



## Missionary Franciscan Sisters of the Immaculate Conception

17<sup>th</sup> December 2018

Dear Sisters,

Greetings for Rome during this third week of Advent. There are several news items that we wish to share with you before Christmas. But before that let us reflect on material from our Franciscan Morning Prayer on Gaudete Sunday. We have the following Scripture reading from Philippians 2:2-5. May these words be in our hearts and minds, especially as we approach the birth of Jesus.

*Be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus.*

### **Visitation in England**

Sisters Helen Neini, Mary Paropet and Bakhita Francis from our mission in Yambio, South Sudan, joined the Sisters in Braintree for Visitation from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> December. The three Sisters will celebrate Christmas in Braintree and have time for Retreats and some holiday time before returning to Yambio. We have asked them to come out of South Sudan for time in Braintree or Lurgan each year. They have lived under very stressful circumstances with the war in South Sudan.

### **Sr Mary Paropet has completed her service in Yambio**

Mary Paropet will not return to Yambio. She has been in Yambio for 5 years and for some of this time has been a member of Solidarity Teacher's College teaching English to student teachers. Her ministry with them has been very much appreciated. She is returning to PNG in January. She is hoping to have some renewal time but needs to return first to PNG to get the necessary visas and will hopefully go to the USA for her Renewal Program in January 2020. We thank Mary for her time in Yambio.

### **Welcome back to Sr Clorinda Chinquel-Choquehuanca from Exclaustration**

Clorinda will officially re-join the community on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2019. She will minister in Sondor with Ann Walsh. Thank you for your prayer support during her year of discernment.

### **Novice - Karinda Yamunaque has left the Community**

Karina had spent more than 3 years with our Sisters in Bolivia and Peru. We wish her every blessing in her future calling.

### **Sr Carmel Brennan, Braintree**

Sr Carmel received a good report from her specialist and will not need to return for a visit for 3 months. Carmel spent many years in Clacton-on-Sea, however because of her illness she had to return to Braintree. The Clacton House has now been sold. This is the end of over a century in Clacton, where Elizabeth Lockhart's Community opened this mission. Carmel thanks you for the prayers for her recovery and asks you to continue to pray.

### **Assisi Program: 30 December 2018 - 2 February 2019**

On December 28-30, 2018, the following sisters will arrive in Rome to begin a Franciscan experience in Rome and Assisi. 8 from Papua New Guinea and 2 from Latin America

Sr. Dulcie Supuno  
Sr Joyce Menchalo,  
Sr Lorna Pokom,  
Sr Sharon Waili,  
Sr Bridget Yipmamunji,  
Sr Marceline Pokah,  
Sr Maribel Rocio Mamani Cutipa,  
Sr Mildred Savien,  
Sr. Gustina Renteria Chinguel,  
Sr Pauline Jamison

During the first week in Rome, the sisters will deepen their understanding of Cosmic Spirituality, the life and spirit of Elizabeth Hayes and Living a life of Franciscan Non-Violence. The group will then travel to Assisi for three weeks where they will participate in sessions offered by Jean Francois Godet and Sr. Joanne Schatzlein, OSF. Margaret Carney was scheduled to join us, but health restrictions has made travel to Italy impossible for Margaret. During the final week in Assisi the sisters will be led on pilgrimage by Sr. Nancy Celaski, OSF. Throughout the program there will be time for prayer and sharing as well as integration sessions. Upon their return to Rome the sisters will have more time to digest their experience and visit the sights in Rome, including a visit to Villa Spada and our Mortuary Chapel of St Michael, keeping in mind that Elizabeth Hayes died in Villa Spada and was buried in the Mortuary Chapel in 1894. We will be celebrating the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of her death on 6<sup>th</sup> May 2019.

Tatiana Paradiso, our Communications Specialist, will join us from time to time in Assisi and we will send you weekly updates during the month of January. Please keep our sisters and the presenters in your thoughts and prayers throughout the month.


### **Generalate Website and Facebook page**

On almost a daily basis Tatiana adds something to our website and/or Facebook page. So please send items of news as well as photos. This is an excellent way to communicate with all in the Institute and other people who view our webpage. This is a reminder for you to look at these two forms of regular communication.

Tatiana's email address is [communications@mfigen.it](mailto:communications@mfigen.it)

**Website:** mfcgen.org

There is an  symbol on the top line for Facebook. Click on this symbol to open the Facebook.

RESERVED AREA – User Name: mfc; Password: Hayes1873. Then click on MFIC ONLY next to the  symbol to enter the reserved section. There you will find the following:

- General Documents: *Future Direction; Amended Constitution (2011) and Rule and Life*
- We Remember: *Photo and Life of the Sisters who have died – necrology*
- From the General Minister: *I will have this letter added*
- Newsletters: *These are in PDF form and can be downloaded*

Blessings during this week of preparation for Christmas

*Pauline Robinson*

Sr Pauline Robinson mfc  
General Minister



**Christmas views from the Basilica of St Francis and the Basilica of St Peter**