



Sagesse Internationale

Seek, Contemplate and Reveal Wisdom.....

As we are in the Easter season, the Gospel reading speaks to us how the risen Lord continues to manifest himself to the Disciples **in the everyday situations of their lives**. The celebration of Easter is once again a call to be rejoicing and to renew our commitment to fully live our charism to seek, contemplate and reveal Wisdom.

In the Gospel we see the courageous faces of women who set out early in the morning to visit the tomb of Jesus. They were the first ones to see the risen Lord and to proclaim the good news. Mary of Magdala in her sorrows and disappointment of not finding Jesus in the tomb opened her heart to speak to the person whom she thought to be the gardener. She poured out all her worries, concerns and desires. She could only think that someone had taken away Jesus and wanted to take him back. In this conversation she allowed herself to be called by her name, thus recognising the presence of the risen Lord.

Jesus walked with his disciples on the road to Emmaus to be with them in their sorrows and disappointments by listening to them, asking them questions. After having poured out their hearts, they recognized the presence of the risen Lord with them and were filled with joy. They could not remain there they rather continued their journey to share their joy of meeting the risen Lord with others. In their sorrows and fears, other disciples returned to fishing. However, the risen Lord revealed himself to them allowing them to meet their needs first, by offering them a good catch of fish, giving them food to eat. Once their basic needs were met Jesus challenged and confronted them before sending them on mission.

Jesus Christ revealed himself to his disciples **in the ordinary circumstances of their life**. Once the disciples experienced the love of the risen Lord, their fear turned into courage and conviction, sorrow into joy, discouragement into hope and faith. They set out to proclaim the good news.

My dear Sisters this bulletin shares the lived experience of our Sisters in different Entities. Let us rejoice for the presence of Incarnate Wisdom among us. Following the footsteps of Montfort and Marie-Louise, like the disciples who were enlightened and transformed by the risen Lord, let us dare to be the "Way of Wisdom" in seeking, contemplating and revealing the good news to all creation.

Sr. Rani Kurian D.W

Sr. Rani Kurian DW
Congregational Leader

Bulletin N° 33
May 2019

New Delegation, New Birth

It was preceded by years of prayer, reflection, meetings, community sharing, personal preparation. The 2016, meeting in Manila with the General Council were the leaders of Papua New Guinea, of the Philippines and of Indonesia that set the tone for more communication and collaboration among the three Entities. The January 2019 meeting of the Councils of the four Entities, including India, intensified the eagerness to a full commitment to the process of reconfiguration.



The Asia-Oceania Delegation came into existence during the March 28-30, 2019 assembly for the Change of Government animated by Sr. Rani Kurian, Congregation Leader, and the General Councilors, Srs Isabelle Retailleau and Marie-Reine Gauthier, attended by five Sisters from Papua New Guinea, the Philippines and Indonesia. How gently and firmly they guided us into this new adventure, into a dream that we embraced and that gradually took the form of a new Delegation. Marie-Louise is surely proud of her daughters having followed her example and having trusted Wisdom at every step and turn taken.



Our support and prayers accompany the new Delegation Team. In the photo with Sr. Rani Kurian : Sr. Véronica Paison, PNG, Councilor, Sr. Hélène Alic, Philippines, Councilor, Sr. Henedina Latayada (Gina), Delegation Leader and Sr. Valerine Marthe Zafindramnana, Indonesia, Councilor.

And Wisdom will assuredly continue to remove fears and tears, to pave the way for a new creation, to fill the hearts with joy and peace. It is already visible in the open dialogue among the Sisters, the desire to know one another better and to share the journey as active and caring companions.



Not only did we celebrate the birth of the Asia-Oceania Delegation with significant prayers and rituals, we also honored Sr. Rani's Silver Jubilee of religious life with a multicultural performance representing nine countries. Appreciated by Sr. Rani and all present, this festive gathering was a beautiful tribute to interculturality and communion and to what we are becoming in this movement of reconfiguration. Yes, there is more life and joy when we share who we are and what we have.



*Sr. Liane Rainville,
Asia-Oceania Delegation*

LOVE WITHOUT BORDERS



With a deep sense of belonging, the Delegates of the Indian Province gathered together at Montfort Nivas Bangalore, for the second part of the Provincial Chapter on 27th December 2018. This assembly was a response to the desire of Wisdom to create in us a new heart that is open and ready to “Love without Borders” according to the Acts of the General Chapter. At the end of the inaugural Eucharist, the president called out each Delegate by name and handed a heart with the message to ‘Love Without Borders’. The group proceeded to the Chapter hall singing “Love without borders” and each Sister placed the symbol at the feet of the Holy Founders, signing the Magnificat.

The Sisters felt the power of Incarnate Wisdom guiding and drawing us closer to each other. At times some had to let go their ideas and views in order to come to a common vision. To inculcate the lived experience of interculturality, we were open to revisit our vision of Mission in the light of the Charism. This strengthened and fired us to work towards intensifying vocation awareness.

These reflections enabled us to realize how beautiful are the ways of Wisdom calling us to reconfigure our Governance structures in order to feel that we are ONE regardless of our geographical structures. We are proud and happy to be part of this movement and look forward with joy, openness and enthusiasm to live the Ways of Wisdom in the coming years with the global reality of the Congregation and specifically in the reconfiguration of Asia – Oceania. The trust in Providence and the lived experience of our Holy Founders kept us enthusiastic and active during these Chapter days.



During the closing session we experienced the power of “Love without Borders” that steered us to recommit and to share with our community members and in our mission the fruits of our reflection. In reflective silence we received our “HEARTS” of the Inaugural day and each Delegate was invited to write one word or a short phrase on it that summarized her personal experience of the Chapter.

We were very happy and proud to have with us our Congregational Leader Sr. Rani Kurian and her presence was encouraging and supportive for our reflections. We thank the General Administration and the Sisters of each entity for their prayerful and loving support.

*Sr. Jackuline et Sr. Mini
India*

Government of Colombia

Provincial Leader: Sr. Carmen Belén Vergara Pabón - 1st mandate

Councilors:

| | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Sr. María de Jesús Hernández | - 1 st mandate |
| Sr. Marina Cruz Herrera | - 1 st mandate |
| Sr. Gisela Huertas Tórrez | - 1 st mandate |
| Sr. María Derly Villanueva Feria | - 1 st mandate |

Government of Malawi

Delegation Leader: Sr. Mary Chimalizeni - 2nd mandate

Councilors:

| | |
|---------------------|---------------------------|
| Sr. Stella Joakim | - 1 st mandate |
| Sr. Catherine Khoko | - 1 st mandate |
| Sr. Julita Mzembe | - 1 st mandate |

A Call to Mission

The second session of the Provincial Chapter of the Daughters of Wisdom of Canada was held in Montreal, November 28 to December 2, 2018. The Provincial Leader, Sr. Linda Joseph, Sr. Brid Long ssl, facilitator, 21 Delegates were present along with a few other Sisters required for the smooth running of the session. It was a matter of discerning how the orientation of the General Chapter will be realized in our Canadian Province. In her opening comments, Sr. Linda invited the assembly to address the issue of the call of the General Chapter in view of the mission of the Congregation.

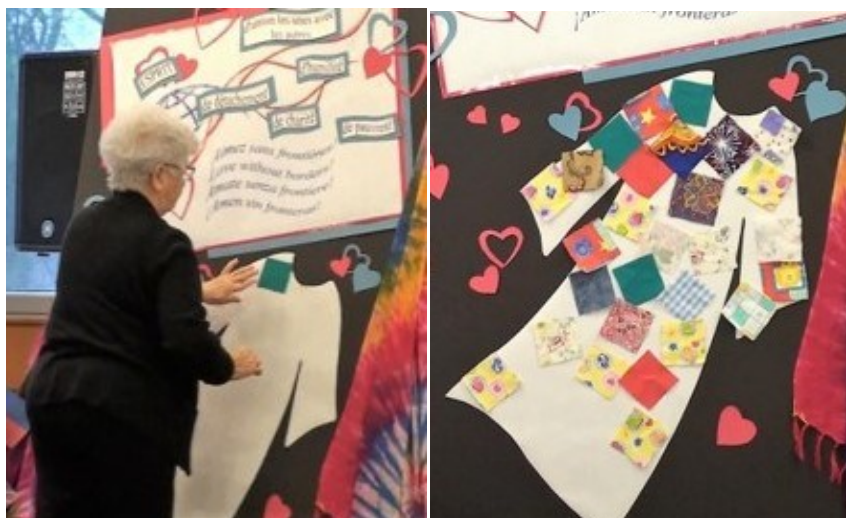


The opening ritual brought to mind the testament of Mother Marie Louise, recommending to all her Daughters “never to deviate from the primitive spirit, which is a spirit of humility... of charity and union with each other.” A ball of wool was passed on between the fingers of each Sister and together, we weaved a huge spider web to signify our desire “to bring together in harmony the richness of our differences! “ (*Acts p.4*) The words of the song touched our hearts, “dress in many colors, paint the streets, the walls, the prison bars, this is harvest day!

The orientation, “Love without borders”, launched the Congregation into a major reconfiguration, to liberate the charism and answer to the needs of tomorrow’s mission. The Sisters are encouraged to open up to interculturality and to share resources. After a brief study of the orientations, the Delegates engaged in dialogue to suggest ways of responding, as a province, by concrete actions, to the call of Wisdom to love without borders. Also, the question of what is considered appropriate to promote interculturality was put on the table. In addition, suggestions were offered to the Council for the creation of a single Entity, USA and Canada. The atmosphere in the room was positive, our spirits alert and our hearts keenly involved.

Finally, departure time was approaching. After words of thanks and closing remarks by Sr. Linda, a meaningful ritual gathered everyone once again around Mother Marie Louise.

Bringing to mind her words, “If I were cloth, I would give myself to clothe the poor,” the Sisters, with a piece of cloth in hand, made a habit for Marie-Louise on a billboard. She gave a perfect example of love without borders for the forsaken of her time, encouraging us to reach out to the new poor around us, especially the migrants now at our doors.



After the final Eucharist, a happy procession left the room, dancing to the rhythms of songs and tambourines, ready to spread the joyful news of universal love that knows no boundaries. This invitation is addressed to all the Sisters. Soon, they will receive practical applications of the guidelines for the next six years, in the context of our culture. Evening ended with supper, songs, rhythms, laughs and sharing of our stories, sprinkled with humor and conviviality.

Daughters of Wisdom across the world, let us weave links with one another! Let us pool our resources for the mission! This is the great day of harvest!

*Sr. Lise LeRiche
Canada*

Perpetual Vows

Canada

Sr. Helen Baier

25 / 03 / 19

Haiti

Sr. Carmélita Andieula Nicolas

2 / 02 / 19

María Luisa

Sr. Lorena Serbín

13 / 01 / 19

Love Without Borders

The Delegation of Congo postponed its second Chapter session to April 13 - 17, 2019, due to the precarious post-election situation in the Democratic Republic of Congo. The Chapter was preceded by a time of discernment for the changing of government. We rejoiced in welcoming a new Leadership team for our Entity.

Driven by the energy drawn from discernment, we experienced inner joy and freedom at this second session. It all began with the Delegation Leader Sr. Virginie Bitshanda Bofonga calling each Delegate by name. After a personal and engaging response, the Sisters entered the Chapter Room with the Acts of the General Chapter 2018. It was a high moment as we journeyed with the entire Congregation.



During the session, we benefited from the expertise of a Marist Brother, facilitator and of Sister Isabelle Retailleau, General Councilor, both witnesses of our involvement in the implementation of the guidelines of the Delegation in the context of our country. It was a demanding process, with small groups sharing and then plenary meetings. While working on the four main focus areas of the Acts of the General Chapter, we felt the Spirit giving us direction toward what will mobilize us for the next six years.

Aware of proceeding on a new path, we took comfort in the words of Father de Montfort “If you do not risk anything for God, you will never do anything great for Him.” Then came the send-off on mission. It was another high moment where Sr. Isabelle gave to each Sister, a lighted candle from the one given by Sr. Rani to the Delegation Team, with the words “Love Without Borders” in four languages. As the Sisters exited, they joined their communities and were sent to be witnesses.

Enriched by the Chapter, we gave thanks for the presence of the Spirit who guided us in peace and joy. We thanked the Facilitator and Sr. Isabelle and all the delegates for their collaboration in the construction of the Delegation project. May Christ Wisdom guide us on the way of love without borders.

*Sr. Marie-Thérèse Watundake
D.R. of Congo*

Entrusting One's Entire Life to Christ



Sr Camélita Andieula Nicolas

"When Divine Wisdom enters into a soul, She brings with Her all sorts of blessings and shares untold treasures." (LEW 90)

The first yes at the pre-novitiate and at the first religious profession and renewed with each passing day, led Sr. Carmélita Andieula Nicolas to pronounce a definite yes to God, on February 2, 2019, following the Virgin Mary and our Foundress, Blessed Marie Louise of Jesus.

A significant day for us, Daughters of Wisdom of Haiti, who celebrate the feast of the Presentation of Jesus at the Temple, of consecrated life and of the foundation of the Congregation. Attracted and seduced by Wisdom, conquered by grace and inhabited with an ardent desire to follow Her to the end, Sr. Carmélita made her perpetual commitment. Proceeding further from the familiar shore, together with senior and younger Sisters, she wants to live the unconditional love without borders of the One who is calling her.

The Eucharistic celebration gave us a taste of interculturality in the Congregation, with the triple Arathi, an Indian ritual. After the consecration and the doxology, Sr. Karuna Rekha Xaxa, Indian, and two Haitian Sisters, Sr. Yverose Tiluska and Sr. Guettie Dalcé, presented three elements, flowers, incense and light, signs of a cosmic offering to God in Christ.

Presided over by Mgr. Alphonse Quesnel, Montfortian and Bishop of Fort-Liberté (North-East), the Eucharist brought together as one family, that of Dieu Trinitaire, family and friends of Sr. Camélita, representatives of different Congregations, Jesuit priests, students from our schools, Soeur-Étienne, Marie-Louise de Jésus of Kenscoff, Institution du Sacré-Cœur de Turgeau, Notre Dame du Rosaire and also Friends of Wisdom, interested young women, aspirants, pre-novices and Daughters of Wisdom of our Province. The young people of the choir performed the songs of the mass, creating an atmosphere of interiority, praise and prayer. Christ Wisdom might very well be knocking at the doors of these choir members and students!

The homily, inspired by Pope Francis to consecrated men and women on this day, February 2, invited us to discover the meaning of an encounter with God and neighbor. Everything begins with that, Mgr. Quesnel insisted. *From an encounter and a call, the path to Consecration is born...* In this way, these many encounters of Sr. Carmélita with God, with her Sisters in community and people in the mission entrusted to her, pushed her to commit herself definitely to following Christ.





The focus was also put on another aspect, the encounter *in the temple between two couples: on the one hand, two young people, Mary and Joseph, on the other hand, two elderly prophets, Simeon and Anna. The seniors welcomed the young couple and the young were revitalized by them.* Also, in the current context of our Province, our Senior Sisters, who joyfully answered Christ's call, 80,70,60,50,40 years ago, welcomed Sr. Carmélita with deep and expressive joy. With the support of the group, Sr. Carmélita entrusted her entire existence to God. May she continue to lovingly offer her life for the service of God and her brothers and sisters wherever the Congregation will send her.

*Sisters Guettie Guandia Dalcé, Norline Edouarzin and Virginie Siméon
Haiti*

Delegation of Asia - Oceania

Delegation Leader:

Sr. Henedina (Gina) Latayada

1st mandate

Councilors:

Sr. Hélène Alic (Councilor in the Philippines)

1st mandate

Sr. Veronica Paison (Councilor in PNG)

1st mandate

Sr. Valérine Marthe Zanfindramanana (Councilor in Indonesia)

1st mandate

Choosing Christ Wisdom forever



Sr. Lorena Serbín received her formation at the International Spanish language Novitiate in Lima. Her community and apostolic experience followed at Huánuco-Perú. Since her first profession, she was sent to Santa Clara community in the province of Jujuy, in the north of Argentina, where she worked in a Center for Child Education. Later, she went to Buenos Aires. During these years, she worked in the field of childhood education and in youth and vocation ministry. She is now completing her degree in Education Management. In 2016, Sr. Lorena participated in the preparation to perpetual vows in Haiti.

On Sunday, January 13, feast of the Baptism of Jesus and of the anniversary of the Congregation's foundation in Argentina, Sr. Cynthia Lorena Serbín made her perpetual vows of obedience, poverty and chastity as member of the Congregation. She thus publicly ratified her option to live total consecration to Christ and to commit every day of her life at the service of the destitute in society. This event took place in Our Lady of Luján parish, a poor and simple neighborhood of Banfield on the outskirts of Buenos Aires. The Eucharist was presided by two secular priests, the current pastor, Alejandro Silva and Father Arnaldo Villaba, former administrator and friend of the Sisters of the community.

Sister Lorena was accompanied by her family and 8 Sisters from the "Maria Luisa" Delegation: 3 Sisters of her community, 2 from Ecuador and 3 from Peru. Were also at the celebration, Friends of Wisdom, members of the Christian community, as many adults as young people, with whom Lorena shared her life and her mission. The church was filled with faithful. For many, it was their first experience of a perpetual profession. It was an intense time of prayer and emotion, a clear witnessing of what Jesus and his Reign can inspire today in the lives of women like Lorena who answer Wisdom's call: *"Come, I want to make you happy"* (LEW 66)



The young adults were particularly touched by the celebration of profession of Sr. Lorena. After the Eucharist, during a time of sharing, questions arose in the sense of curiosity on religious life and what can the following of Jesus mean in this particular vocation. No doubt, the seed of the call to the service of the Kingdom of God was sowed in some of the young people.

We acknowledge the help, collaboration and closeness of the Friends of Wisdom. Among these, many assumed responsibilities and are true collaborators in the mission of the Daughters of Wisdom in Argentina. Let us entrust to Mary the final YES of Sr. Lorena Serbín.

*Sr. Elvira Muñoz,
María-Luís*

Government of D. R. of Congo

Delegation Leader

Sr. Virginie Bitshanda Bofonga

1st mandate

Councilors :

Sr. Valérie Mboma Sona

1st mandate

Sr. Marie-Thérèse Watundake Moseka

1st mandate

Sr. Zoly Tiana Marie Jeanne

3rd mandate



A Sacred Story

The history of Sr. Helen Baier is very unique. After being a Daughter of Wisdom for 29 years, she left the Congregation for special reasons but, in her heart, always remained one of us. After many years of absence, at the venerable age of 89, she asked to be readmitted in the Congregation. Her joy was great when she heard the news of her acceptance.

Accompanied remotely by Sr. Diane Thibodeau, Sr. Helen undertook three months of preparation in view of a new commitment in the Congregation that took place on March 25, 2018. Happy, Sr. Helen, then resumed her place with us, at home, with the Daughters of Wisdom.



Sr. Linda Joseph giving the ring to Sr. Helen Baier

During the year of her temporary vows, she continued her formation, this time under the direction of Sr. Suzanne Poulin, Responsible of initial formation. In December 2018, the General Council accepted her request for first profession.

On the feast of the Annunciation, March 25, 2019, in the presence of Sr. Linda Joseph, Provincial Leader, Sr. Helen, pronounced her final vows to follow the One who had seduced her long ago. She was surrounded by the Sisters of the community of Edmonton in Western Canada, including her own Sister, Sr. Eleanora Baier, Daughter of Wisdom. During a simple and profound ceremony, she repeated her YES for always at the invitation of the Lord. She humbly welcomes the mission entrusted to her, that of praying for vocations, families, newcomers and peace in the world.

How mysterious and unfathomable are the ways of Wisdom!



Sitting: Sr. Barbara Gaukler, Sr. Margaret Suntjens

Standing: Sr. Anne-Marie Beaudoin, Sr. Eleanora Baier, Sr. Helen Baier, Sr. Linda Joseph, Sr. Harriet Hermary, Sr. Diane Thibodeau.

*Sr. Anne-Marie Beaudoin
Canada*

Seamstresses Without Borders

Some women seek to find out the plans of Wisdom for today. Among those, many are “seamstresses without borders,” and also “hearts without borders” at the service of others: here are a few examples from Ottawa, Canada.

2015 – The Mireille Project worked with women of Grand Goâve in Haiti for ten years now. Sowing, embroidery, knitting, crochet and other skills were taught to these women. Mireille Roy, project manager, had planned to send 800 hygiene kits to school girls of Haiti. A kit included one bag, 2 cases, 8 towels, one panty and one wash cloth. A dynamic team of three, Sr. Marcelle Beaulieu, Sr. Anne-Marie Gallichan and Miss Colette St-Denis worked on the project. More than 1000 towels, 500 bags and cases brought great joy and provided many services. Everything perfectly made...God loves those who give joyfully! *MÈSI ANPIL !*



2016 – The Maison Marie-Louise of Ottawa celebrated Women’s Day at Maison Accueil-Sagesse. Mrs. Latifa Doudech, a lady with a heart without borders, organized and animated a community party for about sixty women newcomers in our country. On this special day, they were recognized for their achievements regardless of national, ethic, linguistic, cultural, economic or political divisions. The party was well appreciated by all. Each participant received an artfully crafted shopping bag.



2018 – Mrs. Josée Lanoue-Poulin, of Mauril Bélanger School initiated a school bag project. Mrs. Latifa Doudech, French Tutor, invited Sr. Anne-Marie Gallichan to get involved. Grades 1 to 4, and the special education class, received 60 school bags specially made for them.

While exercising their talents as “seamstresses without borders,” these generous women, Sisters and laity, were very happy to weave bonds of friendship and solidarity. How can small gestures, made by volunteers, make such a big difference?

Seamstresses without borders:

**Sr. Anne-Marie Gallichan, a woman volunteer
and Sr. Marcelle Beaulieu**

*Sr. Lise Thérien
Canada*

Free as the Wind

One year after her final profession, Sr. Pratheeba Tobias arrived in Indonesia on June 9, 2016, and was assigned in Pondok Marie Louise community - Poco. After one year of service, she integrated Biara Kebijaksanaan community – Tenda until her return to India on April 15, 2019.



Sr. Pratheeba is a life- giving, loving, gentle and simple person. She was very generous and always available to the needs in mission as well as in community. Patiently and lovingly, she worked as treasurer of the community, teacher for the tuition children and assistant formator. She helped in the formation of the aspirants for one year and two years for the pre- Novices. She gave them English class, taught them yoga, drawing, dance and prayer.

Love without borders is revealed in her words and actions through her ability to adapt to our simple way of living. She shared her love for the poor especially the sick by visiting them and giving them communion. Besides, she visited the prisoners every Sunday offering them various activities like Bible sharing, Rosary prayer and crafts. They called her their Sunday sunshine, where they find hope and light.

Jesus said “Let the children come to me.” We think that these words from the Gospel inspired her to be hospitable in approaching children. She shared her love and knowledge to them by giving English and Bible classes. It was pleasant to hear children express their gratitude and love to her at her send- off party. They showed it through beautiful songs and meaningful poems.

We are grateful for Sr. Pratheeba’s generosity in giving her best for the growth of our Entity. We thank her for being a living witness of Wisdom’s love. She has taught us how to be “liberos” women, always ready to be sent wherever and whenever God’s spirit leads us. She is indeed a woman of courage, free as the wind. We appreciate the 3 years of loving service she gave in Indonesia. May God continue to inspire her as she proclaims his Good News in her new mission.

The Sisters of Indonesia

The Gift Received

A gift is gratuitous, unexpected and enriches our lives. Sister Moly came at the International Formation House as that gift.



On November 13th 2017, at the request of the General Council, Sr. Moly Ezhuvanthanthu arrived from India and integrated the Formation House in the Philippines. She was appointed to work as Assistant to Sr. Victoria Zakiya, Responsible for the 2nd year pre-novices. Her role was to participate in the planning of formation and other activities while taking courses in formation.

During the few years Sr. Moly was in the Philippines, she contributed to the life of the Pre-novices by giving courses and accompanying them in their formation, and also teaching them gardening and taking care of Creation.

She lived her life to the full by sharing her talents and gifts while carrying on her studies and engaging in Prison Ministry. But Sr. Moly's the main gift was a caring, attentive presence. Her perceptive and discerning abilities contributed in the personal growth of the women in formation.

Sister Moly, the Community of the English Language International Formation House and the Pre-novices express their gratitude for the wonderful gift you have been in our lives.

*The community of the International Formation House
Philippines*

Behind the Scenes of the international Site



On the Feast of Blessed Marie-Louise on May 7, we had the joy of inaugurating the new Website of the Congregation : (<https://www.fdsagesse.org>).

Do you know the person behind the formatting? It is Sr. Josiane Legrand. She was appointed technical director in 2012, that is, manager of the formatting of the content and the display of articles and photos.

Her first steps were accompanied by the know-how and expertise of Sr. Madeleine Malette. Sr. Josiane undertook her task in close collaboration with Mr. Frédéric Perrin, Webmaster.

The new international Website required many months of work to conceptualize, collect treasures of the former site, organize and post new data sent by the Entities. Sr. Josiane harmonized everything with beauty and creativity. To you, Josiane, the Leadership Team expresses its deep gratitude and hopes that you find joy in this service of Congregation.

*Sr. Marie-Reine Gauthier
For the Leadership Team*

Birthday Calendar

Leadership Team

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------------|
| Sr. Rani Kurian | September 11 |
| Sr. Isabelle Retailleau | September 24 |
| Sr. Marie-Reine Gauthier | August 19 |
| Sr. Antonella Prestia | July 06 |
| Sr. Pierrette Bwamba | September 03 |
| Sr. Ruth Dary Palacio Parra | February 05 |
| Sr. Ginette Ulysse | May 21 |

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|-----------------|-----------------------------|-----------|
| Montfort | Father Luiz Augusto Stefani | August 14 |
| Fathers | Superior general | |

| | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|----------|
| Brothers of | Bro. John Kallarackal | March 03 |
| St. Gabriel | Superior general | |