

# INTERCONNECTIONS

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## Editorial

### **Easter: An outpouring of God's Mercy, Alleluia! Alleluia!**

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The mystery of the Incarnation opened us to the grace of God's mercy, which became flesh in Jesus of Nazareth.

Through his death and resurrection, God's mercy was shown forth to human beings. Jesus' compassion and love for us invite us to do the same. We need to contemplate the mystery of mercy constantly. It is a source of joy, serenity and peace.



Mercy is the path of union between God and humans so that we open our hearts to the hope of being loved forever in spite of the limitations of our nature.

Through some people who appear in the Lenten Liturgy, we discover and experience the merciful love of God, which is always with us:

- ◆ The woman taken in adultery: And Jesus said to her, **“Neither do I condemn you. Go and sin no more.”** (Jn 8:11)

- ◆ The Prodigal Son: **“He went towards his father. While he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him.”** (Lk 15:20)

God's mercy brings us peace. And we, in our turn, are invited to bring light, joy, help, mercy, reconciliation, forgiveness to others and to free ourselves from our bad habits and false ideas.

The theme of this Holy Year is basic and relevant. Our Founder had a personal experience of God's mercy on the eve of his First Communion. No doubt, each one of us has also had such a personal experience of God's mercy.

“Re-reading our own personal experience of God will lead us to re-discover and proclaim ‘the face of the merciful Father’ in a new way”. (See the letter of our Mother General, Anna Maria ALCALDE, 3 February 2016)

So we can ask ourselves how the word ‘mercy’ resonates around the world today, especially during Eastertime when we are celebrating the death and resurrection of Christ.

**Enlightened by the Risen Christ of Easter, we are invited to be bearers of hope around us.**

In our world, which is often marked by hatred and violence though still loved by God, let us look towards life and act in a way that shows our faith in the ability of human beings to find peace and justice.

The Risen Christ uses us to make this world habitable and give our lives as Jesus did.

**“Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, so I also send you.”** This message of *Quasimodo* Sunday, Mercy Sunday, invites us to faith and it is thanks to this that Christ sends us out. It is in the joy of Easter that we feel the urgency of bearing witness to mercy towards ourselves, God and others.

Pope Francis is fully in accord with this. In his pastoral work, he speaks constantly about God’s mercy. It is mercy that draws us towards God when justice frightens us. **Human beings need God’s mercy.**

“In my opinion”, adds Benedict XVI, “that shows that behind the veneer of confidence in themselves and their own sense of justice, human beings hide a deep awareness of their wounds and their unworthiness before God. They need mercy.” “For me, the fact that the idea of God’s mercy is becoming more central and dominant is a sign of the times”, states the Pope Emeritus.

Mary Magdalen had a spectacular conversion. She entered into a new life. She rose with Jesus. This is a call and an invitation for us during this Paschal tide. May the joy of the Resurrection enliven our hearts. *“Nothing can take my joy away from you.”*

## Here in Rome:

### 17 March was a memorable day in my life - Monica Alexander, Rome

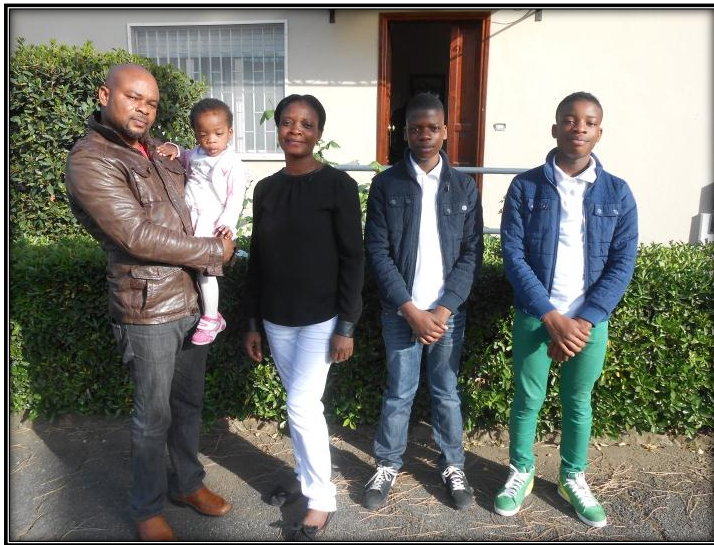
In the month of January, I wrote to the Pope, telling him that I am celebrating 50 years of consecrated life in the Congregation of the Holy Family of Bordeaux, and expressing my desire to participate in the Pope’s morning Mass at Sta. Marta. To my surprise, I received a call from the Vatican on the 16<sup>th</sup> March at 19.30 inviting me to be present on the 17<sup>th</sup> March for the Eucharist at 7.00 am! I could not express my joy; it was like a dream and I could not believe it.

We were altogether about 25 persons including 2 other religious, and a group of lay persons from a parish. After the Eucharist we were given a moment to greet the Pope individually.



I held his hand my two small ones and said, “Holy Father I am celebrating 50 years in Religious life.” He congratulated me, and gave me his blessing. I assured him that the Sisters of the Holy Family of Bordeaux are praying for him and he said, “Thank you very much. That is what I need”.

I consider this a special grace the Lord has given me for my Jubilee and there is nothing else I long for. What more do I need? I feel that this blessing from Pope Francis is not only for me; it goes also to all the Sisters of my community, the Institute, my family and friends. Actually, I have no words to express my JOY and I am still surprised at this opportunity.



On Tuesday, April 5, we were at last able to welcome the new inhabitants of the small house just inside the gate of the Generalate. We had begun to be rather impatient, having decided some time ago to receive a migrant or refugee family. However, we understood the reason given by JRS (Jesuit Refugee Services): the house is really suited to family living, and there are very few whole families who are ready to begin the transition to

independent life. We thought we would have to wait until the end of the school year (May), but then there was news that a Nigerian family urgently needed accommodation: they had been living in a reception centre for three years, and it was time for them to leave the place for others... So the “casetta” is now occupied by Philip and Joy, and their three children: two teenage boys - Favour and Promise, and a little girl of two, called Blessing, who was born here in Italy... They will be with us until summer of next year, monitored by JRS.

We have tried to be discreet, and not to overwhelm them, in the hopes that respectful, “neighbourly” relations will be established over time.

This gesture is a tiny drop in the ocean when we consider the enormity of the needs of the refugees entering Europe – but we add it to the various ways, in many different countries, that the Holy Family is working with refugees, with displaced people, with migrants and their families, with victims of trafficking, and with would-be migrants who still want to believe that their dreams are realisable.

## Events:

### ✿ The International team for deepening our Roots (Energising for mission)

The members gathered in Rome from 5 to 15 March 2016, they studied together the reports received from each unit, in addition, they continued to seek ways to integrate, collectively the ideas and aspects they brought forward according to their objectives and calls.

Objective of the team: research, study and reflect on Holy-Family Charism/Spirituality, re-reading them in the light of the emerging worldview and urged by the vision/dream of our Founder.



❁ **International initial formation team**

**Goal:** In the ongoing process of growth of our Holy Family Contemplative/Apostolic members, we enable them to be open to the unfolding love of God in the Universe and be joyful, faith-filled, self-giving women with passion for and commitment to Jesus' mission of 'Oneness.'



The members met here in Rome from April 1 – 15. First 3 days the group had their evaluation. From April 4 – 14, the team entered into a deep understanding religious life in the light of the New Story of the Universe. This session was facilitated by Margaret Muldoon and Colleen Moore, the last day they also saw how to apply it to Holy Family way of formation.

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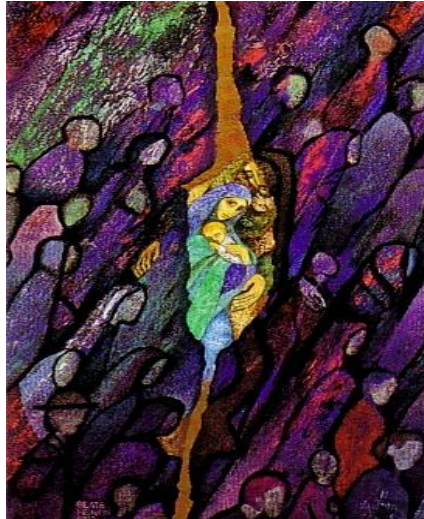
❁ **The new Leadership Team** of the European Network (Italy-Belgium-France) came together at the Generalate from April 17 – 23 for a week of animation by the GLT. On the 18th, during the Eucharistic celebration, they were installed as the new team. Some sisters from Italy also came to share this joy.



## Quasimodo Sunday and the Holy Family

ÁINE HAYDE

As we work our way through our Founder's writings, it is intriguing to see how often he refers to *Quasimodo* Sunday as "the principal feast of the Association" or "the patronal feast of the Association". Why was this Sunday so special that it was our "principal" feast? How could it be our "patronal" feast? Why was the Gospel of that particular Sunday so important that it was even represented on our coat-of-arms by the olive branches signifying the 'Peace be with you'? And why, more than any other Sunday or solemn feast of the year, was *Quasimodo* Sunday followed by forty days of prayer to the Holy Family?



We find the answer in the first issue of the *Annals of the Association of the Holy Family* published in 1831. There, in the section on indulgences, we see that one of the days on which a plenary indulgence was granted to the Association of the Holy Family was "**The Feast of the Most Holy Family, (*Quasimodo* Sunday).**"

In the time of our Founder, there was no feast of the Holy Family in the general Church calendar. This is not really surprising since devotion to the Holy Family began only in the seventeenth century. The feast was celebrated in

various dioceses on a Sunday in Eastertide, the last Sunday in May or the third Sunday in November. Bordeaux, which had been consecrated to the Holy Family as early as 1675, celebrated it on the second Sunday of Easter, known as *Quasimodo* Sunday. From homily notes which he wrote for that feast, we see that Fr. Noailles read the gospel of the day (Jn 20:19-31) in the light of the feast, and saw in it the story of the foundation of the *Holy Family* as well as its apostolic mission. He made the comparison between the apparition of Jesus to the frightened apostles hidden in a room and the Miraculous Benediction when Jesus appeared in the monstrance to a small number of poor and vulnerable women hidden in a humble dwelling in the first years of the foundation of the *Holy Family*. Jesus blessed the two groups. Both were reassured by the apparitions, and given confidence through the peace they received. Fr. Noailles also saw the mission of the *Holy Family* mirrored in the mission of Jesus and the apostles, "As the Father sent me so I also send you." (And Fr. Noailles added, "Go teach all nations.") He reflected that as Jesus Christ was sent not just for the salvation of a few souls but for all, so too, the members of the *Holy Family* are sent not for one particular apostolate but for a variety, and not for any one class of society but for all.

The feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph continued to be celebrated on various dates, as a local Feast until 1921 when Pope Benedict XV extended the Feast of the Holy Family to the whole Church to be celebrated on the Sunday within the octave of the Epiphany. Then, in 1969, the new Roman calendar fixed the Feast of the Holy Family for the Sunday within the octave of Christmas (or December 30) with new texts both for the Eucharist and for the Liturgy of the Hours. That is still the position at the present time.

When the Feast was first moved, the Directress General Mother Raphael Tignet, decided that we would continue to celebrate *Quasimodo* Sunday as a reminder of our mission. She omitted to mention in her circular that our

Founder also used the gospel to remind us of our foundation.

The gospel for the second Sunday of Easter is still the same as it was in our



Founder's lifetime – Jn 20:19-31. One of the two possible Entrance antiphons is still the one whose first word – *Quasimodo* – gives the Sunday its name. (Sundays used to get their name from the first word of the Entrance Antiphon in Latin. We

still have *Gaudete* and *Laetare* Sundays in Advent and Lent.)

So, let us remember why the Second Sunday of Easter is given to us as one of our special *Holy Family* Feasts in our Constitutions and thank God for our foundation and our common universal mission.

## Diocese and Borough - Working together for Migrants

**CELINE NANAYAKKARA.**  
**WOODFORD GREEN, BRITAIN**

In the summer of 2015, when I had just arrived in my new home in Woodford Green, I attended a meeting of Religious to celebrate The Year of Consecrated life. Alan Williams, the Bishop of our



Diocese of Brentwood and himself a Religious, was also there. To my surprise – probably because he saw a new face – he approached me and started a long conversation. By the end of the conversation, he had invited me to join a new Team of Sisters, which he was hoping to start soon after Christmas to respond to the urgent needs of migrants in the Diocese. I was very happy to accept the invitation and, in January, five of us had our first meeting as a Team with Bishop Alan.

Our focus is to co-ordinate and network with others who work on behalf of refugees, asylum seekers and all kinds



of vulnerable migrants, especially those with no other means of support. The next meeting – our third – will take place in the French Church in London (run by the Marist Fathers, the Bishop's Religious Congregation) where we will have an opportunity to meet some of the migrants who use the Parish Centre there. As part of this Diocesan project, I work as a volunteer at the Cardinal



Heenan Centre in Ilford where asylum seekers and refugees, many of them homeless, come for various kinds of support and help.

The London Borough of Redbridge, in which Woodford Green is situated, has agreed to host four Syrian families in the very near future. TELCO (The East London Communities Organisation) which has a membership of 6,500 people in the Redbridge Borough is co-operating in this project. I attend TELCO meetings regularly and on 20 March took part in one of their training days on welcoming and providing a safe environment for these families. It was a very powerful and life-giving experience. As part of our preparation to receive the families, 16 members who

participated in that day formed five Research Teams so that, among other things, we would be able to answer any questions raised by the Police, Home Office or Social Services. These five Teams deal with Education, Housing, Health, General Needs and Liaising with other important people such as MPs, the Bishop and some Anglican Vicars.

I am a member of the Education Team and have the responsibility of contacting the Principals and Staff of the Redbridge Secondary Schools to inform them about the situation and to ask them to open their schools to the children of these Syrian families. I have also been asked to liaise with the Bishop and with the Vicar of the Anglican Church in Woodford Green on behalf of TELCO. I am very happy to be the link person between these groups and to see the support we are able to give one another in working towards our common aim – the welfare of migrants.

It is a great opportunity for me to get to know deeply the situation of migrants and the policies of the Government and various organisations in their regard. It is wonderful to be able to work with different Congregations of Religious and other groups and put our Provincial Chapter Recommendation into practice by taking action on behalf of people who are obliged to be on the move. It is very enriching for me also to share in the commitment and enthusiasm of Lay People, different Faith Groups, Young People and, of course, our own Bishop Alan.

## REDISCOVERING MERCY - An invitation to reconnect Faith and Mercy

ANNE CONNOLLY/ LAY ASSOCIATE, BRITAIN

“A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you; and I will



remove from your body the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh” (Ezekiel 36:26). During the period of Lent, we in some Parishes of Livingston/Scotland are encouraged to

participate in Parish House Groups. To that end, Margaret, a Holy Family Lay associate and I were invited to host a House Group in our respective homes, on different days/evenings. The Lenten theme was ‘Rediscovering Mercy’ an Invitation to connect Faith and Mercy.

The aim of these four sessions was to create a space for reflection on how mercy is both experienced and expressed in our lives; in the Scriptures, in our Church and in the work of the organisations who are part of ‘Just Faith’ (an umbrella name), as well as many other organisations which Catholics in Scotland engage with as a response to the call to act in Mercy and for Justice.

### Some Goals for these Sessions:

- **Building an awareness of peace and justice initiatives and concerns in our world**
- **Highlighting the values of Catholic Social Teaching and our relationship with God and others**
- **Contemplation on how we weave Justice and Mercy into our daily lives as followers of Christ**
- **An insight into the work of the ‘Just Faith organisations’ both in Scotland and overseas**

#### **Session 1: ‘Rediscovering a personal experience of Mercy’**

“With what can we compare the Kingdom of God...? It is like a mustard seed ... (Mk 4: 30-32)

#### **Session 2:**

**‘Rediscovering Mercy in our local community’ and “who is my neighbour?” (Lk 10:29)**

#### **Session 3: Rediscovering Mercy in our World**

“Compassion included awareness, attitude and action. A deeper and clearer look at compassion, the central quality of Christ, enables us to accompany the hurting ones of our personal lives and the larger world with loving kindness”. Joyce Rupp

## Session 4: Rediscovering Mercy through Prayer & Reflection

“It is in giving that we receive” Francis of Assisi

### Objectives:

- . To lead participants in Prayer and Reflection, allowing them to interiorise the concept of Mercy and learning from previous sessions.
- . To present practical ways for the participants in the parish to get involved in the work of Just Faith organisations.

The journey of contemplation on the concept of mercy and compassion finished with the meaning symbol – Blessing of the hands with oil to recall our baptism and our mission as followers of Christ, saying as we did so “May your hands be Christ’s hands to the poor “this end with sharing each other the sign of peace.

## Three2Six Project: Holy Family College, 2016

### MARK POTTERTON

#### South Africa

There are thousands of refugees, with their children, in Johannesburg from all over Africa and beyond. Many of these children have been born in our country. A significant number of refugee children are currently out of school.

In 2008, Sacred Heart College in Observatory, Johannesburg started a programme aimed at offering a place of hope for refugee children. Besides offering academic and social bridging into the South African schooling system, the project also aimed at offer protective factors in order to build resilience and reduce the vulnerability of these children. These include offering children a sense of belonging, a positive school climate, opportunities for success and recognition of achievement, and a non-violent environment.

Sacred Heart College (SHC) managed to expand the project to other schools. We have a unique opportunity at the moment to benefit from funding raised by SHC, to establish a Three2Six School at Holy Family College. The school would operate on our premises after hours and serve refugee children. The project will start small (with two

Classes) and will be staffed by dedicated teachers and support staff.

Sacred Heart College will give us enough money to cover meals, computer costs, uniforms, transport, holiday programmes, management and administration, teaching staff and so forth. We will enter into year contract. The project funding is likely to be renewed.

All the money to set up and run the project for one year has already been raised by Sacred Heart College. Mark Potterton was involved on the initial steering committee at Sacred Heart College to set up the Three2Six Project. Over the subsequent years, Sacred Heart College has learned a lot about the running of an operation like this, and can share their experience with us.

We have entered into a partnership with Beit Emanuel to assist us with the project. The project will provide many opportunities for our pupils to engage in meaningful community service such as mentoring of the 3to6 learners. It is also a very good opportunity to dispel myths around foreigners and to combat xenophobia. The project will allow us to give back to our community in a significant way.

## OPEN TO THE FUTURE

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### SPAIN

Many years have passed since 13 November 1843 when Mother Bonnat and Sr. Stanislaus Fournier crossed the border into Spain. Then, during years of struggle and hard work, many Sisters gave their entire lives to founding colleges and boarding schools and doing all they could to spread and strengthen the faith in the *Holy Family* Colleges of Aranjuez, Getafe, Madrid, Málaga, Pinto and Valencia not to mention the orphanage in Plasencia as well as several other colleges. They tried to spread the *Holy Family* spirit among the pupils and their families so that all those involved in education would be the salt of the earth and the light of the world.

Many Sisters gave themselves body and soul to this wonderful work, completely dedicated to their pupils, trying to turn them into good, competent, compassionate, committed and happy people. Generation upon generation of pupils carry in their veins, written in their blood with the pen of the heart, the unforgettable memory of the Good Father and the Sisters who taught them how to be good people. Later, lay teachers came on the staff and worked hand in hand with the Sisters in this praiseworthy task. Countless families, through their children and Parents' Associations, became part of the life of the Colleges and worked hand in hand with the teachers to make the Good Father's dream come true.



Today, the *Holy Family* Colleges are incorporated into St. Dominic's Educational Foundation. We have to accept things as they are and look forward with a generous and determined spirit without letting go of the basic aim of Christian education and the specific values of our own Spirituality. **WE WANT TO THANK** from the bottom of our hearts all the people who made it all possible with their generous self-giving in the spirit of the Good Father, sensitive to the new signs of the times. We want to thank especially the Sisters who have carried on the fruitful work over almost two centuries without being tied to the past but open to the future, trusting in Providence and in the God of History who has been with us all the time and who will continue to journey with us.

## The Father's merciful plan - A Retreat for young women

### POLAND

From 25 to 28 February, we had a retreat for young women in our house in Warsaw, Poland. Among the participants, there were high school and technical school pupils, university students and some slightly older women who live and work with our Sisters in Warsaw. These last enriched the whole group with their maturity. The young women were a mutual gift for each other. They were happy young people who loved life and wanted to be close to God. Looking at them, I saw that young people today are good, very idealistic and have great potential. It is worth investing in them!



So, what did we do during the retreat? First of all, we deepened the Father's Merciful Plan – the main topic. The first day we reflected on the theme, "Created in God's Image" based on the description of the creation of man and woman from the Book of Genesis. We also did a practical exercise. Using old newspapers and the collage technique, each person was asked to "create" a human being. The reflections after this were extraordinary – God created each person wanting her to be the most beautiful person in the world!

We had the Way of the Cross at the end of the first day. This reminded us that we should be true to ourselves and authentic in God's presence because God loves us just as we are.

On the second day, we reflected on the Merciful Father. The theme was "Breaking up and Making up". We had

a special guest that day: The Venerable Pierre Bienvenu Noailles. We spoke to the young women about his life and presented him as a man of mercy, someone who had personal experience of God's mercy in his life and who, in turn, was merciful to others. It was an opportunity to present the Charism of our Congregation and to speak

about our Family. In the evening, we looked at a very interesting and instructive film "Do You Really Believe?" On the last day, we meditated on the



theme "Our Relationship with the Father". That day, the young women drew lots for a work of mercy, which they reflected on and applied, to their daily life. Then we had a period of Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament. The theme for this was "I

am God's well-beloved child". After a short conversation with the priest, the young women wrote their names in a book in the shape of a heart symbolising the heart of God.

Each day, we had an hour's adoration but on the last night, at the priest's suggestion, we had adoration from 10 pm until 2 am! The young women were

delighted to be able to spend more time in Jesus' company.

The retreat was full of God's action, inspiration and light. We thank all the Sisters for their prayers during this time. We also thank the Sisters who organised the retreat, especially Srs. Rafaela, Maria and Wanda. Glory be to God Alone!

## A JOYFUL REUNION

SR. JACQUELINE. RUSHAKI

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Jacqueline from Rushaki, Rwanda shares her experience of meeting her brother after 21 years.



On 14 March, I left Rushaki to go to meet my brother. None of my family had met him for 21 years. We thought he was dead and had lost all hope that he might still be alive.

In 1995, he had left home to go to University in Kinshasa Congo and we had had no news from him since 1997.

In 2006, a chance meeting threw some light on his story. He met a gentleman in North Kivu who came from his home village. This man put him in telephone contact with our brother-in-law's uncle. On that occasion, he was able to speak

to our father who was seriously ill and on the point of death. Our father was so happy to hear him and said, *"I can die now because I know that you are alive"*. After that, because of the war situation, he lost all telephone contact with the family.

In March 2015, he again met the gentleman who had given him the family telephone numbers and he spoke to our eldest sister who told him that our mother had died.

From that time on, he continued to communicate with the family and they gave me his phone number. I called him but, because of a network problem, I did not get through. However, I kept trying until I succeeded in contacting him. I spoke to him and was very happy and emotional to hear him and to know that he was alive. I wanted very much to meet him and one day I asked him if I could go to meet him in Masisi (in North Kivu). He assured me that I could go because it was not very dangerous. I spoke about it to my community and they encouraged me to go. When Eithne HUGHES the general Councillor was here, I spoke to her about it and said that I would like to meet my brother. She encouraged me too but advised me to be careful.

On March 14, I left Rushaki to spend the night on the border of Rwanda and Congo.

The following morning I called my brother and told him that I was on my way. After crossing the border, I went to the Caritas office of the Goma Diocese. They told me that the best way to travel to Masisi was by motorbike. The priest director of Caritas found a person he trusted to take me.

At 10 am, the adventure began. We set off for Masisi on the motorbike. The roads were very bad and it took us four and a half hours to get there. It was a difficult journey but it was nothing compared with the happiness of meeting my brother.

When I arrived in the parish, I let him know that I was there and he came to meet me. We broke down in tears of joy and spoke about our parents. Several of his friends came to

welcome me and our hearts overflowed with the joy of our reunion. It was a great celebration.

This region of Masisi is very rich and everything that is sown grows. The people cultivate beans, peas, potatoes and all kinds of vegetables. They also raise small and large animals. There is also great mineral wealth in the region. They cannot sell their produce in Goma, Kinshasa or even South Kivu because they have no means of transport. This state of affairs means that the people are very poor.



Since 1998, the people have lived in a dangerous situation and several people have left their home place to go to live in refugee camps. Murder is a common occurrence.

The people are in four camps, which are supported by the Jesuit Refugee Services (JRS). In spite of the war, the people want to live, and education is provided for the children and young people.

The JRS work with two sisters and some lay people who coordinate the four camps. They look after the training of women in crafts and the training of young people in mechanics, dressmaking and computers. They also provide

primary and secondary education.

Because the situation is so dangerous, there is a total curfew from 18.00.

The population consists of Congolese and Rwandans. The Rwandans came in 1959, 1990 and 1994. All these people live in complete insecurity not knowing what tomorrow will bring.

In this Jubilee Year of Mercy, I had the joy of meeting my brother. I thank all of you who journeyed with me for your support and I thank the Lord for his protection and for making it all possible.

## Sr. MARÍA JÉSUS GOICOECHEA'S GIFT OF 81 YEARS

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MARIE-PAUL BALULA

“God is love and loves us. God calls us but we do not know how or why. However, we place ourselves at God’s service.

God sent me far from my own country. I spent over twenty years in Peru and I will soon have spent twenty years in Rwanda. I have lived my mission of communion with my Sisters in community but also with the poor, the mentally ill, the disabled, young girls, other kinds of ill people etc.



Recently, whether I am awake or asleep, one word keeps coming back to me – the name of **Jesus**”. This is what Sr. María Jesús has told us.

Our dreams are sometimes the result of what we have been doing during the day. Our memory brings back to our thoughts, words and minds what is deepest in our hearts. The name of Jesus is our point of reference in our Sister’s activities and her daily contacts with people. If we had asked María Jesús to give a talk, she would have spoken at length about her 81 years but this spontaneous little message given from her heart during this morning’s Eucharistic celebration shows us that her life is founded on Jesus. That really touched our Christian gathering today. Her simplicity led her to thank the Lord, to reveal to us the secret of the joy of her consecration to the Lord and to ask forgiveness for omissions.

Immediately after breakfast, she put on her apron to begin the work of the day, to help with painting, to give medication to her friends the mentally ill, to feed the frail elderly abandoned by their families, to welcome the disabled. Seeing her in action, you would never suspect her age, as the priest said in his homily. Young people drag their feet when walking but Sr. María Jesús sets out energetically to serve with love. In fact, I discovered that her many daily activities are often interrupted by visits from poor people.

Speaking about her beloved disabled people, she told me that every disabled person has a unique story. Listening to each one personally is an enrichment, which she carries in her heart. The wisdom of our elders helps us to walk in their footsteps and to follow Christ in the mission, which is ours.



“Christian life is a commitment to love, to give birth to God, in one’s own life and to become midwives of divinity in this evolving cosmos.

We are to be whole makers of Love in a world of change.

- **Ilia Delio** -



## The enrichment of Intercultural experience

### NOVICES

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The intercultural experience in the *Holy Family* Novitiate in Idiofa (D.R. Congo) is an enriching family experience, which enables us to grow in our journey to God and in our sense of belonging to the Family of Pierre Bienvenu Noailles.

We are happy to have this experience of differences of culture, language and country (Cameroon, D.R. Congo and Chad). It helps us to

discover the riches of each culture as well as its values and counter values. The experience opens us up to the unknown and helps us to change our mind-set and to accept others and ourselves.

We have become aware of the mutual enrichment that interculturality brings us. The gift of each one helps us to live complementarity.

We are certain that this experience of life makes the Founder's dream a reality because we are already living it today in the Novitiate. And we are convinced that this experience is a witness of unity in imitation of Jesus who came to gather together the scattered children of God. We are gradually learning to go out from ourselves and to open up to others at mealtimes, prayer times, and culture sharing and community life... beyond our humanness. We experience a God who unites and who calls each one as she is.

This experience helps us to get to know the world and its various life realities: country, village... It also teaches us to develop some attitudes such as attentiveness, patience, gentleness, listening and respect.

We believe that Christ is in our midst beyond our barriers.

This complementarity helps us to live as missionaries and gives us the experience of being pardoned sinners.

Interculturality, with its highs and lows, is a great enrichment and a path which leads to God.

## REVISITING THE MIRACULOUS BENEDICTION, 3 FEBRUARY 1822

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**SR. FÉLICITÉ MAKAKA**

**DELEGATION OF CAMEROON-CHAD**

For us, the members of the *Holy Family* of Bordeaux, February 3 1822 is an unforgettable date, which affects the whole life of our religious Family. Each year, February 3 reminds us of this past event which we live in the present as a

grace which is given to us continually and permanently for all eternity.

So how could we not **“Remember the recent past with gratitude as an experience of the mercy and love of God”** as the Pope asks us?

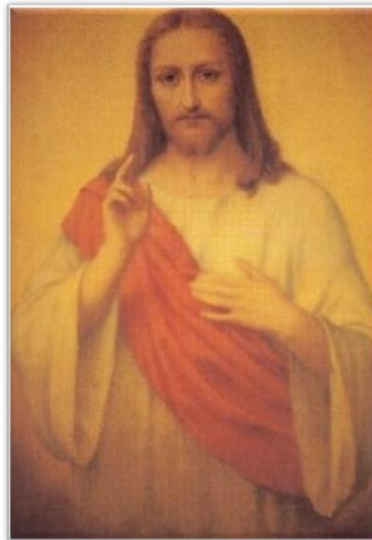
Remembering the past, reminds us first of all to thank the Lord for this wonderful event of February 3 1822 when Jesus appeared in the monstrance. It is an event, which shows God's love for the large Family of Pierre Bienvenu Noailles.

*In this Jubilee Year of Mercy, let us re-live this event by contemplating Jesus' attitudes and gestures on the day of the Apparition, February 3 1822.*

### **THE APPARITION OF JESUS: HIS PRESENCE**

As we well know, it was when our Founder and the first Sisters were in a very difficult situation and on the point of despair that Jesus appeared to them. Because of a lack of resources, they were unable to continue their mission. Worse still, their work was misunderstood by a lot of people.

At the last minute, Jesus reassured and encouraged them by his presence. In the midst of doubt, feelings of despair and uncertainty, Jesus himself showed himself, helped them and encouraged and reassured them. What a liberating grace that was! The God of February 3 was a God of compassion and love, a God who listened to the cries of God's children and who continues to do the same for us today. Let us trust in God always and ask for the grace of God's presence. Through this presence we received and continue to receive something divine – divine mercy. That grace calls us to be a miracle for others, that is to live this compassion by listening to those who suffer, sharing their suffering and pain. In short, let us always be bearers of hope, faith and love to our sisters and brothers by trying to reproduce divine mercy in our own lives.



### **JESUS GIVES HIS BLESSING:**

Blessing is a gesture of the love and benevolence of God for God's people. By blessing the Sisters on February 3 1822, God blessed us also. This blessing proves that our lives mean something to God. It gives us the power to pass on to others our attitudes in our relationship with God – attitudes of humility and simplicity which Jesus never ceases encouraging us to live. And when Jesus blesses us, he does not bless us just for ourselves; he wants us to be a blessing for others. We must leave our own

world to go out to others who are in need because we are bearers of God's blessing. We must leave our homes every day with a blessing for those around us and show them the compassionate love of Christ. That is what the Lord expects of us, and what the world needs. Let us always be people who bear and give joy, peace and encouragement through words permeated with

the Gospel.

### **JESUS SHOWED HIS HEART:**

Jesus revealed everything by putting his left hand on his heart. The heart is the seat and centre of all the merciful love and goodness of God. We should choose his heart. It is there we should go to rest, to find refuge and to draw energy. It is the source of endless and fathomless love. In this Year of Mercy, we are invited to be more aware of the love, which springs up from the open heart of Jesus on the cross in the form of blood and water. It is a merciful love, the source of goodness and pardon. He wants us to be a gift of love and tenderness for him. May he possess our

hearts completely so that we may be witnesses of his mercy.

**THE WORD:**

*... I am who am and it is only I who am.*  
Our Lord Jesus is a faithful friend. The glory and praise due to him should not be shared with anyone. His love urges

us. Let us allow his gaze and love to rest on us. Our heart should love him alone. It is an opportunity for us to be renewed interiorly and to give thanks for the gift of our life in Christ. Let us be permeated by his word, the food of our spiritual life and the pledge of our salvation.

## **Martillac - A dream which God made possible**

**PATRICIA INÉS RODRÍGUEZ, ARGENTINA**

Dear Family,  
With a joy-filled heart, I want to share with you my experience of the Formation Session in Martillac from 17 February to 13 March of this year. I arrived at our dear Spirituality Centre for the first time with an open heart ready to receive all that the Lord wanted to give me and wanting to benefit to the full from this experience, which has turned out to be unforgettable. Being soaked in the fountain of our *Holy Family* Spirituality and being renewed in our Charism of Communion has increased my thirst for God. I enjoyed very much the walks around the Island, and the visits to the Hermitage, Bordeaux and Lourdes. They led me to contemplation and prayer. I thank the community who welcomed us and made us feel at home as a family. Thank you Sisters for being close to us and for all you did to give us the best of everything by being attentive to every detail during the Session.

Getting to know and share so much with the Sisters of the English-speaking group as well as the Contemplative Sisters helped me to grow as a member of our inter-vocational, intercultural and international Family. A smile, a look, a gesture brought me close to others as I learned how to communicate in a language deeper than words. (I do not



know any French though I speak a little English).

I thank God also for the opportunity of knowing and sharing with the Sisters of the Spanish-speaking group, Amalia and María del Carmen, who, with their accompanier Adela, formed a sisterly community with us.

The theme of the Session was **“Present to His presence as in Nazareth”** in which the topics we reflected and prayed about were linked together by the idea of unity with the whole of creation. So the meeting led us gradually to live integrity with God/communion more deeply. This led me to connect more deeply with our Charism, to rejoice in it, to interiorise it, and to deepen it. I also became more conscious of the interdependence of all that is and to feel part of the sacred community of life and of the commitment to care for life and re-create it.

It was a time of going more deeply within myself and getting to know myself better with my dreams, passions, struggles, difficulties, strengths, a deep desire for communion with all and appreciating diversity. The Lord invited me to grow in inner freedom with a more mature faith in order to transcend the ideal and live authentically accepting my weaknesses and being myself without any pretence.

May Jesus, Mary and Joseph help me to be present to his presence in my daily Nazareth, to share the Charism of communion with all its richness and to transmit the joy and happiness of knowing that I am loved by God and to help others to discover God's plan for each one of God's sons and daughters.

## Living an Intergenerational Culture together

SR. GISÈLE KWEY, COMMUNITY OF THE SOLITUDE



Intergenerationality is at the heart of the life and Mission of the Family. Our common belonging to the spiritual Family of Pierre Bienvenu Noailles places us at the *crossroads of generations* and we must thank God for all that each generation has brought and still brings so that our Charism can continue to bear the fruit of communion.

All the Vicariate communities are intergenerational. But it is beautiful to realise that a common desire gathers us together to walk the path of the contemplative life laid out by our Good Father, Pierre Bienvenu Noailles. As Timothy Radcliffe has written, we are called together to be *“powerful signs of life through the meaningfulness of what we are and do. It matters little if we are few in number, frail or ageing”*.

Intercongregationality invites us to believe and to allow a new soul, body, heart and spirit to be fashioned within us so that all our creative capacities for life can develop and be welcomed. Relationships between young and old people are or should increasingly become a **Visitation** like that of Mary and Elizabeth. The young Mary found in her cousin who was already quite old, a woman of faith with a long experience of life. When she was with her, she understood what the angel had said to her. And what did Elizabeth say? *“Blessed is she who believed”* In Mary, she recognised the fruit of her faith in God and the life that she carried in her womb. Life sprang from heart to heart in the two generations and they thrilled in unison.

Let us look at Simeon and Anna and contemplate the extraordinary faith of these two old people. They had waited all their lives for the day of the Lord! What a lesson in perseverance and trust!

Didn't the angel also tell Zachary that his prayer had been heard? Have we the courage to persevere in prayer like that?

**Faith is the source of life!** This is the cry of all Scripture. Armand Abécassis

writes, *“The dynamism of the fruitfulness and creativity that springs up suddenly in the heart of an old, sterile, static or suffering community draws strength from its hope and faith in the One called YAHWEH”.*

Day by day, we learn how to discover and respect the mystery of each one.

Of course we have our prejudices and mountains of ideas. But we have to dare *“to face the mountains of our fears and blocks”*, to unite our abilities, our desires and our hopes. We have the witness of our elderly Sisters who say by their lives, *“for your good and happiness ‘Go forward’”*. Their faithful love for the Lord and the Church, for the

Good Father and the Family not only encourages us but builds a **bridge** in the heart of each one which we can cross together to meet our world and proclaim that communion is possible in Jesus Christ.

*“Old people carry the memory and wisdom of experience and ask us not to repeat stupidly the mistakes of the past. Young people call us to wake up and increase hope because they carry the new human trends within themselves and open us up to the future so that we do not remain tied nostalgically to structures and customs of the past which are no longer life-giving in the present world.”*  
(Pope Francis)

## Marthas & Marys!

REGINA RAMALINGAM  
CONTINENTAL LEADER-ASIA

### “Extracts from an article by R. Ramalingam... “

The World Economic Forum predicted in 2014 that it would take **until 2095 to achieve global gender parity**. Then one year later in 2015, they estimated that a slowdown in the already glacial pace of progress meant the **gender gap wouldn't close entirely until 2133**.



Knowing the numerous injustices and sufferings inflicted upon women by outside factors and actors that needs to be addressed for gender parity, I also believe that it is the woman, who is the enemy of herself most of the time, who never knows the ‘freedom’ with which she was created. Freedom needs to be enjoyed from within and nothing else could bring it or give it.

The story of Martha and Mary of Bethany, is an eye opener to vividly understand the characteristics of many a woman and two women in particular in this narration. Consider the scene: Jesus visiting their house; Martha is stressed and working hard to prepare the right meal for the guest; Mary, sitting at the feet of Jesus, carefree but focused.

Here, Martha is definitely doing the right thing of showing her hospitality to the guests. She was preparing ‘for’ Jesus,

while Mary is 'with' Jesus, building a relationship beyond Martha's understanding.

In the culture of the Jewish society at that time and even now in most of our communities, there are specified gender roles and especially, women had spatial, social and other boundaries.

Yet Mary made her own choice amidst the restrictions, that quenched her thirst for new knowledge and to embrace the truth. Most of the times I feel, the boundaries the women have forced on themselves, are worse than the patriarchal enforcements. For example, if we take the Lay Associates, which has a major component of women, a member would always worry about the routine activities, the household chores and may find enough excuses not to attend a meeting or any other celebration. However much you try to convince, the mental barrier she has forced on herself, restricts her from making a turn, to decide on, what is essential and enjoyable for her, as a 'soul that is free' and a 'creation with a purpose'.

Article 54 "Way of Life" emphasizes our call, 'to restore the world to its created purpose, establishing God's kingdom of justice and peace on earth.' Justice and peace will not be offered to anyone in a gold platter but need to be fought for, and the women need to fight with themselves to break themselves from the clutter of their own folly, to make the ordinary become extra ordinary in their lives.

The scenario in Martha's life also changed when Lazarus, their brother died.; Jesus had to confirm from Martha two times whether she believes in him before he brings Lazarus back to life but he has been touched by Mary's weeping. Coming to the point of the barriers the women are forcing on themselves, I also would like to take the war victims, especially the women with whom I have

journeyed at different times, as another example. They are mostly at the verge of giving up their identity. They feel they are a 'nobody'- no feelings for themselves;



physically visible but mentally elsewhere; have to drag on for the sake of their children etc. A good percentage of the women, both young and old have lost their own identity which they even do not understand Empowerment of women, is the hue and cry of the UN, the Governments and even the Non-Governmental Organizations for decades and decades but I am frustrated that everyone mostly is looking at the periphery, yet there is much more that needs to be done in the 'making of a woman- in creating the space for her to understand and enjoy her own identity.' Even in the Church and its Institutions, where the boundaries are clearly defined and functional, women seem to be the multitude of obedient devotees and play tertiary and may be secondary roles in the 'building of the kingdom of God'. 'Emancipation of women, as stated in Emma Goldman's Anarchism and Other Essays, should make it possible for woman to be human in the truest sense. Everything within her that craves assertion and activity should reach its fullest expression; all artificial barriers should be broken, and the road towards greater freedom cleared of

every trace of centuries of submission and slavery.'

Having celebrated the 'Resurrection' of Jesus, I am fascinated by the commercialization of it with the Easter *(You will find the whole Article on our website.)*

Visit: <http://saintefamillebordeaux.org/news/marthas-marys>

Eggs and Bunnies. The egg, a symbol of life consists of the yolk and the albumen. I am imagining Martha as the albumin and Mary as the yolk. Two different characteristics closely knit, yet distinct in their roles and choices.

## Mercy and compassion in the context of Pakistan



Living in a predominantly Muslim country, I often wonder what does it mean to experience mercy and compassion. With the growing incidents of violence, religious extremism and organized crime the whole society is reeling under the weight of revenge, and unforgiveness.

The tragic event on Easter Sunday that took the lives of the innocent children and women shows how deeply religious extremism has penetrated the country's social fabric. Jesus always challenged the religious leaders who overburdened the hapless people. Today we experience in this soil the same extremism, which condemns people to death. The blasphemy law has been misused with impunity, especially against the minority groups to garner support by exploiting the religious sentiments of the masses. The Governor of Punjab who showed mercy to a Christian woman accused of blasphemy was shot dead in the broad day light.

### SR. JENET, PAKISTAN

Later the murderer was glorified as a martyr. In a society as ours, how could we, Christians share the mercy and compassion of God.

After revealing his name to Moses, as a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness had never ceased to show in various ways throughout history his divine nature. We the followers of Jesus

are called to communicate this same Jesus to a society, which is deprived of compassion and mercy.

Jesus showed great mercy to the woman caught in adultery. He challenged the Pharisees and the leaders who brought the poor woman to be stoned and killed. The compassionate attitude of Jesus saved the poor helpless woman. Mercy and compassion is the nature of our God. "I desire mercy not sacrifice." Today we are left without mercy and compassion, which makes the fate of the women in this country pitiable. In the name of honour, thousands of women are killed every year.

Honour killing and raising rate of acid attacks on women and domestic violence make Pakistan the world's third most dangerous country for women.

In keeping with the words of Pope Francis who says, the Church's credibility is seen in how she shows

mercy and compassion to the needy. Working with the marginalized women who are deprived of formal education and health care help us to uplift the downtrodden women to their dignity. Today we can hope for a better future for women as many liberal minded people have gained courage to rise against extremism. Protection of women against violence has become a law, which will help the poor women to seek justice. This can be seen as a positive move towards the wellbeing of women in this society.

Though our contribution may be a widow's mite, still we can hope that we can work with people of good will to bring a positive change in our society. As Pope Francis says, "we Christians are not chosen by the Lord towards the highest principles. Stake on noble principles. Reflecting on the words of the Pope we all should wake up and play our role even though it may cost us to lose our lives. Such was the love of Jesus who embraced death on a cross to pay for our sins.

We need courage to suffer for a just cause. The minority Minister Shabaz Btti was murdered because he spoke against



the unjust blasphemy law, which was inhuman. Referring to the words of Pope Francis who says, "that the love and forgiveness of God cannot be overcome by anything. When referring to God the word mercy cannot be overcome by anything. The word mercy evokes an attitude of tenderness much like the mother shows towards her children.

Today the Church feels the urgent need to proclaim God's mercy. Without witness to mercy, life becomes fruitless and sterile. The merciful God is with the oppressed therefore we can journey with this Great God to bring relief to the oppressed and marginalized of this society whom are in need of god's compassion and love.

## God never abandons the poor - His mercy and compassion overflows...

**SR. BERNIE DE SILVA**  
**PHILIPPINES**



Facing a natural disaster, the 'Typhoon Nona' was a unique experience for us. Within two hours the sudden change of the environment, in an instant how we can lose all security – no house to live in, no property to call my own, no security in wealth, power, and prestige - was a shock and a revelation. Nature treats both rich and the poor alike but the poor are made destitute and most vulnerable.



At a moment like this, the generosity of people of good will is in abundance. The Government Officials, Social Workers, N.G.O's, Media Groups rushed in for assistance. The needy were so vast in numbers; all could afford only temporary assistance – food supply, plastic covering for shelter for roofs and walls etc. After few weeks, most of them are forgotten. How can we as Holy Family's forget and abandon the poor the poor; who struggle to survive, who lack basic necessities and dignity of life.

The two Holy Family Communities Bulan and Rizal, who live in the affected area could not live in peace seen the struggle of our people. Thanks for our PBN Foundation who responded to our call promptly to help thirty-seven most affected families who were in dire need to renovate a small section of the house to live in.

This experience was a blessing in disguise for us to be more close to the poorest of the poor in our milieu. People were very grateful for our presence and concern for them. They were happy to receive the help given to re-build at least part of their houses. We were amazed at their creativity: how they used the material given and remnants of broken pieces of the damaged houses. It was lovely to see how they helped each other supplying their labour even foregoing their daily livelihood. Although all are poor, struggling to survive on daily basis, family spirit and charity prevails among people of Good - will.



Our message for us today as *Pope Francis* says, is quoted from 'Wake up the World' # 8.3. "We are called to be instruments of God for the liberation and promotion of the poor and enabling them to be fully a part of society. This awakening leads us to Solidarity with the Poor."

## EASTER JOY

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**SR. SHANTHI SIMON**  
**VAVUNIYA, SRI LANKA**

"Easter is the exodus – the passage of human beings of slavery to sin, evil to the freedom of love and goodness"

***Pope Francis.***

I would like to share one of my experiences as my Easter Joy.

On the 3<sup>rd</sup> March there was a call for me, and to my joy, the person at the other end rejoiced with me sharing the

good news about Manju's long awaited freedom.

Manju (that is her nickname) was a political prisoner and a single mother of 37 years of age, of which she spent 7 and half years inside the "CELL". When she was taken to the cell she was pregnant and the fetus was destroyed by the cruel treatment of those

concerned. During these past three years, I have been meeting her every Sunday at the Eucharistic celebration and sometimes on Saturday evenings at the prison.



Manju was loved and respected by everyone; inmates and the authorities concerned, because of her humility, sincerity and her self-gift to the end. Her intimate union with God has transformed her whole life. She lived true to the words “Easter is the exodus – the passage of human beings of slavery to sin, evil to the freedom of love and goodness”.

The life she lived in the cell has now transformed her into an entirely new person. She has realized her own self-worth and strength, and the gradual process of reconciliation with God, has made her open herself up to a future of hope. This indeed posed a daily challenge for her, but she believed in renewal, revival and hope for all creation. The paschal journey she embarked on back to (outer) liberation, lead her to a radical transformation day by day, and thus the person of Jesus became very dear to her heart. Her gospel, gradually became one with the Gospel of Jesus, and her exodus in imprisonment developed into a continuous resurrection.

She was a friend to all her inmates whether they were mentally depressed,

psychologically ill, stressed or wounded. Living the Word of God, fasting and praying and Sunday Eucharistic celebration and our presence are the sources for her life. She experienced resurrection daily at every moment....till the last moment,, when that is on the 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2016, when she was taken up by surprise to hear by the judge that she has been released. What ...joy....deep sense of gratitude to God of LIFE!

It is also essential to mention that just one month before, she was under threat of life imprisonment. This highlights the tragedies she underwent.

I have listened and witnessed that Manju’s life was centered on God. Her deep trust in the midst of uncertainty is commendable. Though she herself had gone through untold hardships, she still voices out for the oppressed, neglected, and the rights of the inmates. She used to say, “What is there for me to lose... I have lost everything but I have gained friendship with God, which is LIFE for me. Great...She has overcome the barriers of race, language, gender, culture and religion. This is a challenge for us.. Unbelievable but true. Having walked a long way to freedom has transformed her whole life. She is now part of our community, and whenever she visits us she can share her life, quiet atmosphere of our home especially the chapel, her resting place to sit in silence for a while in the healing presence of the Eucharist and to enjoy a cup of tea in the company of the sisters renewing her hope for “LIFE”.

The presence of the Holy Family for people like Manju is a sign of hope....in moments of utter helplessness and hopelessness our presence and support brought back life for her and for many others like this. When she had no sign of hope and over hearing that she could be

sentenced to life imprisonment, her tears were changed into smiles with the presence of the Holy Family. I'm reminded of the words of Pope Francis "Our God is not a God of "spray," we can touch our God. "God is love, God will



judge only on love especially on our love for the vulnerable, the weak and the suffering sisters and brothers". The genuine relationship and communication we establish, transforms them.....heals them.....it is a rebirth to them. Ultimately, LOVE WINS!

My experience with these.....is so sacred and it is still being pondered. Our thirst for God alone deeply connects us to the "desire for all life to thrive" (V.L.M)  
Jesus is Risen...let us rejoice... Alleluiah

## Be merciful in thoughts, words and actions.

### **SR. RITA GUNAWARDENA, COLOMBO PROVINCE**

Pope Francis wants us to keep the perspective of mercy at the centre of our lives, and he discerns that would solve problems and resolve conflicts. To school us in this he has dedicated this year as Year of Mercy. Mercy heals wounds. It solves problems, if not it helps us to cope with them. Mercy enters the recesses of the heart and sees what is human and what is the divinity directs us to do.

Being merciful to the person who hurts us transforms us. Not only that person but we will also begin to see a significant change in us and it is a total transformation.

Understanding God as the Merciful one is not meant only to praise him and leave it there but this Mercy of God should drive our nature to be and become more and more merciful. It is truly a challenge.



The Jubilee of Mercy demands from each one of us a return to the basics simply to be merciful to others. There is no need of any serious Theology or Philosophy to make us kind and compassionate.

The present day reality more perhaps than that of the people in the past, seems opposed to God's mercy, and in fact tends to exclude from life and remove from the human heart the very idea of mercy. The word and the concept of 'Mercy' seem to cause uneasiness in human beings who, thanks to the enormous development of science and

technology, never before known in history, has become the master of the earth, has subdued, and dominated it. This dominion over the earth, sometimes understood in a one sided and superficial way seem to have no room for mercy.

In our world, the feeling of being under threat is increasing. This threat does not merely concern what human beings can do to others human beings, it also concerns the other dangers produce by a materialistic society, which in spite of humanistic declarations accept primacy of things over persons. Contemporary man /woman fears that by the use of the means invented by this type of society; individuals, environment communities, society and nations can fall victim to the abuse of power by other individuals environment and societies.

We need to bring to our society 'the joy of the gospel' to revive 'our drooping spirit' and to lead us to greener pastures, (Ps 23). The year of mercy bring us the challenge to imitate Christ the good shepherd who is mercy and compassion!

It is time we re-evaluate our value system, our attitudes to life, re-organize our way of life. Competitive way of living

should be replaced with compassionate way of life. Individualism should disappear and give way to community living.

Let us make mercy our identity. Trust in God's mercy is part of our traditional Holy Family culture. Let us make the practice of mercy our gift to all those with whom we live and come in touch with in our daily lives. We need to resolve to make an act of mercy every day, such as giving food to the hungry, visiting prisoners or patients in hospitals, drug rehabilitation centers, homes for elders and orphanages.

It is time to re-learn and live spiritual and corporal acts of mercy. Further, it is time to meet Christ, mercy himself in the sacrament of reconciliation. There in the person of the priest Christ awaits us with open arms to show us His mercy, compassion and love.

Here in this respect we have a grave responsibility to encourage our faithful and specially the youth to receive the sacrament of reconciliation, which they often seem to neglect.

"Merciful father make us merciful to each other and to the environment in which we live"

