



Sagesse Internationale

*“If we love one another, God remains in us,
and his love is brought to perfection in us.” 1 Jn 4 : 12*

Since a few months we have been living through a lot of uncertainties, fears and loss. It has also been a time that has united us and brought us together to hear the voice of *Wisdom calling us to build life- giving communities in order that we may seek Wisdom together and reveal her wherever we are present*. From the busy days of ministry outside, we are hearing a renewed call to love one another within the community, to build healthy relationships, while not forgetting the call to find ever more creative ways of reaching out to our suffering brothers and sisters.

Wisdom calls us constantly to build life-giving communities where there is also place for compassion and reconciliation. Our life witness itself becomes a mission when we love and care for one another and celebrate the events that bring life and joy in the community. Isn't the best opportunity to be a way of Wisdom first of all within our communities where we live?

At this time we need each other, we need to express our care and concern for one another to go through this difficult moment that we are faced with directly or indirectly. I remind you once again the invitation of Pope Francis, *“not to forget that Jesus asked his disciples to pay attention to details:*

- *The little detail that wine was running out at a party;*
- *the little detail that one sheep was missing;*
- *the little detail of noticing the widow who offered her two small coins;*
- *the little detail of having spare oil for the lamps, should the bridegroom delay;*
- *the little detail of asking the disciples how many loaves of bread they had;*
- *the little detail of having a fire burning and a fish cooking as he waited for the disciples at daybreak.”¹*

Today, as we are confined in our communities or in our place of mission we are encouraged to be attentive to the many little details like a word of comfort, a smile, and a gesture of thoughtfulness that can comfort, encourage and support one another.

When we see thousands of our brothers and sisters that are being affected by the Pandemic; the pain and sorrow of losing our own sisters , family members, friends, colleagues; the financial difficulties to carry out our mission, the list can go on and on.... where can we find hope and meaning for our life?

Faced with all these questions, uncertainties and pain, I turned to God to have courage and faith. The message I received from my Sisters in Italy, who were going through a greater suffering at that moment, strengthened my faith and challenged my call as a Daughter of Wisdom. “ *We offer our sufferings, our anxieties, our fears for those sisters who suffer and are deprived of fundamental rights in the world*”. Taking risk for one’s own life, they stood by each other caring for one another. Even in their distress, they were not forgetting the people who suffer, but rather uniting themselves, till the last breath, with all of them. It was with tears in my eyes that I read their messages; a time when I thought to give them courage, they challenged me with my commitment to reach out to others who suffer and to be a beacon of hope to one another.

At the General Chapter 2018 we acknowledged that “this is a historical moment in the life of the Congregation, all Entities are in a movement of transition.”ⁱⁱ On the other hand the whole world has entered into a movement of transition through pain and suffering. As Daughters of Wisdom what is the historical moment which we are called to live at this time while keeping our eyes on a different but better future?

Sr. Rani Kurian DW
Congregational Leader

ⁱ Apostolic exhortation Gaudete et Exsultate (Rejoice and be glad) No 144

ⁱⁱ Acts of the Chapter 2018



Vocation Awareness

A New Call to Take on our Responsibility



During our Wisdom Year, we had the joy of attending a two-day session on Vocation Ministry with Bro. Maurice Hérault, Brother of St. Gabriel. Upon hearing from Pope Francis' Post-Synodal Apostolic Exhortation "Christus Vivit," addressed to young people and to God's people at the end of the synod, we felt challenged in our responsibility and our commitment to vocations.

Coming from different Entities, we asked ourselves how we can help younger people to find the way where God is calling them to be happy.

We acknowledged, for vocation ministry, the importance of faith education and personal encounter with Christ, while also taking into account the importance of the family as the first faith educators of children. Our reflection opened us to a new vision of the future for the young we encounter.

With renewed enthusiasm, we are ready to journey with young people, helping them to discover that they are loved by God, "...you are precious in my sight and I love you..." (Is 43: 4) and making them aware of our Congregation. We have an ardent desire to listen and accompany them, so they may discover God's presence in their personal story and become aware of their baptismal commitment. In sharing our personal vocation and inviting them to join us in our pastoral activities, (visiting the sick, the prisoners, campaigning for the care of the environment), we hope that the call of God they feel in their heart will bloom.

By letting ourselves be guided by the Lord, we wish to trust the new generation and thus, encourage them to be responsible of their life choices.

The Sisters of Wisdom Year 2019-2020



Living Justice, Peace, Integrity of Creation in the Context of Covid-19

Coronavirus-COVID-19 has made a huge and lasting impact on us as individuals, on our societies and on our world and in ways, produced lasting changes. The virus brought with it fear, terror and for many people, suffering and death. For the first time in our history every woman, man and child have been made vulnerable. As individuals we may have been at times, uncertain and afraid of contracting the Coronavirus for ourselves or for those close to us. There have been grief-stricken times at the loss of our dear Sisters, Daughters of Wisdom or friends or family members.

In general, we have been very impressed with the response to the pandemic right across the world. Congregation, Church, Health Care and Specialist Leaders, First Responders, Volunteers and various other groups gave of their unique generosity in order to support members of our communities.

Alongside this confusion and grief, for individuals and our societies, there have been, stunning positive effects on our Environment. The atmosphere is cleaner with the cessation of pollution from relentless air and road traffic. Depending on the country where we live, people noticed the sudden surrounding quietness which allowed our ears to tune into birdsong.

In Dublin, Ireland where our community lives, Dublin Bay a UNESCO Biosphere, has reported that ground-nesting birds have again returned to breed in the sand-dunes. This restoration has occurred during the prolonged absence of people and their pet dogs which formerly had destroyed their habitats. Our Oceans and Seas are cleaner with the cessation of the traffic of huge leisure shipping liners and fishing vessels although the damaging pollution of plastic to marine life and ocean beds still remains.

As part of the recent '*Laudato Sí Roundtable Webinar Event*', Christiana Figueres stated that she "*found it amazing how in a few weeks, we, as individuals, have learned through the measures of Health Authorities that we can make an impact, 'flatten the curve' of Coronavirus.*" She states "*the need to emphasise this is because many people feel helpless in the face of Climate Change but this shows how I, as an individual, can make a difference.*"

Christiana was "*deeply aware of the trauma of loss of life and livelihood through Coronavirus as people need jobs which is the only way to take people out of poverty.* At the same time "*huge changes in some societies came about while suppressing Coronavirus when half the world's population went into self-isolation because of the priority of health which is an acute crisis.*" She said that "*we must remember this and not feel helpless as individuals in the face of climate change which is a chronic crisis.*"

Augusto Zampini stated regarding the Coronavirus that the response shows it is possible to change our ways because *‘what is the alternative?’* He also said: *‘Laudato Sí is a document describing the symptoms...whereby ‘we need every sort of wisdom to deal with it’.* The Coronavirus is pointing a finger at the model of economic growth and if we want to care for our earth *“we need to change the rate of growth... we need to regenerate our understanding of Energy”.*

The International Challenge that the world faced with Covid-19 also related to Homelessness and Displacement. Our homeless sisters and brothers find themselves yet again left behind. The United Nations Secretary General Antonio Guterres brought attention to women and girls vulnerable to domestic abuse and violence during times of quarantine. The United Nations also reported; *“Displaced and stateless women and girls face heightened risk of violence amid this Coronavirus pandemic. The hidden homeless, rather than those on the street, faced housing insecurity and inadequacy. Refugees, International Migrants, Internally Displaced Persons, Victims of Trafficking and Slum Dwellers should be included in the hidden Framework of Homelessness.”* In general, it is women and girls who make up these groups.



JPIC Committee in a Zoom encounter

During this pandemic we have an opportunity as Daughters of Wisdom to advocate for the Homeless and Displaced in our countries. By doing this, in any way we can, we follow in the footsteps and spirit of Louis Marie and Marie Louise who reached out to the poorest of the poor in their time and never abandoned them.

Sr. Gráinne Hilton
GBI

Citations :

Christiana Figueres: Former Executive Secretary of the Climate Change Secretariat (UNFCCC)

Fr. Augusto Zampini-Davies, Adjunct Secretary of the Vatican's Dicastery for Integral Human Development.
Speaking at Laudato Sí Week, Webinar May 18th 2020

Echoes from the Treasurers' Session

Those who show the right way, pass on life (Malagasy Proverb)

This Malagasy proverb expresses what we want to say to Sr. Sr Ruth Dary Palacio Parra, General Treasurer and to Sr. Anne-Marie Beaudoin. They passed on to us their skills and their energy during the five-day formation session, "Treasurers on mission" August 19 to 23, 2019.

Thirty-six Malagasy Sisters gathered at Aina Village to participate in the session. We lived together a spiritual week steeped in the Rule of Life, in the knowledge of self but also in a deep reflection on the way to live community life, to work responsibly and to relate with laity. Thanks to our two formators, we became aware of who we should be and how we should behave. A new hope has arisen in us. We wish to share this in a few words.



The session took place in a friendly atmosphere without any dull moments because we were immediately immersed in the dynamics of the Directory of the Administration of Goods by a reflection on the charism of the Congregation as Daughter of Wisdom.

From the 2006 Directory's introduction we seriously reflected on the following themes:

- The role, the three powers and the responsibility of the Treasurer as a whole.
- The understanding of the evangelical economy in its four dimensions.
- The elements and the effectiveness of team work.
- The triangle of conflict and its three components.
- The ethic dimension of management which determines the best way to act as Treasurer of the Congregation of the Daughters of Wisdom.
- The main management function required by the importance of good planning, organization, direction and control.

Each Sister became aware of the different responsibilities and the achievement of specific objectives, by taking good initiatives to ensure that all tasks are well executed in all areas: relational, institutional, legal, among others.

This requires a behavior that is coherent with the rules of conduct that allows us to act ethically in order to bear witness to the Gospel Wisdom values of justice, sharing and solidarity.

In short, this formation greatly helped us:

- To acquire and strengthen the basic knowledge essential to be “Treasurers in mission”.
- To have the conviction that a change in mentality regarding economy is vital for the members.
- To become aware that the economy encompasses the whole life of a person.



Thanks to sharing in small groups and in assembly, our eyes opened to the reality of our Entity. We feel called to develop the best in ourselves to help the Sisters of the Province to develop their talents in complementarity. Furthermore, we are overwhelmed by the questions being raised in front of the challenges of financial autonomy of our mission and works. Our questions are many. How will we discern the activities we should pursue, eliminate or modify according to the current situation and needs?

With our enthusiasm and insight, we can say in all humility that support is essential to develop an adequate strategy in order to take charge of the future of our Entity.

We are pleased to express our gratitude to our two formators for the availability, generosity and their thoughtfulness and delicate attention towards us. May the Lord be your reward, dear Sisters. Rest assured that we will do our best to practice and share what we learned, so as to meet your expectations.

On behalf of the Treasurers of Madagascar,

*Sr. Marie-Rose Rasoavololona
Madagascar*

Enthusiatic Friends of Wisdom

Captivated by Wisdom, seven Friends of Wisdom of Tananarive officially pronounced their consecration to Jesus through Mary on May 5, 2019 in the parish of Ambohipo in presence of Sr. Symphorose, Entity Leader. They were spiritually prepared during many years and are committed to help the poor. Their deep and convincing testimony, as well as the words of the consecration touched the hearts of the Faithful.



A couple testify how Wisdom attracted them.

Ms. Angèle: Mother of five, I devoted myself to my family until our children became independent. In 1998, the Daughters of Wisdom came to settle in our neighborhood. In 1999, a Sister announced that the Wisdom Novitiate will open its doors for those who wish to get to know the Wisdom charism. Enchanted by this, I was the first to respond. Each week, we met for formation. In 2003, I was elected to participate in the international encounter of the Friends of Wisdom in France. For 12 years, we learned the basic Wisdom course. I was convinced of the love of Wisdom: She clears my path all through life. I decided to consecrate myself to God, May 5, 2019 in our parish. My mission with Jesus is to share this wisdom with all the Friends and commit myself to help the poor.

Mr. Romule : One Sister made the Daughters of Wisdom known in our parish. The word “wisdom” suddenly struck me. My wife and I talked with the Sister to know more about the charism. The program was set once a week. I am a civil servant working for 28 years now and still holding a position of leader, severe, proud and dictator. The employees went on strike against me and asked the Minister to fire me. I prayed the Rosary all night and asked the Holy Virgin to help me. I kept my job. After serious consideration, I filed an application for early retirement at 55.



In 2008, I was chosen to participate in the international encounter of the Friends in Canada. Back in Madagascar, my mission was the transmission of the experiences of the encounter, the formation of the identities and of the basic Wisdom program. Finally, Wisdom inspired me hereafter that I must consecrate myself to Wisdom through the hands of the Virgin Mary. I thank Eternal Wisdom for choosing me as companion.

*Sr. Albertine Solohery,
Madagascar*

An Exceptional Commitment

The town of Sept-Îles, Québec, pays tribute to Sister Ginette Simard, in its newspaper

For her exceptional commitment to the Ferland Park families during 40 years, le mayor of the town of Sept-Îles, Québec, Mr. Réjean Porier, presented Sr. Ginette Simard with a trophy, saying “She leaves an impressive legacy that marks the spirits and hearts of everyone.”

A nurse by profession, Sr. Ginette Simard arrived in Sept-Îles, in 1976 with three other members of the religious Congregation of the Daughters of Wisdom. She founded the “Sentiers Jeunesse-Loisirs, the Ferland Park Service Center, the “C’est à ton tour de jouer” Daycare center, and the Ruisseau Bois-Joli community garden.

A resident of Ferland Center, Lana Gagnon, speaks highly of Sister Ginette’s dedication, “Sister has always been part of my life. She always accepted me and listened to me when I needed someone to confide in. As an adult, in turn, I give time to the Service Center.

The Tribute Award replaces the Volunteer Recognition Gala that was canceled due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Accompanied by the Ferland District Councilor, Guylaine Lejeune, and some residents from the sector, the mayor presented the award to Sister Ginette Simard.

*From “Ma Côte Nord” Newspaper
Canada*



Ginette Simard, Daughter of Wisdom and Mr. Réjean Porlier, mayor of Sept-Îles

Covid-19 at St. Joseph's Hospital, Nguludi, Malawi

COVID – 19 pandemic poses an extraordinary challenge to the world and our country Malawi has not been spared. The virus has threatened the lives of people, placing a huge strain on our already overburden and fragile health system. We need to make sure that the people have the knowledge of the virus and the supplies they need to stay safe.



Our hospital is doing everything it can to protect healthcare workers, community at large and to reduce the spread of infection. In order to minimize the risks of the pandemic, some initiatives have been taken as follows:

- Conducting, to the community, awareness sessions around of the disease and intensifying hand washing, social distancing, avoiding crowding, always wearing masks etc.

Hand washing is particularly critical in this difficult time of COVID - 19 pandemic

- Training staff members on how to reduce the spread of corona virus and how to manage the COVID - 19 patients. There is need to train all members of staff since only 35 health workers are trained out of 205.
- Procurement of Personal Protective Equipment and medical supplies. The PPE will help to protect Health Workers and other Hospital Staffs as they are the first responders on the frontline, providing care and treatment to those affected. The hospital is managing that with difficulty since it's a crisis.



**Use of buckets with taps
outside the hospital**

We are sourcing for support from other non-governmental organizations in combating this pandemic because we will be able to manage for a short term but not for a longer-term intervention. The Government of Malawi had announced the country's lock down for 21 days at the beginning of April. However, human rights activists challenged that the government should first put in place measures on how the poor population will be assisted during the time of lock down. They emphasized the fact that the people will die of hunger rather than Covid 19 if the poor are not assisted. The number of those infected has reached 38. The number is likely to rise if preventive measures are not put in place.



The number of those infected has reached 38. The number is likely to rise if preventive measures are not put in place. Awareness of Covid 19 is needed as many people from the rural area do not understand what is happening and cannot manage to buy masks to protect themselves. As Daughters of Wisdom, we will continue to take necessary steps to protect and uphold our internal team, and the community we serve.

*Sr. Mercy Kanyumbu
Malawi*

Commitments in the Congregation

**These Sisters were admitted to perpetual Profession
differed on account of Covid-19**

GBI

Sr. Siobhan Boyle

Asia-Oceania

Sr. Beata Ayombe
Sr. Berlinda Yande
Sr. Yuliana Emol
Sr. Maria Sriati Jiwing

India

Sr. Josephin Xalxo

Never Forget the Poor (Marie-Louise)



COVID-19 appeared in Madagascar on March 19. Since then, the Malagasy government worked actively so the pandemic would not spread throughout the country. Screening tests were carried out to people who showed symptoms of the virus and a state of health emergency was declared in the country. Regardless of all the measures demanded by the Government, the people could not respect them because of famine.

Each day, people must work if they want to eat, so it is impossible to live a confinement in the context of a famine.

People who had lost their jobs had to move to another region either on foot or in cars, undetected by the authorities but with the cooperation of the police who let them pass. They went looking for work. The people of Madagascar were encouraged by a new medicine produced in the country using artemisia leaves. Many who were sick with Covid-19 were healed with this new medication.

For us, Daughters of Wisdom, we stand in solidarity with the poor who surround us, and who cannot buy protection masks. Touched by the situation of the poorest, Sr. Stella, in charge of our sewing workshop, made masks that we distributed to the poor in the village. Thanks to the help received from the Association that supports our mission here, we bought food for them.



All these small deeds done by the Sisters while bearing in mind the Tercentenary of the arrival of Mother Marie Louise at St-Laurent being celebrated in this month of June. Like her, we are driven by the love of the poor. Motivated by this inspiration, we are aware of the invitation to intensify living the vow of poverty in solidarity with the poorest.



Food for the poor

*Sr. Symphorose Rasoanarivosalama,
Madagascar*

In Time of Pandemic

Invited to reflect on what the Sisters of Italy have been through during the time of confinement, some communities shared their experience and their desire to maintain, nevertheless, contact with the outside. The situation of confusion provoked by the pandemic brought out Wisdom's desire to be among the people, to resume the same gestures as Christ Wisdom: attention, consolation, tenderness toward wounded humanity and the poor.

The **Cavallermaggiore** community noted that, in the beginning, they had the Eucharistic celebration by the parish priest, which lessened the suffering caused by the lack of encounters with families, friends of Wisdom and young people. When it was no longer possible to celebrate at home, the Sisters followed mass on television.



A great opportunity for collaboration was offered through a request for funds, for the purchase of oxygen for Seniors of the nursing home. Families and communities responded positively. The community emphasized that it was a time of prayer and offering, both personal and in community. They welcomed it as a “school of Wisdom”, where everything was not to be taken for granted. We are called to be always ready and to trust the Father.

With the spread of the pandemic, the **Castiglione** community wondered what to do. It quickly began giving support to elders with video calls to loved ones, using entertainment, games and songs. The Sisters rapidly found provincial programming dealing with struggle and love, a theme well suited to shed light on the fabric of daily life. Supporting the struggle par excellence, keeping hope alive! Thinking of Marie-Louise of Jesus who prayed for the Sisters of Niort, choosing to intensify prayer of adoration, they also remembered what families, communities and the Congregation experienced over the years: faith, courage and prayer were and still is a strong anchor.

The community of **Ventimiglia**, situated at the border, daily confronted to multiple faces of poverty, quickly became activated to live this time of confinement in a creative way. Unable to continue encounters on spirituality, the Sisters created a WhatsApp group, “Ventimiglia Friends of Wisdom.” They shared with these friends the feasts of the Founders and that initiative still continues today as spiritual encounters. The parish priest is part of the group. The Sisters are amazed at the spiritual growth of the participants. Also, they did not miss an opportunity to share and be close in situations of suffering due to the death of loved ones, and to collaborate with Caritas for the preparation of masks for migrants.



One Sister of the community of Rome-via **Merulana** recounted how bringing garbage to collecting points became daily opportunities for meetings, closeness, new perspectives, listening and simple gestures, such as an offer of breakfast, or kind words. For the poor, these are not routine tasks. Yet, she says, “these are faces and people I know, for they are part of my daily commitment.” Help is also given in collaboration with volunteers to support “ROM” families. (Gypsies)



The community of **Clusone**, situated in Lombardy, experienced intensely the plight of so many people in this area hard hit by the pandemic. National and local news were strictly speaking, war bulletins. Sisters intensified their prayers to the Lord, bringing to him the fragility, suffering, fear and questions of all.

The whole Province strongly shared the situation of the people and, above all, we affectionately kept close contact with the communities of Sisters hard hit such as that of **San Remo**, where 10 Sisters died and the community of Clusone where many were sick with the virus. Thank God, they healed, except one, who was seriously affected and died

We strongly felt the participation and the loving support of the prayer of the Congregation and the Montfortian family. We thank you very much.

*Synthesis by Sr. Vittoria Maria dell'Eucaristia
Italy*

Living Confinement with Wisdom and Hope

The imposed confinement to counter the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic is experienced in a variety of ways by the Daughters of Wisdom of Canada.

Those who live in residences for Senior Sisters, either in Edmonton, Ottawa or Montreal, must respect strict norms to ensure their protection. The first is certainly isolation from the outside world and physical distance during meals. As noted by Sr. Diane Thibodeau, conversations at meals are more limited because of distancing. "I admire the staff. We ask a lot of them. I appreciate them more every day."

In Montreal, a lot of information go around to help residents understand safety rules. Preventive maintenance is constant (cleaning of door handles, for example). If this period turns out to be long and difficult, Sr. Madeleine Malette noted, "There is no need to complain. We are well surrounded and protected. Our hearts are saddened when we think of our loved ones, but we are in communion with them. We call each other and we write."



The situation is similar concerning security measures at Maison Accueil-Sagesse in Ottawa. We saw members of the Provincial Council go down to work for the making of masks, gowns and blouses for the staff. One day, via our internal T.V. circuit, Sr. Carmelle Dugas, representing the virus on her hat, relaxed everyone with a song on Covid-19, while the lyrics scrolled on the TV screen.



In New-Brunswick, the two Sisters (both Rachel) living in the village of St-François, go for grocery shopping at specific times to avoid crowds. There are no more than 3 aisles! For our two Sisters, going to visit our American Sisters on the other side of the river, is not allowed. They have to limit their movements and watch televised masses. With her sense of humor, Sr. Rachel Morency adds, "always alone in the parking lot, our KIA car is depressed."

As many have pointed out, "Life will change after the pandemic. The world will not be the same. "Hoping for the best!"

*Editor- "En lien" Bulletin
Canada*

Silent Support



The widespread situation of the pandemic modified our community life. We have more time to pray, to speak with one another, to be attentive to others, to invent ways for recreation, to accept preventive measures and to not go to medical appointments, but receive doctors at home or use teleconsultation. The latter is not to our liking, but, thanks to God, in general, the health service for us, the elderly, is good.

What can we offer in the face of the pandemic? In silence, every day, we offer our physical ailments to the Lord, our inability to do more and daily prayers for the victims of the virus, for families and the health care workers who take care of the sick. Through video calls that give courage and strength, we are in contact with people who are depressed on account of the generalized effect of the Covid-19.

*The Sisters of the Nazareth Community, Bogotá
Colombia*

Marie-Louise de Jésus Institute



Long before confinement, numerous cases of infected people and deaths caused by the pandemic, we presented practical sessions at the Marie-Louise of Jesus Institute for hard-of-hearing children, in order to repeat important daily habits. These were hand washing techniques and simple gestures in coughing and greeting people. We handed out as many useful articles as possible, such as soap, antibacterial alcohol water or gel to avoid contamination.

Information on the Covid-19 virus from credible sources and on the measures imposed to limit its spread were posted everywhere at the Institute. Immediately after the formal confinement announcement, on March 19, we met with the management team to reflect on the actions to be undertaken so as not to leave our students inactive. Then, we prepared courses and homework for some classes according to the Ministry of National Education program and Professional Formation (MENFP), to allow students to continue with home learning during the long period of school closure in the country.

Sr. Gertha Saintil, cutting and sewing teacher at the Institute, helped by another teacher and a grade 4 professional course student worked tirelessly at the workshop to make fabric masks to better protect our vulnerable hard-of-hearing students as well as the staff of the Institute. We did not hesitate to send masks to the homes of some students for them and their parents and other members of the family. That simple gesture done with love and out of love was very appreciated. Mother Marie Louise would have done the same in her time.



The masks are ready for distribution

In order to help the weakest and guided by the Orientation of the last General Chapter, "Love without Borders", we offer masks at all the teachers' meetings. We also repeat the precautions to be taken, the reflex to develop, the herbal teas that can strengthen the immune system, and the responses to give if symptoms emerge.

For the Community of the "Marie Louise of Jesus Institute" for hard-of-hearing children.

*Sr. Océan Nelmina
Haiti*

Returning to the Homeland

Sr. Rose-Norma Rigaud from Haiti, arrived at St-Laurent for her new mission on October 10, 2016, to join the international community renamed Regina Mundi and situated in renovated facilities. We were 5 Sisters from 3 countries: Madagascar, Haiti and France.

Sr. Rose-Norma adapted rather quickly to intercultural community life no doubt strong of her Wisdom Year experience! From the beginning, she became part of the team of caregivers put in place at the Mother House at the service of the senior Sisters. She gave herself wholeheartedly to this primary mission, seeking to find the face of Jesus in each one. She gradually got involved in the Wisdom Spiritual Center with the reception desk, the sacristy and the singing at liturgies. In community, Sr. Rose-Norma was a pleasant and peaceful companion, who contributed at creating ambiance to festive gatherings. We liked catching her dancing and singing joyfully in the halls.

Thank you, Sister, for all your delicate attentions, your hidden gifts of creativity and poetry. We love you and will keep you always in our prayers. Rest assured of our gratitude, our fraternal affection and prayer. We entrust you to Our Lady of Perpetual Help who will watch over you in your new mission.



Sr. Rose-Norma Rigaud d'Haiti

*Regina Mundi Community
St -Laurent, France*

For more than three years, Sr. Rose-Norma joined the province of France and that gave me great joy. In September 2016, I was assigned to the care of the Sisters of the La Fontaine and La Source community of St-Laurent with Sr. Marie-Louise Chevalier.

Sister Rose-Norma seemed completely available to fulfill the mission of nursing assistant for the Senior Sisters of the two communities. She ensured this service with love and caring. We worked in collaboration, sharing our ways of doing things according to the knowledge we had of the Sisters and their lives.

For me, Sr. Rose-Norma made possible "love without borders."

*Sr. Christine de Montalembert,
St Laurent, France*

Sow with Simplicity



Sr. Sylvie Berruet from France, arrived in our Maria Luisa Entity on October 19, 2001. After a few months, she left for the community of Huánuco for a commitment in the field of health. Later, in July 2002, she readily agreed to leave Peru for a new mission at San Roque-Concepción del Uruguay in Argentina

It is impossible to grasp the lived experience in a few words. We drew up a few brushstrokes where every color is important, mostly simplicity, in community and in mission. Sr. Sylvie worked in Argentina until January 2008. Then, she was called to Ecuadorian land, at Machala, in the Venice district.

She left for Equator with a unique purpose: to love God and to love others. To live simplicity, she resorted to the gentle presence of Wisdom through Mary. This gave her life in each mission she undertook. Sylvie was like St. Paul, "To the weak I became weak...I have become all things to all." (1 Co 9 :22). Her personality is marked by availability and courage. Thanks to her talents, she widened the space of Wisdom's tent to the coast, the Andean mountains and Ecuadorian soil. Her desire to bring the Gospel led her to proclaim it in churches, homes and on roads.

Sr. Sylvie walked in the footsteps of Montfort and Marie-Louise who hastened to help the poor. When the people of Ecuador were struck by an earthquake of magnitude 8 in April, 2016, she rushed to meet the people most affected. With Sisters and women in formation, she went to the province of Esmeraldas to bring help, support and comfort.



Driven by missionary passion, everywhere she went, Sr. Sylvie manifested solicitude toward neglected children, women victims of violence and vulnerable families, while journeying with the community. Following Christ Wisdom, her testimony left a deep impression in the life and heart of many residents of places where she served with dedication.

Sr. Violeta Santos

Maria Luisa