



Ursuline Sisters, Congregation of Tildonk

E-News - August 2013

From the Congregation Leadership:

Sister Gemma Rose from Congregation Leadership had been here in Brussels with us for three months. She was able to visit our Sisters in the United State Province and Canada as well as the sisters here in Belgium. Now on August 20th, she leaves for India, where she resides.

We appreciate her presence with us. We wish her God's blessings as she continues to respond to God's call in her everyday life. We wish her safe travels as well.

Sister Bima Minj from Congregation Leadership has been suffering from knee pain for years and now the doctors have advised her to have her knee replaced. Sr. Bimla, after much reflection, is ready for this. On Tuesday, August 27th, 2013 she will have surgery at the hospital in Leuven.

We ask your prayers for a successful surgery and speedy recovery of Sr. Bimla. We hope and pray that she is relieved of her pain.

Guyana Sisters Divya Gulab Sanai and Seraphina Kerketta from Ranchi Province are returning to Guyana via New York after their three month home visit. Sister Anima Soreng from Gumla Province is joining the mission in Guyana and will be traveling with them.

Once again we express our gratitude to these Sisters for their generosity in responding to this call to serve in our Guyana mission. We wish them every blessing and promise our prayers for them.

GOLDEN CHANCE - COMPLETION of 30 YEARS IN RELIGIOUS LIFE
2nd -7th July 2013 - 1983 batch

*We hold a treasure, not made of gold, in earthen vessels wealth untold,
One treasure only the Lord, the Christ, in earthen vessels*

The Sisters of 1983 batch feel grateful and express the sentiment of joy and thankfulness to God and to the Provincial Leadership Teams of Gumla, Ranchi and

Ambikapur for the golden opportunity offered to us to look back and see God's hand, leading us in all the crossroads of our life and all we have achieved in 30 grace filled years.

On 2nd July the 10 Virgins reached Pallotti Animation Centre at Nagpur. Rev Fr. Thomas Vijay welcomed us warmly at the station. The 1st day of inaugural session was enlightened on the quality of sharing on the spirit filled activities of the past 30 years.

Fr. Thomas motivated us and prepared the ground for sharing on the aspect of

1. Growth
2. Significant Shifts
3. Where I find myself today
4. The most significant moment
5. Challenges

Our deep sharing was very much enriched, strengthened, enlightened, inspired, challenged and we were filled with joy to share, listen, and have empathetic feelings and support for each other.

The next session was on **PERSONALITY**. In the words of St. Paul we could say that **when I am weak then I am strong**. Through the input we are affirmed to say that:

- We are good not because we are good but we are precious in the eyes of God.
- We hold a treasure not made of gold but in earthen vessels.
- We are called to be fully human, fully alive.
- We are in the process of becoming the Real Me.
- We have the capacity to re-invent ourselves.
- We are to be the grandmother not a mother-in-law.
- As we grow older we are making ourselves a new person.
- The more human we are, the more Divine we become.
- Grace builds on nature and grace purifies us.
- By being human we become our best person.

The group was very happy to have the prayer and sharing on **Small Christian Community** by Mr. Joseph D'suza. Personal sharing helps us in building up the community where we play our prophetic role.

Emotions- Emotions are great gift of God. We cannot find happiness unless we understand our emotions. It indicates and helps us to see the reality and to

understand one another. Emotions are neither good nor bad. They colour our actions and perceptions. Feelings have messages for us.

In the community:

- We are to create homely atmosphere.
- Colour and generate our perceptions with positive feelings.
- We can love others only the way we love ourselves.
- We need to understand our emotions and respond properly.
- Distinguish our problems and others and handle properly.

The four important needs -

1. To love and to be loved.
2. Need for self worth.
3. Need to see as important.
4. Need for autonomy - In order to stretch our hands we need certain emotional space.

All our thinking and actions must be coloured by God.

Communication

How do we communicate?

- Body language - 57%
- Tone - 34%
- Word - 09%

All communications have consequences.

Who we are inside = who we are outside.

Let us be effective communicators and empathetic listeners.

We are convinced to say-

**" I want you more than gold and silver,
Only you can satisfy.
You alone are the real joy giver
And the apple of my eye.'**

PRAISE THE LORD



From United States Province:

2013 North American Ursuline Convocation

July 4-7 in Cincinnati, Ohio

*"So shall your hope be found in holding the vision together in common care.
So shall the love that binds you one to another find you faithful, watching,
singing for the promise that we share."*

Lorraine Lauter, OSU

These lines are taken from a song written especially for the North American Ursuline Convocation which took place on July 4-7 in Cincinnati, Ohio. The theme was: **Angela's Radical Gospel Vision: Expanding the Circles**. One featured speaker was Sister Sue Scharfenberger, OSU from the Ursulines of Louisville, Kentucky. Sue brought us to an awareness of the ever expanding circle of life. How it was for Angela. How it can be for us, reminding us that all points of a circle are equidistant from the center. She said that Angela was a contemplative woman with a radical gospel vision. She knew her roots and lived connected to nature and to those around her. She was deeply aware of who she was. Angela's life was also one of dissension from the norms for women of her society.

The second featured speaker was Sister Catherine Bertrand, SSND. Catherine urged us to seek evocative questions, to seek who should be at our table and to follow our hearts.

On Friday afternoon we had the opportunity to attend two breakout sessions which included such topics as: peacemaking, eco-spirituality, human trafficking, service to the poor, aging/hospice ministries, water for our world, secular institutes, Angela's lived spirit and new forms of Angela's vision.

The sharing throughout the three days was wonderful. We all, Sisters, Associates, Companions, Lay Co-workers, left with a renewed Spirit of Saint Angela and a desire to expand our circles so that more and more people could come to know Angela's charism.