

Ursuline Sisters, Congregation of Tildonk



E-News - August 2017

In Loving memory of Mother Henriette Ampe

Mother Henriette Ampe, (known by her family as "Aunt Irma Ampe") was a missionary in India from 1915 - 1972 along with many other Ursuline missionaries of Tildonk. Originally from Egem, Flanders, she joined the Ursulines of Tildonk in September 1912. She had a great desire to serve the people in the Lieven's mission in India.



She wrote to her family after her pilgrimage to Lourdes, "I am happy and satisfied ... to be a missionary in India gives me joy. (23/09/2012, book: *Het Ampe Vuur van Egem tot India*, p. 69). In February 1915, during World War II, she left for India with 7 other sisters. They joined those who were already active in the mission work in Ranchi, Khunti, Tongo and Rengarih.

Moving forward, 102 years after she left for India to begin her missionary work, on July 9, 2017, her family organized a thanksgiving day in memory of Mother Henriette in Koekelare. The event brought together four generations of the Ampe family, their close friends and the Ursuline Sisters.

The day began with a solemn Eucharistic Celebration. The theme of the Mass centered on mission. *"Aunt Irma Ampe - Mother Henriette Ampe had a call, her family had also a mission, together they brought it to a good ending"*. In the name of the Ursuline family, Sr. Bimla Minj expressed gratitude to God for the gift of Mother Henriette and for all her mission work in India. She also thanked her family members who continue supporting the Ranchi mission even 45 years after her death.

After the Holy Mass, there was a short reception followed by the presentation of the book *"Het Ampe Vuur van Egem tot India"* (The fire of Ampe from Egem to

India). The great grandnephew, Bernard Lootens, has produced this wonderful 352 page book which brings the missionary spirit of Mother Henriette to life. The book contains the family tree of Ampe, extensive correspondence, photo albums, and



Sr. Bimla with the nephew and niece of Mother Henriette

the development of the history of the Ursuline mission in Ranchi. Joë, the youngest sister of Mother Henriette, had preserved Mother Henriette's correspondence. They are now part of the Ampe family archives.

During the reception a film was presented with a short history of the Ampe family, the missionary life of Mother Henriette and a glimpse into the Ursuline mission in India.

Out of respect and gratitude for the work of Mother Henriette and the Ursulines, the Ampe family is donating the proceeds from the book to the mission.

Requests to purchase the book be made to Sr. Bimla.

Sr. Bimla Minj

Ranchi Province

'A' Cordial Welcome to New Members

The Ursulines of Tildonk, Ranchi Province welcomed 38 new members as candidates in the Congregation on 1st July 2017. Sr. Suchita Shalini Xalxo osu, the Provincial Superior gave a flower to each one at the very outset of the ceremony as



a gesture of welcome. The theme of the Welcome cum Entrance Ceremony was built on "Come and See" Jn 1: 39.

The new members responded to this invitation with a self offering prayer each in turn. They are invited to come to Jesus, see and know him and stay with him as in the scripture. We thank God for the desire He has granted to these young girls to commit themselves to Him through their religious life. Let us pray continuously to God to keep their desire ever burning so as to persevere in their religious vocation. May God continue working wonders through these young women for His greater glory. Hearty welcome and prayerful wishes to you dear candidates.

Sr. Suchita Shalini Xalxo

TEZPUR PROVINCE

"Many are called but only few are chosen." This is very true with us. There were many candidates but only seven could proceed to the 2nd stage of their formation.

With God's grace seven candidates of ours became postulants on 4th June 2017 on the day of Pentecost. They were much excited. They came



in procession with a lighted candle in their hand to the chapel where the whole Kartic Community remained in prayer for them along with the Provincial, Sr. Lucienne and her first Councillor Sr. Pushpa Soreng. We prayed together and they were given the book of Fr. John Lambertz and the manual prayer book. Praise the Lord.

Sr. Lucienne Kakkanatt