



# Ursuline Sisters, Congregation of Tildonk

## E-News - October 2013

### From the Congregation Leadership:

The name "Ursula" means "little bear" and it is the little bear constellation in northern Europe that is the pole star. St Ursula is like the pole star pointing us to our true bearing, Christ. St Ursula is often depicted with her companions in a boat. Yes, the story suggests they sailed from Anglia. But the boat, following a path of passion for leading living wholeheartedly Christ, being loyal in spiritual

will most definitely the harbour of God. the people of these pole star, to find Christian life in this patron, a protectress, were equal and safe. life depicted in the



too, is symbolic. In unflinching courage, with a others to Christ, and of one's own commitment to the mutual support of a companionship, our ship arrive in its true home, St Ursula represented for centuries a sure path, the Christ and live a true world. She was a loyal and under her mantle all The model of Christian story of St Ursula,

sustained generations of Christians for centuries, and it is a model that still has relevance for Christians in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. (Written by Secular Institute of Angela Merici)

Angela Merici founded the Ursulines in 1535 in Italy. At that time the story of Ursula was very popular and people would have heard it and prayed to Ursula. Angela was calling young women to live a life of virginity and to be of service to others. Angela did not wish to call the Company after herself. Rather she held up to herself and to her daughters the model and companionship of St Ursula.

Just as God called Angela and her companions God still invites women of today to say yes to the call to dedicate their lives to the service of God's people in the spirit of St. Angela Merici.

# Happy Feast of St. Ursula!

**Sister Margaret** travelled to India on October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2013. She met the Junior Sisters of Ranchi Province on 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, and 11<sup>th</sup>, and now she is in Ambikapur Province. Sisters Margaret and Gemma Rose are meeting with the Four Leadership Teams of Indian Provinces. Later in the month they will meet with all the community leaders of all the four Provinces, 81 Leaders approximately. On November 3<sup>rd</sup>, Sr. Margaret will return to Brussels.

We appreciate all their effort to reach out to all our Sisters to help them find their way to respond to their call in this 21<sup>st</sup> century. We wish them guidance of the Holy Spirit in all their endeavors.

**New Website:** Congregational Leadership is glad to announce that a new website [www.osutildonk.com](http://www.osutildonk.com)

**Guyana:** Sisters Divya Gulab Sanai and Seraphina Kerketta from Ranchi Province are back from their home visit to continue their missionary life in Karasabai. Sisters Bernardine Kiro from Ambikapur Province and Anima Soreng from Gumla Province are settled in Aishalton to continue the mission work began by the pioneers.

Once again we express our gratitude to all of them, Sisters Divya, Seraphina, Bernardine and Anima for generously coming forward to serve in our Guyana mission. We appreciate their courage and daring. We wish them God's blessings and companionship of Angela Merici and John Lambertz.

### From Ranchi Province:

**Teachers' Training Centre, Lohardaga: Celebration of the Year of Faith with the Catholic teachers:**

The Planning Committee of Lohardaga Denary, Ranchi Archdiocese to celebrate the year of faith with the different groups of the laity by having a day of recollection for each group: the teachers, students of different schools, the youth, the parents.

TTC Lohardaga was given charge to host the catholic teachers teaching in different schools falling under Lohardaga and Kuru Parish. The day was fixed for

Sunday, September 1, 2013. It was joy to see that at a short notice, altogether 86 men and women teachers gathered in the Common room of our B.Ed. College. The facilitator was Rev. Fr. Ignatius Lakra SJ, Headmaster of St. Stanislaus' High School, Kaimo Patratoli. Rev. Fr. Prakash Tigga (Pallotine Congregation), Parish Priest of Kuru was the resource person. He gave three sessions on: Faith: as taught by the church, using power Point Presentation. It was very effective for all the participants. For group activity, the participants were divided into 10 groups of 8, to discuss the following questions and share them in the general session.

1. In the milieu where you are teaching, how do you witness your being there as a catholic?
2. Share any of the instances when you have felt proud of being a catholic.
3. In what way can you live your life of faith more authentically?

The reports in the general session were very deep personal experiences by many of them being alone as catholic teachers in Government schools, who witnessed their faith in Christ, sharing how in the beginning they were ridiculed and laughed at for being Christian, they faced hostile atmosphere, but slowly through their life-example of punctuality, discipline, commitment, honesty, they won the students and the teachers, and inspired them to live these values. We were all deeply touched and inspired by these simple examples of living faith in these teachers.

Lunch was served at 1.00 P.M. In the dining hall of the Primary Teachers' Education College hostel. At 2.00 P.M. the teachers were given instructions on the sacrament of reconciliation followed by personal confessions. At 3.00 P.M. the Eucharistic Liturgy was celebrated in our TTC Church. The students of UPTEC led the singing with melodious inspirational hymns, and thus the day of Recollection came to a close. The participants left the campus after a cup of tea at our residence, full of appreciation for all what had been part of the program and wishing that such program should be organized again for them and their companions, many of whom had not been able to come.

This program has strengthened our own life of faith as it did for all who were present for the recollection. We believe!

Sr. Placida osu