

Ursuline Sisters, Congregation of Tildonk



E-News - January 2018

From the Generalate

The Leadership Team held an International Meal on 16 Dec. at La Familia in Tildonk to support a special Jubilee Mission Fund for schools in India and the Congo.

The Meal brought together Sisters, friends, and families. The event featured Congolese, Indian, and Belgian menus, as well as drinks and desserts, notably the "Yule log" or *bûche de Noël*, a traditional delight of Christmas in Belgium.

The CLT is grateful for the cooperation of over 20 volunteers who made the event run smoothly. All of the tombola prizes were donated by individuals and convents. Guests moved freely from La Familia to the Church, where the video about Fr. John Lambertz was shown, and to the Christmas Market in front of the convent.



Congo



India

New revised OSUTILDONK Website

After months of collecting data and refining the text, we are happy to announce that the www.osutildonk.org website is up and running. We strongly recommend that you access the site to find worthwhile information. You will find it is packed with information, connection to all the Province websites, past ENEWS and REFLECT, news of the UN, historical data, chapters, contact addresses and more. We have included wonderful photos, thanks to the many sisters who provided them. So, please make it a habit to visit often since new material will be added regularly. You may even be surprised to find your picture there. Let us know what you think.

From Belgium Province Sisters move to Melsbroek Community

Sisters Emmanuel Van Cauter and Rita Moens were honored in November at a farewell Mass in a full St. Peter's Church in Puurs. The pastor noted, "We cannot let Sisters Emmanuel and Rita leave without a sincere word of thanks and a bouquet of flowers." A minute-long ovation followed his talk. Many former students from the former St. Angela Institute and boarders from Geel came to the celebration. The story of the Ursulines in Puurs began in 1857. In recent years the two Sisters have been active in mission animation, pastoral care and health care. The Sister's home in Hooiveld was a place where many people came to visit. Sr. Emmanuel: "We were always in the middle of social life which was the great characteristic of Angela Merici."



The Ursuline Sisters who reside in Ternat are busy all year round working for the missions. Despite their age, they continue making beautiful Christmas and birthday cards. The proceeds go to the ministries in the Congo and India.

Taken from *PublideLuxe* magazine

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Taken from *Kerk & Leven* news

News from DR Congo Session in Bukavu

"Benefits of the practice of my religious vows as a means of expression and realization of my religious consecration" was the theme of the talks by Father Kiaka. He reminded the group that our religious consecration is rooted in baptism. We are consecrated not for our own sanctification, but we must help others live their baptismal call. Our consecration binds us to a person, an activity, God.



Sisters Julienne, Marie Grace, Colette Ndamusi, Pascasie, Madeleine Bifuko

He spoke of the advantages of our vows as a means to express our love to the Lord, to gain more interior freedom and to strengthen our union with Christ.

Taken from a report from Sr. Marie Grace, OSU

Katanga

Sister Petronille Chibelushi organized a recollection day for the women she is responsible for in a home for women who have not had the chance to go to school. The theme of the retreat was: "With Anuarite we are preparing the coming of Jesus." Like the martyr Blessed Anuarite, let us live by and appreciate the value of prayer so we stay strong during this difficult time that we live in our country. As for purity; respect our body and dress appropriately. Concerning honesty; by not cheating in the classroom, by accepting our condition of life and especially to know how to forgive and how to ask forgiveness as Anuarite did. Her motto was "*to serve and give pleasure to others*".



From a Child's point of view

Children in the primary school in Kalima were asked some questions: Listen to their replies: *What does Christmas mean to you?* It's our feast day and we have to eat well and look nice. *What will you be when you grow up?* I'll be a student, doctor, judge, pilot, engineer, priest, Sister, Christian parent, teacher, musician. *What do you like most about school?* We get a good education, the way we get along well with our friends, St. Angela's feast day, and to play the games.

News from Gumla

25 years of service of Mrs. Fanny celebrated

November 28 became a memorable and grace-filled day in the history of Gumla Province. This auspicious day gave us the opportunity to remember and be grateful for the loving services of Mrs. Fanny Lopez to the thousands of marginalized, and orphaned children and families of India. Mrs. Fanny started this noble task in 1992 and has toiled for 25 years. She has nurtured and tended the underprivileged ones helping them bloom through care and concern.

The day included the Holy Eucharist, Fr. Manohar Khoya, celebrant, words of congratulations and a sumptuous breakfast. Sisters from the provincialate, novitiate and school community, Mr. Hugo and Mr. Lars (The son of Fanny & Hugo) were there to witness this great event.

Sponsored children from 12 communities expressed their gratefulness and love to Mrs. Fanny, the donor organizations and their benefactors. They came with prepared entertainment. Joy could be seen in each one's face. Mrs. Fanny expressed her gratefulness for this unexpected surprise. She blessed the children with her words

of encouragement and said she hoped to see them continue to grow in their life. Sr. Maria Swarnlata Kujur, our provincial, expressed her gratitude to Mrs. Fanny for her generous service and love towards the needy children. All left with much joy in their hearts and with renewed vigor to continue their assigned mission.

Taken from article by Sr. Mangla Minj, OSU

News from Ranchi

Building team spirit through sports

A village football tournament was organized by Asha Kiran, Fudi for girls from 12-18 for Children's Day, Nov. 14. The purpose was the all-round development of female children by encouraging them to participate in games. The tournament was organized with a view of bringing children together on a common platform to build up team spirit and explore their inner strength. Asha Kiran is working in 40 villages in four panchayats (term used for a village council in India). The girls were very excited to play the game. We got full cooperation from the community people and village leaders. Gifts were distributed as a token of love and appreciation for all the participants and to encourage villagers to pursue their hobbies and interests.

Sr. Ranjita Kindo, OSU

Adolescent Health Programme

Catholic Charities of Jamshedpur has a three year Adolescent Health Programme sponsored by Manos Unidas, Spain. The Project coordinator is Sr. Louisa, OSU who oversees 60 villages with a population of nearly 27,720. Sr Louisa and her animators have visited 5,514 houses during the past two years. With a focus on youth between 10 and 19, they give training to 3,556 boys and 3,486 girls. Topics include Behaviour Change, Communications, Life Skills, Awareness in HIV/AIDS, Reproductive Tract Infections and Sexually Transmitted Diseases. "These Adolescents are very happy to come together and listen to us to learn many new things that are meaningful to their lives," stated Sr. Louisa.



Adolescents follow session at Vikas Bharti training centre, Jamshedpur

First Profession in the Indian Provinces

On December 8, 2017, 43 Sisters pronounced their first Vows to God in the Congregation of the Ursuline Sisters of Tildonk: Ambikapur - 9, Gumla - 18, Ranchi - 10 and Tezpur 6. The first professed Sisters chose inspiring Scripture passages on the day of their profession. We thank God for their generous response to God's call

and pray for them in the words of St. Paul to the Philippians, "He who has begun this work in you will carry it through to completion."

Two members of the Congregational Leadership Team were present for the First Profession. Sister Bimla Minj received the First Vows of the Sisters in the Gumla Province and Sister Bernadette Mwavita received the First Vows of Sisters in the Ranchi Province.

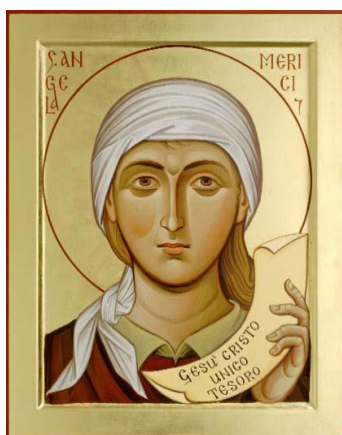
Ambikapur Province: "Abide in me."
Jn. 15:5

Ranchi Province: "Here Am I;
Send me." Is.6:8



Gumla Province: "He chose us before the
foundation of the world." Eph. 1:4

Tezpur Province: "I am your
servant, Lord." Ps. 116:16



"Love and harmony are a sure sign that one is on the right road and pleasing to God."

10th Legacy of St. Angela

Happy St. Angela Feast Day

"We desire to explore and study the spirituality and writings of St. Angela Merici and Fr. John Lambertz in order to clarify our own congregational call and live today what we received from them."

2014 General Chapter Direction Statement