

# Asian Young Holy Family Seekers



*Gathering*

*Sri Lanka*

*A day of Blessing!*  
*A day of rejoicing!*  
*A day - Memorable!*

*A day of abundant Graces!*  
*A day of Gathering Together!*  
*A day to Remember!*

Welcome

Nalvaravu

Aubowan

Kushamdeed

Mabuhay

**08.05.2015**

**MAY 8<sup>TH</sup> 2015!**

The long awaited day for the **YOUNG HOLY FAMILY ENERGIES OF ASIA** to gather in the Land of the Pearl of the Indian Ocean - SRI LANKA.

**It is PENTECOST!  
The new Pentecost!  
The new way of being Church!  
The daring way to be Holy Family!**



The day commenced with Cultural Welcoming special and typical to Sri Lanka – with Lotus flowers, Beetle leaves, Sandalwood paste, Grains of Rice, Banana, Panneer -Water, and lighting of the lamps.

The commencement procession was led by the Kandyan Dancers of Holy Family Convent- Wennapuwa, and welcome dance by students of Holy Family Convent Jaffna. and the combined Cosmic Energy dance by both Colombo and Jaffna in the atmosphere of Being One Family.

The lighting of the Traditional Lamp was solely a gracious moment under the invisible presence of our beloved Founder, where all Five Vocations of the PBN family together with the representatives of the Young Holy Family Energies of Asia took part.



# The prayer with Cosmic and Ancient Touch



Echoed the solemnity of the Event

*The Gathering of the*



**Asian Young Holy Family Seekers.**



The chanting of mantras placed us in an atmosphere of peace and serenity, to invoke the blessings of the “ANCIENT ONE” - our God.

The presence of Sr. Kumudinie and Sr. Geni,  
the Members of the GLT  
added joy, strength, and courage to the Seekers  
to move forward with hope and enthusiasm.

## The key note of assurance to the Seekers.

The key note of the two Unit Leaders in Sri Lanka:

Sr.Euphracia Rodrigo

Sr.Christa Mariathas

enabled the Seekers to enter into the journey that they have already started to venture into becoming “Daring Now!”

Let us listen to them.....



### ASIAN YOUNG HOLY FAMILY SISTERS' GATHERING



### Opening Address

Good morning everyone and welcome to the meeting of Asian young Holy Family seekers which is a very significant event in the PBN Family.

We are happy and grateful to you Geni and Kumudini for your gracious presence representing the general Leadership team, to all formators and to you all young sisters. The whole atmosphere is filled with freshness energy and joy. At the very outset I would like to convey a special word of appreciation to Shanthy and Jesmin and the steering committee for their untiring efforts in the preparation, coordination and implementation and effective planning to make this meeting a reality.

The theme chosen **“Asian Young Holy Family Seekers, Dare to move”** is very appropriate, timely and challenging in the context of our time and history.

This year is very special for us as our Holy Father Pope Francis has dedicated this year as the year of Consecrated Life. He urges us to live the Baptismal promise more intensely, deepen our commitment to the Lord and serve even more joyfully with open heart and willing Spirit so as to brighten our lives.

As we look back and reflect on the evolving story of our Holy Family life, we recognize the Spirit of God ever active among us. By our active listening, discerning and responding our willingness to change, we continually move closer to our Founder’s dream. Our Founder was sent on a journey of faith with a new vision. He was always innovative and daring to respond to new calls. Today, we are in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, and we are aware of the evolving world views. World views and researches in many fields expand our horizons and it helps us to discern and respond to signs of the times. It urges us to new responses in action to the mission of Christ in the World.

Let us trust in God and take bold steps. Eph 3:20 “Glory and praise to God whose power working in us can do infinitely more than we can even ask or imagine.” Let us trust in the Power of God among us. The Spirit empowers us to recognize and proclaim the primacy of God and manifest God’s love for all beings by going beyond the boundaries that divide peoples, races and religions by working against every form of injustices caused by exploitation and unfair distribution of the resources of the earth. Such a vision will give new impetus to our Holy Family consecrated life for Mission. (Vowed life for Mission 2.6)

The General Chapter 2014 urges us to return to our roots, to give new vitality to Spirit of God Alone as it was lived by Jesus Mary and Joseph. That is where we will find energy and the impetus for our mission. By his spiritual experience the Founder made an absolute option for God. Convinced that only God could satisfy the longing of his heart our Founder says “All the associates of the Holy Family should be distinguished by the Spirit of zeal and detachment verging of heroism- the Spirit of God Alone. Today the founder would encourage us to live the Spirit of God Alone in our present context which gives us a broader vision of the world. We are to listen attentively to what the Holy Spirit is saying today, to read the signs of the times, a call to follow Jesus radically, our fidelity to our mission- a passion for all to be one, communion, ONENESS.

To offer one’s life in mission is possible only if we are able to leave ourselves behind. At the root of every Christian vocation we find this basic movement, leaving behind our comfort and the inflexibility of our ego in order to centre our life in Jesus Christ. It means leaving, like Abraham, our native place and going forward with trust, knowing that God will show us the way to a new land. Those who set out to follow Christ find life in abundance by putting themselves completely at the service of God and his kingdom.

It is an on-going exodus out of the closed onward looking self towards its liberation through self-giving and thus towards authentic self-discovery of God. Responding to God's call, then, means allowing him to help us leave ourselves and our false security behind, and to strike out on the path which leads to Jesus Christ, the origin and destiny of our life and our happiness.

Pope addressing the Young people said "you are the present, since you are already taking an active part in the lives of the Institute offering all the freshness and generosity of your 'yes'. You are to follow Jesus in prophetic way. Prophets tend to be on the side of the poor and powerless. Go out into the whole world (Mt 16/15) the whole world awaits you.

I wish to conclude reminding ourselves as our cooperate commitment 2014,

"Open to the great story of the universe where God revealed God's self and filled with passion for the mission of Jesus in our world of increasingly rapid change, we welcome and offer the gift of Communion with the urgency that this time requires"

*Let us respond to the questions (post capitular letter) What does the mission needs today, from the Asian young Holy Family women? Who will be able to respond to the challenges of the mission in the present and the future? Let us look into the depths of our heart, look into our own inner depths and ask ourselves, do I have a heart that desire something great? Do I believe God is waiting for me?*

Discipleship, takes one along the same road as Jesus, the road to Jerusalem, of self-emptying, of self-giving love. At times the journey is easy, pleasant, filled with joy and laughter but there is also pain and sorrow. It is a call to join with Christ in his labours, his mission where one learns to see and respond to reality to co-operate with God's creative action and to give flesh to the word. May the 'Asian young Holy Family seekers, Dare to move' be graced with new energy to make a new paradigm in this time of great change!

**The movers of the Event :**

**Sr. Jesmin Fernando**

**Sr. Shanthy Simon**

**To connect us all to the  
Holy Family World**

Sr.Jenet Perera  
(General Secretary)

Sr.Ida & A. Jenitha  
(Information)

Sr.Delosiya &Sr.Anitta  
(Photographers)

The Family of PBN gathered in numbers from the nearby communities to grace the occasion. We are indeed “FAMILY”!

## Getting to know



The Asian Young Holy Family Seekers are challenging our capacity to know them,  
As they introduce themselves to one another.

OBSERVE, LISTEN, FOLLOW THEM,  
CREATIVE INDEED!  
LEARNING IS A LIFE LONG PROCESS!

## Time for story telling One another

“Every single person on the planet has a **STORY**.  
Don’t judge people before you truly know them.  
The truth might surprise you.” (Symbol)



The Asian Young Holy Family Seekers engaged themselves in sharing their own personal stories in small groups. We respected their privacy in sharing their sacred stories to one another.

One thing we are sure of that.....

*“Those who walk with God  
Always reach their destination.”*

The young Holy Family seekers are on the move,  
daring, and persevering in their search to reach their Goal.

The Challenging question that they themselves are asking is.....

**“Is my Vision Clear?  
Or wandering  
Where I should go?”**

Let’s manifest our solidarity with them in their SEARCH to become DARING.

**It’s only Day One!**

**Wennappuwa  
Sri Lanka  
May 8, 2015**