

Ursuline Sisters, Congregation of Tildonk



E-News - March 2017

From the Belgium Province

Sister Imelda De Coster was recently moved to the nursing home in Floordam as her health declined. Over the years she faithfully corresponded with the young sisters in the Congo and India. She knew them by their names. Until her last days, she continued to pray for them. After writing this I got the news that she went back to our Father in heaven

We celebrated the memory of the "Presentation of Jesus in the temple" through a prayer celebration sent to the convents by Sr. Hildegard. We prayed for light for the world today.

Through the years many of our sisters have given all their energy and talents in educating children in schools. There is a political movement today designed to reform secondary education (ages 12-18). This subject is creating a lot of discussion.

All of Europe wrestles with the problem of refugees. Many people are deeply affected by this unending dramatic situation. They are in places and camps, where the situation is utterly tragic.

Here in Belgium the Minister doesn't want to grant a visa to a family who is in danger in Syria and who wants to come for protection in the home of friends in Belgium. These friends are fighting to have the Minister of Justice grant them permission to come, but so far it has not resulted in their leaving Syria for Belgium. As a result the affair is now going to the European Community. The question is why are people in danger having such a hard time finding shelter?

Make Every Day International Women's Day :

The theme for International Women's Day, 8 March, 2017, is "Women in the Changing World of Work: Planet 50-50 by 2030".



In 2015, world leaders adopted the 17 SDG's (Sustainable Development Goals), placing gender equality and empowerment of all women and girls at the heart of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Goal # 5 Gender Equality calls for the empowerment of all women and girls so as to unlock their full potential. The world of work is changing and there are significant implications for women.

<https://www.internationalwomensday.com/about>

From Guyana

St. Aloysius Church Tipuru in South Pakaraimas celebrated its Centenary Celebration in the mountainous region of Guyana. "The rivers will clap their hands; the mountains will exult together before the presence of the Lord." Ps 97:8-9 expressed the joy as the people praised and thanked God for all the marvelous deeds he has done in their faith journey. Bishop Francis Alleyne presided over the solemn Holy Eucharist with 500 faithful gathered from six surrounding regions. "Hearty congratulations to Ursuline Sisters- Divya Gulab, Seraphina Kerketta, Crecencia Toppo and Nishi Susana Kujur for their effort to make the day memorable."

Taken from the *Ranchi Jesuit Bulletin* Dec. 2016

From the Congo Vice Province



A new mission in Kigali includes a nursery school and welcome center for our sisters who travel from Rwanda.



Sisters Francoise Vihamba and Francoise Fazila proudly hold the trophy won by the girls of Chemchem for debating.

From the US Province



On January 18th, Sr. Carmel Ruth celebrated her 100th birthday. Her birthday party was held on January 21st at St. Ursula Center in Blue Point, NY, where she was joined by many family and friends, including 25 relatives who flew in from Ireland. Sr. Carmel is grateful for everyone's kindness and generosity.

On January 21st the Ursuline Sisters and Associates of the U.S. Province held their annual Founders' Day Celebration in Blue Point, NY. The program included an initiation prayer service for new Associates Bonnie and Fred Bossert, pictured in the center.



From Tezpur Province

Sr. Cornelia Bilung celebrated her golden jubilee with two Bishops, many priests and religious, her two dear sisters and their children in the provincial house at Gutlong



We the sisters of Tezpur Province were blessed with six newly professed sisters on December 8, 2016.