

Ursuline Sisters, Congregation of Tildonk



E-News - April 2018

News from the Generalate

The extended council will be taking place from May 2-5 in the Generalate. Planning is well underway and the welcome mat is ready for the arrival of the Provincials, who will be in Belgium for the April 30 Jubilee Mass in Scherpenheuvel. Coming together as a Council is an opportunity to consider and face our evolving mission as an international congregation. The members face new opportunities and challenges as a congregation continuing to deepen the theme of the Jubilee "Rekindle the fire of love."

200 years and more

On April 30 the Eucharistic Celebration to mark the 200th anniversary of our foundation will take place in Scherpenheuvel. The entire year has led us to a deeper reflection, and renewal. The momentum does not really ever end - it continues through our service, our future and our presence in the world. Each Province has or will have its own particular celebration of the Jubilee in the coming months.

DR Congo

Congratulations to the girls of Lycée Chemchem Goma for winning a prize for their school at the contest sponsored by USAID Whiz Kids (Budding Geniuses) contest. The four winners had to answer questions on history, geography, culture, literature, math, etc.



Sr. Colette Mwamini, OSU

Ranchi

Ursuline Inter College, Ranchi

March 8th is celebrated as the "International Women's Day" all over the globe. To mark the day girls at the Ursuline Inter College in Ranchi organized an inspiring program in which the students of all three streams i.e. Science, Arts and Commerce performed with dance and musical features. The event was graced by the Principal Sr. Dr. Mary Grace.

One presentation of drama was presented on the Speech of Malala Yousafzai delivered when she received the Nobel Peace Prize. Malala Yousafzai, a Pakistani activist was shot by the Taliban for speaking out publicly against their ban on girls' education. She firmly believes that, "One child, one teacher, one book and one



pen can change the world." Another dance, "You are Power" showed that women are the ones who give new meaning and dimension to life.

Sr. Suchita Shalini Xalxo, the provincial superior was the Chief Guest. She boosted the morale of students and inspired them to leave no stone unturned to be successful. She said that girls/ladies are the most powerful force to guide the family and lead society and family in the right direction.

Sr. Nivedita Nayak, OSU

USA

Sr. Valerie Heinonen, OSU, Director of Shareholder Advocacy for Mercy Investment Services, coordinated an investor group of Roman Catholic women's religious orders along with the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society of the Episcopal Church who were actively involved in helping to curb gun sales in the US. Dick's Sporting Goods announced it will no longer sell assault-style rifles and high-capacity magazines, and will end sales to anyone under the age of 21. This decision was influenced by Sr. Valerie and the Interfaith Center of Corporate Responsibility (ICCR). This marks an important step to protect human life from violence caused by firearms. Sr. Valerie said in a press release, "We are pleased with Dick's Sporting Goods for their cooperation and willingness to take such a significant step toward ending gun violence." For full coverage: Global Sisters Report "Dick's Sporting Goods' gun policy change followed sister talks" by Dan Stockman.

UN News

World Health Day

All Member States of the United Nations World Health Organization observe the day on April 7th. World Health Day is one of eight official global health campaigns marked by WHO, along with World Tuberculosis Day, World Immunization Week, World Malaria Day, World No Tobacco Day, World AIDS Day, World Blood Donor Day, and World Hepatitis Day.



May 12 Remembering Curé Lambertz

Fr. Lambertz's death in the Tildonk Convent on May 12, 1869 came after an extended time of illness. We remember in gratitude and thanksgiving the legacy he left us.

At the time of his death he was the superior general of 40 houses, and was widely considered a saintly man. The burial was on the 16th in the commune cemetery in the Tildonk Church under the cross where he often prayed. On that day there was a solemn emotional procession of Sisters, students, parishioners and priests marked by deep veneration for the priest they considered a saint.

The homily given by M. l'abbé Puttemans from Aerschot spoke of the deceased as a model of perfection as a man, as a Christian and as a priest. Many tears flowed as the casket was lowered into the monumental grave constructed under the direction of Mère Renelde. The annalist wrote, "Each one left deeply moved with indefinable feelings of sorrow and confidence." (p. 306 *Le Saint Curé de Thildonck* F Holemans)

On May 25th a solemn Mass was celebrated in the parish church. Sixty priests were present. Afterwards there was a dinner for the priests in one of the rooms in the boarding school where the virtues of Fr. Lambertz were extolled. The next day a Requiem Mass was celebrated in all the convents of the Institute.