for giving us a good opportunity to be with the Lord for one month. We thank our Novitiate community and all the sisters of the province for their prayerful support.

2<sup>nd</sup> year Novices

### **From the Ranchi Province**

#### **Final Profession**

Six sisters committed themselves to the Lord on September 8, 2016 on the Solemnity of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

The entire ceremony was solemnized with the presence of Rt. Rev. Binay Kandulna D.D. the Bishop of Khunti who presided at the Holy Eucharist along with 25 -30 priests at the altar. The families of our sisters were also present.

Rev. Bishop in his homily reminded the sisters of the basic elements of religious life quoting the exhortation of Pope Francis on the occasion of Year of Consecrated Life: "Wake up the World." He made them aware of the challenges of religious life today and to trust in God for a firm and fruitful religious life. He encouraged them to be responsible to keep up the Charism and Spirit of the Ursulines through their life and work.

Sr. Suchita Shalini Xalxo osu, the Provincial Superior received their Final Vows and accepted them as full members of the Congregation and Province. The Holy Eucharist was very devotional with the beautiful singing of the Novices under the able guidance of Fr. Jaywant S.J. After the Holy Eucharist everyone was served a sumptuous meal. We congratulate our six sisters for their heroic generous response to God and assure them of our continual prayers.



From left: Sr. Sarita Hansda, Sr. Nishi Susanna Kujur Sr. Crecentia Toppo, Sr. Lily Prabha Kerketta, Sr. Dibya Gulab Kindo , Sr. Roshni Xalxo

### **From the US Province**

#### **St. Ursula Center**

In honor of St. Ursula, it seems appropriate to explain where you could find this statue. It is in the foyer of St. Ursula Center in Blue Point, NY. Many of our sisters have been there and can envision the small village like atmosphere of the town. The Great South

Bay is only a short walk down Blue Point Avenue. In all seasons, a stroll around the garden refreshes the spirit. Flowers, trees, ocean breezes all combine to make it a welcoming environment.



The people in the neighborhood and local parish, Our Lady of the Snows, feel at home when they volunteer, visit or attend Mass or stop by to ask the Sisters for prayers or for an event.

Through the years the house has served as a novitiate, a retreat Center, and now it is home for our elder members where they receive the care they need. Prayer and spiritual enrichment are integral to their lives.

St. Ursula Center has space available for meetings, conferences and family events. One part of the house, called St. Angela Suites, is for sisters engaged in various ministries on Long Island.

*"In a spirit of trust and loving simplicity we too come to recognize and accept our filial dependence on the Father who loves us and from whom we receive all." Constitutions (42).*

### **United Nations features Mother Teresa**

The Holy See mission to the United Nations and ADF International, a freedom advocacy organization, sponsored a two-part celebration of Mother Teresa and her work during the week following her Sept. 4 canonization and for the 70th anniversary of the founding of the Missionaries of Charity on Sept. 10.

The first part of this celebration was a weeklong exhibition in one of the main thoroughfares of the U.N. [building] focused on her life; her work as a peacemaker and peace builder that led her not only to win the Nobel Peace Prize but to war-torn areas like Beirut; her care for all those often left behind by society — a focus of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development — like the dying, orphans, refugees, the homeless, lepers, AIDS/HIV victims, the unborn and more; and her particular care for the poor one-by-one. The second part was a conference on Sept. 9 focused on the three themes of peace, leaving no one behind, and care for the poor.

### **St. Thomas the Apostle Church**

Father Dominic Valla, an Ursuline associate member of the US Province, and pastor of St. Thomas the Apostle Church, Oxford, Connecticut spearheaded the Parish's celebration of 50 years of existence. His appreciation was shown to all who celebrated the event on August 21 at the 11 AM Mass with Archbishop Blair as well as to the Liturgy Coordinator, Sister Beth Preston,osu, the Music Director and Reception planners.



## Calling all Youth for Change

An Ursuline sponsored Art Contest is being planned. Within the next month each Province/ vice Province will receive details of an art contest inviting youth ages 8-14 to design a poster on one of the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Srs. Jane and Matilda are the coordinators.

## Ursuline Luncheon

### Sister Marguerite Torre Honored

On September 18 the Sisters of the US Province held their Annual Luncheon in Manhasset, NY. Each year two individuals are honored for their many years of service, dedication and generosity. This year the Ursuline Ministry Recognition honored Sister Marguerite Torre, OSU and the St. Angela Merici Award was presented to Lisa Inhe, Phd. Sister

Marguerite has dedicated her whole life to Catholic education serving as a teacher and administrator. Dr. Inhe is an active volunteer at St. Ursula Center, Blue Point and a principal of an elementary school. The luncheon is an expression of gratitude for the devotion of these two outstanding women. Students have been afforded opportunities to reach their potential, thanks to their creativity and enthusiasm.



Sr. Marguerite Torre with her family members