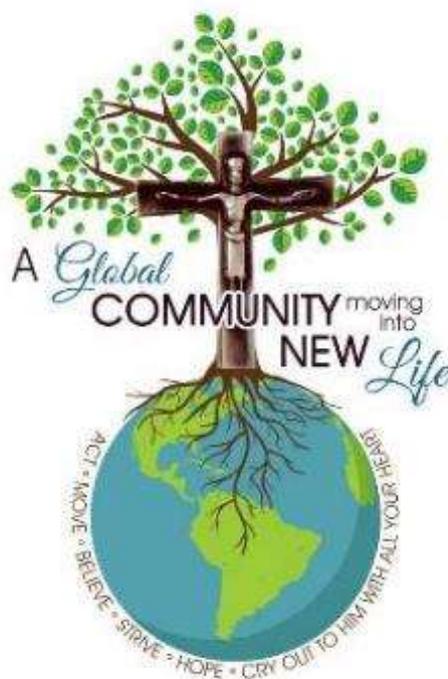


# Inter – Ursuline



January-April 2022

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## Generalate



Article written by Sr Claudine-Marie Ndione, osu  
General Councillor

**F**rom 3 to 7 May 2021, the members of the General Council of the Ursulines of the Roman Union participated in an online seminar on the theme "Living the Green Mission". This seminar, organized by SEDOS was attended by more than 160 participants with a variety of speakers active in the care and protection of our Planet Earth. The opening prayer of the first day reminded us that this task of caring for and protecting our Planet is the responsibility of every person. *Everyone's talents and involvement are needed to redress the damage caused by human abuse of God's creation. All of us can cooperate as instruments of God for the care of creation, each according to his or her own culture, experience, involvements and talents.* (LS 14).

**T**he opening conference by Fr Jostrom Kurethadam, SDB (Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development in the Vatican), focused on the Ten Green Commandments of *Laudato Si'* and we understood the urgent call to listen to the cry of the earth, listen to the cry of the poor and rediscover the Gospel of creation. Nature is like a book telling the love story between God and humanity. To commit to safeguarding is already a way *to participate responsibly in God's creative action* (LS 131); this is, moreover, the fundamental vocation of each person.

**T**he first day of this seminar ended with a conference by Mrs. Jane Mellett on *the call to ecological conversion*, made to every person. That is why she invited the participants to understand the whole of creation as one family. Jane identified three aspects of this call:

- ❖ The call to personal conversion
- ❖ The call to communal conversion
- ❖ The call to ongoing conversion

**T**he second day of this seminar was structured around three presentations.

The first, by Father Petero Matairatu, SM, presented *the practices and principles of the Tutu Rural Training Project* in Fiji. This project, set up in 1969, aims to improve the quality of life of farming couples, young farmers, single women training them to be more autonomous. Their commitment to putting into action the teaching received through this training constitutes a real change for the environment.

The second conference given by Sr Helen Grealy, RC, focussed on the Irish movement *Loving Sister Earth* and showed how the green mission is lived within this movement. *Loving Sister Earth has as its inspiration a desire for universal harmony, a perceived and experienced unity with our God, each other and all of nature.* Their goal is therefore to encourage a movement of inculturated prayer and care for our common home. The ancestors in Ireland had a contemplative sense of God's presence in all his creation; the beautiful prayers of the Irish tradition that Sr. Helen enabled us to taste throughout her presentation testify to this sense!

**D**uring the last conference, Fr Brian Grogan, SJ, also a member of the movement *Loving Sister Earth*, developed the theme of *Ecological mourning*. His talk was a strong invitation to explore together the dimensions of ecological mourning in order to integrate it into the living Green Mission. Echoing the ancestral tradition that conceives of nature as a divine caress, Fr Grogan invited us to learn from our past in order to avoid repeating the same mistakes. God weeps and groans because of human infidelity.

Identifying with his Son Jesus who weeps at different times of his earthly life is a beginning of redemption. Tears probe our souls, shatter pride and self-sufficiency. They bring intimacy and proximity. *We see some things rightly only with eyes that have wept.*

**O**n the third day of the session, there were three speakers.

Professor Yvan Brakel shared with us all the attempts that the Faculty of Engineering of the Catholic University of Louvain is making in order to take the lead in terms of carbon responsibility and sustainability. Choosing, for example, to recycle old objects instead of buying new ones is already part of this effort to protect our environment.

**F**r Richie Gomez, MSC, starting from the method of "*see, judge and act*", opened a window on the Butuan Ecological Education Centre in the Philippines where he works with indigenous peoples using modern agriculture to promote the integrity of the planet. One of their goals is to bring people back to the spirituality of nature through a simple lifestyle:

- ❖ Natural and sustainable agriculture
- ❖ Zero waste, zero packaging and zero profit!
- ❖ Concern for the environment
- ❖ Greater solidarity between people

The pandemic situation has worsened the living conditions of many people in rural areas who find themselves unemployed. The Centre is committed not only to working for the poor but with them.

**T**he third day began with the conference of Mrs Ezra Schraven on the theme "Climate Change and Sustainability. What can be done? Lessons from the corporate world." The common thread of her presentation was the conviction that *Planet earth is not here for us to consume. Nature is not a consumption product, we are an integral part of it, we can live on this planet by the grace of a delicate balance.* This should be the concern of all parties: industry, NGOs, religious leaders as well as all people of good will.

**S**r Sheila Kinsey, FCJM, opened the fourth day of this seminar with a time of contemplation of images of nature supported by some quotations from *Laudato Si'*. A communal ecological conversion is needed to create a dynamism of sustainable change. This conversion presupposes various attitudes that combine to promote protection which is generous and full of tenderness.

**A**fter his conference on ecological mourning, Fr Grogan returned to present the Christian answer to the question *What hope can we have for the future of our Small Blue Planet?* He made a bitter observation: our planet is sick, lying like *the half-dead traveller* by the wayside. It is urgent that each person become a good Samaritan driven by compassion at the side of this traveller. Fr Grogan then presented the reasons for Christian hope. The first reason for hope lies in the Spirit-guided change of heart that manifests itself in the current "ecological conversion" of so many people; it is good to note that all over the world, people from all nations are becoming aware that the Earth, so beautiful and fragile, is in crisis. God directs human history! Our task is to become a community of discernment, guided by the Spirit, ready to "leave" when God commands it. We must remain close to God and desperately trust in God. God is present in creation. The Christian hope lies in the fact that this divine presence is not subject to corruption. God makes fruitful what is sterile; promises are the language of love!

**T**he last conference on this fourth day of the seminar was given by Fr Amado Picardal, CSsR, on "Deep Relationality – Living in Communion". Starting from his own experience in ecological spirituality, in the perspective of *Laudato Si'*, Fr Picardal highlighted the close link between all the elements of creation. To sum up, he noted that everything is interconnected and we navigate to the heart of a triple communion that is rooted in the Trinity: communion with God, which can be mediated through communion with others and with nature (LS 66). The seminar concluded with Sr. Sheila's special talk on *Sowing Seeds for the Future* and the closing address delivered by Fr Augusto Zampini Davies.

**S**r Sheila, a member of the JPIC commission of the USG/UISG, spoke of the mission of JPIC which, in response to the call of Pope Francis, seeks not only to listen to the poor and the vulnerable, but to engage actively and concretely alongside them, while helping to coordinate and make their voices heard. Before concluding, Sr Sheila reminded us of the urgency of joining forces in a coordinated manner to meet the challenge of personal and community conversion.

**F**r Augusto Zampini Davies, an Argentinian diocesan priest, from the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development, highlighted, in his closing speech, an action plan to realize social, cultural, ecological and ecclesial dreams by implementing the *Listen, Connect and Inspire* methodology. We need a new universal synodality in order to move to a culture of living together without domination. In other words, it will be a question of daring to dream together, to be companions on the journey, of the same flesh, *to speak less and to act green!*

## Slovakia

### *SR SAMUELA'S SPEECH*



*In Bratislava on September 13, 2021 in Rybné Square, there was a meeting of Pope Francis with the Jewish community – Sr Samuela Harmáčková, OSU, was asked to give an address. This was her speech:*

*Mr. Thomas Frankl with the sisters and a teacher 13<sup>th</sup> September 2021 in Bratislava on their way to meet the Pope.*

“Dear Holy Father Francis, dear representatives of the Jewish community in Slovakia, dear guests here present,

**I**stand with great awe today in this symbolic place in the presence of believing Christians and believing Jews who all profess and love the same God.

Our common history is marked by great pain, but at the same time, by moments that give us hope that in every period there are people who have a deep-rooted love for God and neighbour.

We experience sincere pride and also gratitude for every single Slovak who opened their hearts and doors to their persecuted Jewish brothers and sisters; even more so because some of these doors were the doors of our monasteries and our residences and the doors of the houses and apartments of the families of our pupils. We are grateful that our Sisters, who recognised the sanctity of every human soul created in God's image, had the grace to do something to save these lives.

The information that has been preserved speaks of Sisters evacuated from Bratislava to the country house in Svätý Kríž (today's Žiar nad Hronom), which Bishop Ondrej Škrabík had offered them. There they took care of a group of children. This group included Jewish children. We know this from a survivor, **Mr. Thomas Frankl**, now living in Vienna, who willingly told us about it.



*Thomas Frankl – one boy among the children who were saved by Ursuline sisters*



*Sr. Bernarda, OSU, Sr. Gregória, OSU with the children*

We have further testimonies from **Mrs. Gabriella Karin** - an artist living in Los Angeles and from Mrs. Erika Brániková living in Bratislava, who were both students of the Ursuline boarding school in the centre of Bratislava. They were in hiding there along with other Jewish girls. Their parents visited them daily until shelter was found for their entire families, or someone helped them escape from Bratislava.



*Mrs. Gabriella Karin with sisters from Bratislava in 2017.*



*Gabriella Karin – 11 years old girl*

## SCULPTURES FROM GABRIELLA KARIN



### **THE RESCUERS**

This sculpture depicts a nun hiding a young girl and is dedicated to the nuns at the convent in Czechoslovakia where I was hidden with two other Jewish girls during World War II. The nuns cared for us with concern and were able to save us from the difficulties of the world. I have warm memories of them and constructed this sculpture to show my appreciation.

This sculpture is on a permanent exhibit in the Holocaust Museum in Bratislava, Slovakia (Haydukova Street).

### **THE NUNS IN URSULINE CONVENT IN BRATISLAVA, SLOVAKIA**



On <http://www.gabriellakarin.com/media> : A Documentary by David Nonberg- film testimony of Gabriella, also some shots from our school- in 4,07 min till 6 min.

It is symbolic that another place where the Sisters hid Jewish children and their families is today the residence of the Apostolic Nuncio. It was there that a young mother, **Edita Schwarzová**, with her one-and-a-half-year-old daughter and later her friend Frida Haselnussová were brought by a former student of our Ursuline grammar school, **Mrs. Anna Bandžáková**, born Kuchárová, whose family saved several Jews in Bratislava.



*Sr. Imelda Jurenková, OSU  
former student of our Ursuline grammar school,*

*Mrs. Anna Bandžáková*



*Edita Schwarzová,  
with her daughter*

The events I am talking about happened almost eighty years ago. Today, with joy in our hearts, we can see lively Christian-Jewish cooperation in Slovakia. And not only among top officials, educational institutions or Biblical scholars, but also among people in everyday life. We are especially grateful for the educational projects for young people through which teachers in our schools try to sensitize the current generation to a deeper perception and knowledge of Slovakia's Jewish cultural heritage. At the same time, we want to hand on a living faith in God to young people, manifested in daily life by love of neighbour. The people who lived before us bore witness that such love is possible. Our respect, thanks and prayer belong to the more than 500 known – and many more unknown - Slovaks and their families who in any way contributed to the saving of at least one single human life.”

## Slovakia

### COMMUNITY DAYS - MORE THAN TEAMBUILDING?

The end of the holidays is marked in our communities by a communal spirit. Together as a province, but also in separate communities, we assess and evaluate the past school year and prepare for the next one. We call this period our "**community days**".

This year, during their community days, our Bratislava community met a group of employees, who were at a teambuilding event themselves. It seems that they were surprised by the presence of our sisters in Belianske Tatras, because they came up to ask them what they were doing. After the sisters explained what the community days were all about, they exclaimed: "Oh, so you are doing a teambuilding activity as well!". At first glance, it may seem so, but in fact our community days mean something more.



Our Constitutions tell us that *each of us has her own special contribution to the building up of community*. What we do and how we do it depends on us. Our foundress St. Angela considered unity very important and so she left us all a plea: "*Be bound to one another by the bond of charity.*"

It is good to think of our community days as a way of team building because by developing our personal relationships, we develop our communities as well. As well as reviewing the last school year, we also review our daily routines and plan various apostolic activities.

Why does this time spent together mean more than a simple team building? It is because during these days, we are learning not only to listen to one another, but also to listen to God, who Himself leads and guides our communities. We try to follow the advice of St. Angela - "*Above all: obey the counsels and inspirations which the Holy Spirit unceasingly sends into our hearts.*" We believe that thanks to the community days we learn to perceive the Holy Spirit and his messages more and more clearly.

**Would you like to know how we spent our community days? Then read on.**

#### *Bratislava*

The Bratislava community spent its community days in the Tatras, where in addition to work, we relaxed together in the beautiful mountain region. The time was marked by deep contemplation on the subject of service and ministry, as we compared our own to that of Jesus. We also meditated upon how we want to fulfil this ministry this year, and what God is inviting us to do. Nor did we miss out on a lovely community hike during this time. We also had smaller "group" hikes, which we chose according to our hiking skill and ability.



## *Trnava*

It was precious that we could finally spend more time together. We thanked the Lord for blessing us with everything we experienced during the past year. We looked back on how we had been living the value of discernment, our focus during the last school year. And we also looked to the future, how to live the value of service of each other and in the ministry. Apart from work and planning, we made a pilgrimage to Marianka near Bratislava. In the basilica we joined in silent prayer near the Mother of God, then we prayed the rosary together and the liturgy of the hours, at the Lourdes grotto. Although it rained, we managed to avoid the downpour and end our pilgrimage at the pilgrims house with a joint dinner. On the last of our community days our local prioress Sister Mária-Rita spoke about various current challenges in our community and apostolic life. In deep gratitude for our time spent together, we ended the community days by praying together for various intentions. Then we had a barbecue at our lovely summerhouse.



## *Modra*

In Modra, we visited Father Irenej in Hrachovište, who had prepared a lecture for us on the topic of "SERVIAM", a value we are encouraged to contemplate during the next school year. His lecture was based upon the gospel of that day - the parable of the ten bridesmaids of whom five were wise – there are five of us in our community! In this lecture, he gave us the light of knowledge for the path we are to follow, the one our Heavenly Bridegroom has invited us to walk.

On Saturday, we began our evaluation of the past year by invoking the Holy Spirit in the chapel, in the presence of our Lord. On Sunday, during the service of prayer in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament, each sister received a symbol of her mission - a small image of the wise virgins with their oil lamp.



## *Košice*

In the Košice community we spent our days at home and here, in the relaxing summer holiday atmosphere, we planned, evaluated and created. We reviewed the past year and evaluated our discernment - both individually and within the community. This year, we are encouraged to take part in the ministry SERVIAM and we discussed what that would imply for us and our community. To serve - in the community, in the parish, at the student residence or in our personal lives. Hasn't that always been the question? We also went on a pilgrimage to Debrade, where a beautiful ecological church can be found. And during the relaxing hike we had the opportunity to think about and contemplate this year's challenge. SERVIAM!



## Poland

### 75 YEARS OF THE URSULINE LYCEUM IN WROCLAW

*Sr. Daria Klich, OSU, offered us a moment of history.*

The 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Ursuline school in post-war Wrocław is a good opportunity to see all the richness of the past. Although there were many difficulties, there are many more reasons for gratitude and joy. The jubilee also encourages memories and is an invitation to recall the people who created this rich history and thanks to whom this house is teeming with life today.



There would probably be no Polish Ursulines in Wrocław if there had not been German Ursulines before them. It must be remembered that the history of the Ursulines in Wrocław began 335 years ago when the sisters came to this city from Bratislava in 1686. The goal of the foundation of each Ursuline convent was to establish a school and educate girls in line with the needs of the local society. Ursulines continuously offered the highest education that a woman could achieve but war and the collapse of national sovereignties wreaked havoc on their educational institutions over the centuries. By the 1930s, a community of 170 Ursulines was running a high school and a teachers' seminary founded a century before.

All this came to an end with the rise of Hitler and the Second World War: Catholic schools were closed and the sisters were dispersed. By the end of the war on May 6, 1945, the city of Wrocław was 90% destroyed. Though the Ursuline Convent suffered badly, it stood like an oasis in the midst of the surrounding ruins. Meanwhile, the Potsdam Agreement reassigned all national borders and with the stroke of a pen, Wrocław became part of Poland. In the changed political situation, the German Ursulines requested that the Polish Province send replacements as soon as possible, especially since the church authorities insisted that Polish orders take over church property in the newly regained districts of Poland.

The response was swift: on August 23, 1945, Polish sisters arrived in Wrocław. However, due to the difficult and painful situation of the German Ursulines, the Polish Ursulines did not decide to establish a Polish school right away. The new beginnings were very difficult since the ruins of Wrocław were terrifying and to find provisions for the house, the sisters had to travel through huge areas of rubble on foot to the offices where they could apply for bread and coal for the whole house.

An interesting sign of the blessing of previous Ursuline generations was a great consolation for Polish Ursulines. In the ruins of the church they found a metal can that had fallen from the bombed summit of the tower. It contained old monastery documents from 100 years before - from 1841. Among the papers retrieved by the Polish Ursulines was a handwritten card by Mother Ursula Herrmann in French as follows:

“To whomever this document is one day found, greetings and salutations. May peace be with you. O, that it would be one of our sisters. This is what I hope for and this is what I will pray for day and night. On this occasion, I wish you the blessings of Heaven, you and your religious daughters and the young people entrusted to you. Please fervently remember our souls. 23.VI.1841, M. Ursula (Herrmann) of the Immaculate Conception”.

Undaunted by hunger, cold, and lack of water, with the help of the rector of the university, the Polish Ursulines organized a dormitory for women students which numbered 90 by December, 1945. Incredibly, almost a year later, the sisters succeeded in raising from the ashes a new Junior High School and Secondary School, a miraculous event, given all the previous hardship they had suffered. The authorization required was received from the Board of Education on November 4, 1946, a date that marks the official beginning of the school up to this day. Beginning with 90 students in the first year, the school, in its 75<sup>th</sup> Jubilee Year now numbers 280 young men and women.

But there was to be further great hardship before this Jubilee celebration. Within two years of its foundation, all of Catholic education in Poland was dragged into the Communist totalitarian system of indoctrination. In November 1948, the Communist inspector wrote in a report:

*“The task of the contemporary school is to educate young people in the spirit of socialism. Unfortunately, the Ursuline school does not carry out such an educational campaign. There is no Socialist Youth Union (ZMP) on the school premises that could effectively carry out this work. Other school associations are active and work socially, but in terms of ideological training, they can never replace the Socialist Youth Union. (...) due to the fact that in the present conditions, the school does not guarantee a full and real change of the educational direction, I propose not to grant the school state rights in 1948/49 ”.*

Although the Wrocław Ursulines were risking everything by speaking truth to power, as exemplified in the above report, strangely enough, their school did not suffer the fate of all the other Ursuline schools under the Communist regime. In 1949, the regime began to escalate a long, deliberate, malicious period of intimidation, ridicule and harassment that ended with the near-total liquidation of Catholic schools by 1962. These years required exceptional strength of character and a lot of heroism on the part of the students, their parents and their teachers.

The high school in Wrocław was in the best situation. Admittedly, it was not without the problems of fighting the Communist ideology that was injected through frequent and thorough visits. This single Ursuline school has survived uninterruptedly to this day for 75 years. Thousands of graduates forever feel included in the community of St. Ursula and her Companions, gratefully testifying that they entered their adult life prepared to face the challenges that awaited them. Soli Deo gloria.

## **Australia/Indonesia/Ireland**

### ***ENGLISH WORKSHOPS***

*Different testimonies from the positive experience that came out of the pandemic situation.*

- 1. By Giovanni Diella – Kindergarten Teacher St. Ursula, Jakarta (Indonesia) / Sr Lee Veriga osu (Australia)**

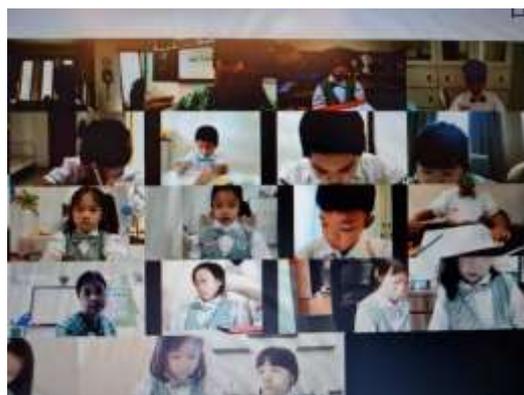
While the pandemic has been responsible for widespread challenges and difficulties across the globe, there has also been some positive benefits experienced within the educational scene.

One of the benefits of the pandemic, has been the increased development by teachers and students in their skills and creative use of technology, to assist and enhance teaching and learning experiences. Virtual learning, through the use of Zoom, has become part of everyday teaching.

The kindergarten class of St. Ursula's School in Jakarta and the Prep classes at St. Francis College, Crestmead (Brisbane, Australia) recently shared these benefits through collaboration between teaching staff from both schools.

The teachers worked together, via zoom, to prepare and implement various learning activities to help develop the students' communication skills in English as well as develop cross cultural understanding. Using zoom to connect with each other, both Australian students and students from Jakarta, were excited to share stories, draw animals together, sing songs, see the schools' learning and play environment, and of course, talk about their favourite playground area and equipment.

This program enabled our young learners to acquire English in a holistic way and for the Australian students to learn about their 'near neighbours' in a real world context.



## 2. English Club

by **Moekti Gondosasmito osu**  
Indonesian Province

**Lee Veriga osu**  
Australian Province

One part of the vision of St. Ursula's School in Jakarta, is to have a broad, global vision. Through discussion, it was agreed that an important element of this aspect was the ability to speak a foreign language. At St Ursula's, everyone is required to learn English, but there is no opportunity for them to continue to practise it afterwards.

I decided to talk with Sr. Lee Veriga OSU from Australia, to look for possible ways to help our staff practise their English. Lee was able to engage the help of some Australian Ursulines, along with a number of Ursuline friends and family members, to make this a reality.

Through this collaboration, we gathered 19 native English speakers, who were willing to participate in this project, sharing time for English conversation with staff from St Ursula's School in Jakarta. We were able to form 19 staff groups (each group with 6 – 9 people) each with an assigned, individual native English speaker. Most groups met once a week for one hour. One group of English teachers, from St Ursula's, met only once a fortnight, with their host English speaker.



As the number in each group was not too large, each staff member had the opportunity to speak and share regularly, throughout each session. This was very important in helping to build their confidence in speaking English. There was no specific English program to follow and each native speaker was free to creatively prepare each week's focus. They negotiated with their group the theme of their conversation, for the following week. Participants were encouraged to prepare something to share and contribute to the session, based on the chosen topic.

Both groups, the native English speakers, as well as St Ursula's staff, were very happy with this experience. Mutual learning was taking place during each session, in an atmosphere of friendship and fun.

This project began on 17<sup>th</sup> August and finished on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2021. There will be an evaluation, from both perspectives, native English speakers and staff from St Ursula's School, in order to make plans for 2022.

Lee and I really appreciated the good will, creativity, enthusiasm and generosity of the native English speakers, in preparing and leading these conversation groups. We feel a sense of deep gratitude in belonging to our international Order, making it possible to initiate, support and engage with Ursulines and friends, in such mutually enriching collaborations.

### **3. English conversation project**

**by Sr Helen Dyson , Australia, issued in the Bearings, August 2021.**

We were approached by Moekti from Indonesia to participate in an English-speaking project. This involves having English conversation, on a regular basis, with members of staff from Ursuline schools in Indonesia. Lee Veriga canvassed a number of Ursulines to participate and Helen Dyson invited members of the Encounters group to participate. Helen has written below something of her experience so far.

*Sr Moekti, as you know, is one for projects and enthusiastic ideas. She approached us with the request to find some native English speakers who would be happy to meet (via zoom) with a group of Indonesian teachers to practice their English.*

*After a time of discussion etc, the project is up and running. There are about 100 Indonesian school related people gathering in groups on a regular basis with a native English speaker. Some of these speakers are Ursuline sisters and some are friends or people from the Encounters group.*

*The groups comprise teachers in primary and high school and other staff groups eg. librarians and admin.*

*It is another great way to connect with our sisters and their colleagues in the Asia Pacific region.*

*I have a group of 9 women and men who live and work in Jakarta at Santa Ursula and Bekasi (outside of Jakarta). We had a great introductory session talking about where they live and what they do. I also learned a bit about Indonesia when I asked them to take on the role of a travel agent and suggest places I should visit and why. Next week they are sharing something about what they enjoy doing outside of work. I am looking forward to hearing them. They are very nervous about speaking English, so I am sure with practice and feeling comfortable in the group will help their confidence.*

*Perhaps one of the other Ursulines would like to share something about their group in the next Bearings.*

#### **4. English workshops with sisters from the Asia Pacific region:**

**By Sr Lee Veriga osu (Australia) and Sr Anne-Marie Dixon osu (Ireland)**

The origins of the plan to teach English to our Sisters in the Asia Pacific region, (Indonesia, Thailand, China) came in response to invitations that came out of conversations during the Regional meetings at the 2019 General Chapter, as well as conversations during Anne-Marie's Pre Chapter visit to Indonesia.

Two Sisters from Vietnam, who had come to Australia, to learn English, also joined us in these workshops, expanding the global connections.

Initially, our plan to teach English, was to be a face-to-face encounter, located in Indonesia, as this would allow our Sisters from China to travel there and be part of this group. However, COVID 19 then forced us to abandon this plan.

This led to an alternative on-line approach, using Zoom as the communication platform and delivering content through PowerPoint workshops. Each round consists of 5 workshops, delivered 3 times, to provide for groups of approximately 5 sisters per workshop.

Each workshop is then followed up with 1:1 conversations with each individual Sister.

While there have been certain challenges, these workshops have developed a strong sense of Global connection for all; they have provided a focus for collaboration, between Provinces of Australia and Ireland; they have been an opportunity for Sisters to meet each other across Provinces, with a common purpose and they have also been a way to respond positively and creatively to a need expressed within the Asia Pacific region.

The Sisters have also appreciated the workshops and the connections across Provinces, made possible through them.

*'Apart from helping me to improve my English skills ....., this workshop also enriched me in my relationships with fellow Ursulines in Asia Pacific and beyond. ...the process that we experienced during this workshop of course made us connect with each other, support and pray for each other.'*

We too, have found these English workshops enriching and nourishing, through the growing sense of Insieme and the personal encounters with each Sister.

#### **5. Helping our sisters with English,**

**by Sr Marie-Alice Duggan (USA East)**

A former French teacher in Ursuline schools, I began to help our sisters with English when the novitiate began at the Generalate in 2012. After returning to my province, helping our sisters with English has taken several forms. In the summer of 2016, I spent six weeks in Brazil helping our young sisters improve their English and being enriched by experiencing their culture. From 2017 to 2019 our province welcomed Ursulines from five countries at different times. They needed to improve their English before participating in tertianship and meetings at the Generalate. Another sister with many years of teaching English as a Second Language and I coordinated their program which included daily classes at a language school in New York City, tutoring, living community with our sisters and participating in province events. The Covid-19 pandemic has prevented us from welcoming sisters. However, thanks to technology, over the course of the last year and a half, I have worked with seven sisters from five countries. Some of those sisters are in the present tertianship. All of this has been an enriching experience for me and an experience of living our global community.

## Inter Provinces

### URSULINE GLOBAL EDUCATION MEETING

*This is a testimony from Margie Wiraputranto and Aimee Gracielle, St. Ursula Senior High School, Jakarta, Indonesia. You remember that it concerns the whole of our Institute: 52 Ursuline schools and schools of Ursuline origins, 171 participants. (Cf. News briefs 153)*

**H**ello! We're Margie Wiraputranto and Aimee Gracielle, and we are the IT team for the Ursuline Global Education Meeting. This meeting is an international event attended by various Ursuline Schools around the world, responding to Pope Francis' call for a more fraternal and connected world community.

**S**r Moekti first talked to Margie about the Ursuline Global Education in June 2021, when she was assigned to be the first member of the IT team. Later on, in July, in order to have assistance, Aimee joined the team to help Margie. We were first tasked to make a google form link for the schools that would join the meeting. After that, we started sorting and arranging the answers, as the participants varied from different countries and continents. Along the way, we had some monthly meetings with The Ursuline Global Education Committee. We discussed the preparation and the course of activity for the event. This includes the technology, MCs, breakout rooms, and the speakers. We also prepared a trailer, eflyer, and zoom background for this event. Before the event, we uploaded the introduction videos from each school on YouTube as well.

**T**he event was held on Zoom on October 15, 2021. It started at 6 pm and ended at 8 pm Jakarta time. The event started with a message from Sr. Susan Flood. After that, it was continued with international prayers with the participation of students from different countries in different languages. Next, there was an introduction about the Insieme song and an explanation of the purpose of the event. The highlight of the event was watching a "Call to Action" video made by Margie. After the video, all participants went into a breakout room session to discuss and answer some questions from the video in their respective groups. At the end of the event, each group presented the results of the discussion and wrote them down on the zoom whiteboard.

#### **Margie:**

**I**n this event, I was tasked to make a "Call to Action" video, google form links, e-flyers, uploading introduction videos for each school to YouTube, sharing screen on zoom, assigning breakout rooms, and ensuring that the event ran smoothly. I am very grateful to have had the opportunity to participate in this event. Through this event, I gained a lot of new experience and knowledge, got to know more and more people from various Ursuline schools around the world, and was also able to develop my skills in making videos, editing, and preparing all the necessary things so that the event could run smoothly. It was a very interesting and unforgettable experience. During the event, of course there were some things that were still not perfect, such as the time-consuming allocation of breakout rooms. This was due to the large number of participants and the grouping, which required a lot of attention. From these shortcomings I learned to develop new strategies so that everything can be done better and smoother in the future.

#### **Aimee:**

**T**he Ursuline Global Education Project was an amazing experience for me. I am very grateful to have had the chance to participate in this project, as it has given me a new and exciting experience, especially in meeting students from many different Ursuline schools around the world. During this project, I was able to increase my knowledge and skills since I learned many new things, such as uploading videos to YouTube and managing a Zoom breakout room. Other

than that, I was also able to increase my skills in editing and designing when making the eflyer and Zoom background for this event. Working with the committee and Margie as my partner has also enabled me to improve working as a team and managing errors that happened throughout the process. Other than that, I would like to thank Sr. Moekti OSU, Margie, The Ursuline Global Education Committee, and the supporting roles for the assistance and unforgettable experience. I hope that The Ursuline Global Education can fulfil Pope Francis' call and make the world a better place.

## ***NEXT INTER-URSULINE BULLETIN***

As Sr Susan Flood, wrote in her circular 304 *“I encourage you to be involved in whatever way is appropriate in the process of the synod in your local church and diocese. If you have good stories of positive experiences of the process, please be ready to share them.”*

So the next issue will be about the Synodal way “Synod on synodality” all around the world. Please would you send short articles to the e-mail address: [sgorosu@ursulines-ur.org](mailto:sgorosu@ursulines-ur.org) **before 30<sup>th</sup> March 2022**. With thanks!

## ***JUBILEES***

### **May**

1 BRATINA Fidelis	Ljubljana	SLOVENIA	60
13 ALORALREA Josephine	Daly City	USA WEST	50
14 ANDREASSI Maria	Capriolo	ITALY	50
24 HARMÁČKOVÁ Samuela	Bratislava	SLOVAKIA	25
KAŠČÁKOVÁ Valéria	Košice	SLOVAKIA	25
MOROZOVÁ Ulrika	Košice	SLOVAKIA	25
31 XAVIER Siphim	Bangkok	THAILAND	25

### **June**

1 CIMERLAJT Magdalena	Ljubljana	SLOVENIA	50
JANEŽ Irena	Sveti Duh	SLOVENIA	50
KRIŠTO Maria Elvira	Zenica	CROATIA	50
TOMAN Darjana	Ljubljana	SLOVENIA	50
6 DALIMA Viktoria	Ende	INDONESIA	25
ITU Yosefina	Ende	INDONESIA	25
LILIK Laurentina	Nanga Pinoh	INDONESIA	25
NOORWINDHI Rita	Surabaya	INDONESIA	25
TENA Aloysia	Agats	INDONESIA	25
16 CALABRESE Nicolina	Milano	ITALY	70
18 CASHMAN Jeanne Frances	Wilmington	USA EAST	50

### **July**

9 TING Paschal	Taipei	CHINA	50
26 McHUGH Sarah	Sligo, Temple St	IRELAND/WALES	60
O'CONNOR Marianne	Sligo, Brescia	IRELAND/WALES	60
27 ADISUCIPTO Adriana	Jakarta, Juanda	INDONESIA	60
KERTOREDJO Martha	Jakarta, Jalan Pos	INDONESIA	60
LARDON Marie Marthe	Malet	FRANCE/BELGIUM/SPAIN	75
30 DUBREUIL Marie Louise	Malet	FRANCE/BELGIUM/SPAIN	70
FLOOD Susan	Rome	GENERALATE	50
SULIK Blandyna	Poznań	POLAND	50
SZYSIAK Maria Gabriela	Tarnów	POLAND	50
WIŚNICKA Bogumiła	Poznań	POLAND	50
31 AZCUÉ Marie Paul	Pau	FRANCE/BELGIUM/SPAIN	60
DWYER Kathleen	Australia South	AUSTRALIA	60

### **August**

1 BRAND Margaret	Australia North	AUSTRALIA	70
FURLONG Mary	Australia South	AUSTRALIA	70
HOWARD Janice	Australia North	AUSTRALIA	70
O'SHEA Kathleen	Australia North	AUSTRALIA	70
2 FERENCOVÁ Konštancia	Suchá nad Parnou	SLOVAKIA	70
FOLPRECHTOVÁ Nives	Jiřetín	CZECHO-MORAVIA	70
KVASNICOVÁ Amália	Suchá nad Parnou	SLOVAKIA	70
VRÁBLOVÁ Natália	Suchá nad Parnou	SLOVAKIA	70
ZAPLETALOVÁ Perpetua	Jiřetín	CZECHO-MORAVIA	70
5 SKÓRA Lucja	Poznań, Pokrzywno	POLAND	60
6 BELUŠOVÁ Jozefa	Suchá nad Parnou	SLOVAKIA	50
SAFKOVÁ Františka	Bratislava	SLOVAKIA	50
15 FERREIRA Brenda	Caracas	CARIBBEAN	60
MCLEAN Barbara	Barbados	CARIBBEAN	60
16 BOBKOWSKA Irena	Poznań	POLAND	25
GŁODOWSKA Paulina	Siercza	POLAND	25
O'DWYER Cecilia	Thurles	IRELAND/WALES	50
PIĘTA Agnieszka	Léhar	STE ANGELE d'AFRIQUE	25
SIL Marcelina	Rybnik	POLAND	25
WÓJCIAK M. Małgorzata	Wrocław	POLAND	25
ZAJĄC M. Samuela	Tarnów	POLAND	25
22 GASTAL Marie Robert	Malet	FRANCE/BELGIUM/SPAIN	60
28 HUBER Hildegard	Klagenfurt (Austria)	SLOVENIA	60

## ***PROFESSIONS***

### ***HAS MADE TEMPORARY PROFESSION:***

Sara de la Trinité Varret	France/Belgium/Spain	31/10/2021
Marija Margareta Mraović	Croatia	21/11/2021