



ALL·TO·ALL

THAT ALL MAY BE ONE

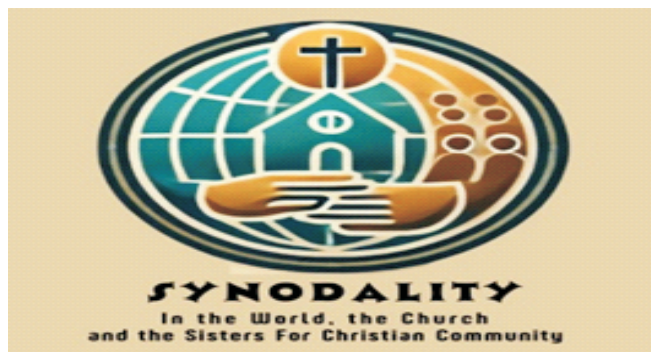
SISTER FOR CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

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WELCOME BACK TO THE PHILIPPINES! MABUHAY!!!

For those who attended the 2019 Assembly in Fray Juan Holistic Center, Pasay you will be familiar with the Ninoy International Airports Terminal 1, Terminal 2, Terminal 3 depending on the airlines you will choose.

The Transport Committee will be preparing rides from the airport to Pius XII Center so it will be important when you complete the Registration Form to provide date, time, airline, flight information so we will know which Terminal you will be arriving to.

The official dates of the Assembly are January 14-17, 2026 but we expect all arrivals by January 13. Our catering services will start on Jan. 14-17. There will be places to eat nearby for early arrivals. Pius XII is a meeting place for yearly Asian Bishops Conference. This is the reason why on January 18th we will all check out early for the Center to prepare for the arrivals of Asian Bishops who are meeting on the 19th.

There will be choices to go to after checking out. The different regions in the Philippines are welcoming anyone who wishes to visit the places of the sisters.

If this is your choice, you will need to contact any of the RCCs to plan your domestic flights on January 18th.

Manila Region: Connie Jordan - conniejordan1001@gmail.com

Calungsod Region: Isabelita Bulala - isabelitabulala49@gmail.com

Yesu Marie Region: Florida Cadenas - cadenasflorida@gmail.com

Holy Trinity Region: Shirley Gorospe - Shirley_bing@yahoo.com.au

If your return flight home is January 18th, the transport committee will assist you in going to the airport. The different regions in the Philippines are working together in Committees such as Registration, Finance, Program, Liturgy, Hospitality, Transport, Socials, Catering, Medical. We are meeting every 2nd Sunday by zoom.

The Virtual Committee has decided due to the time zone in the Philippines which will be a challenge to different countries, that the registration fee will be \$50.00 whether you are attending all sessions or business only. We understand the challenge to adjust to the program schedule but the presentations will be recorded. If there will be proposals or recommendations, we will follow the 9 Step so regions can send to ATA their respective responses to be considered during the Collegial Consensus.



Submitted by Virgie Azcueta

Member of the Assembly Finance committee-



Room with double bed at Friendship Hall



ICC REPORT 2024-2025

Greetings and blessings of our Lord Jesus Christ upon all our sisters and associates across the globe. The month of November reminds us of the journey we have accomplished so far in the calendar year. The ICCs appreciate each SFCC ministry and apostolate worldwide. We encourage each sister to constantly pray for all our deceased members of the global community on whose shoulders we stand.

We reiterate the position of SFCC as stated in our profile that, each sister is reminded to set in place a plan for her infirmity years. This is very vital as each sister is expected to speak and plan with her family members, friends, or other SFCC so as not to be neglected in old age and will not experience any trouble in the future.

As a team, we are also aware of so much pain and suffering caused by various disasters across the

world. We are in solidarity with all those affected by this climatic devastation, continuous wars in some parts of the globe, and hunger cum economic hardship ongoing globally as a result of inflation. We invoke God to grant eternal rest to those who have lost their lives due to these challenges.

The season of Advent is fast approaching and as we journey through this period, we ask God to help heal our devastating world.

May the joy and peace of Christmas abide with each one of us, Amen.



ICC Team

Kass Collins, Bern Mendez, Mary Balogun



Regional Reports



The Benelux Region is pleased and proud to welcome our *Inquirer* Sr. Vivienne Eze

into the *Becoming Process*. Vivienne was born 4th June 1982, Kaduna State in Nigeria, as the fourth of 6 children. Her well-bonded relationship with her brothers and sisters is of deep emotional support and understanding, providing companionship and a sense of belonging to one another. Her first experience in religious life she defines as profound and transformative : beginning with a deep sense of calling which entailed leaving behind familiar comforts, relationships and daily routines to embrace a life of prayer, reflection, community living and service, marked by a profound sense of commitment and discovery as she began to understand deeper meanings of faith, abandonment and spiritual growth. She was *Finally Professed* in the congregation *Home Visitors of Mary* on 20th

September 2018. HVM was founded in 1949, in Michigan Detroit, USA. Vivienne lived in the congregation as a fully professed for 13 years. The HVM apostolate and charism focuses on working with the marginalized in the society. Having been introduced to SFCC, Vivienne was immediately impressed with our *collegial consensus*, non-hierarchical and full respect of each member, the passion in our interpretation of the 3 vows, charisms of *listening, loving and serving*, and felt immediately 'at home'. With, among other certificates, her Masters degree in Education and Certificate in Theology, her past apostolates, include teaching catechism, children ministry, working with the choristers, teaching Marriage courses and giving communion to the sick and elderly. Presently, she is working in St Benedict Nursery, Primary and Secondary School located in Hulumi in Abuja, as the School Coordinator and Teacher for 4 years now. **Submitted by Teresa A. Takken**, SFCC, RCC Benelux



*A Bright & Prosperous
New year 2025*



Calungsod Region

The San Pedro Calungsod Region held its regional meeting and Affiliation Covenant of Agnes Namocatcat last October 6, 2024, from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm at the residence of Josefa Arac. There were three

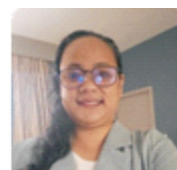
Affirmed members in attendance and one Affiliate.

The meeting started with a sharing of Agnes about her present status and personal update as well as the reason why she applied for the Affiliation covenant. She is currently connected with the Bohol Institute of Technology, a private College in the province of Bohol, she was appointed as a Guidance Staff and a part-time Faculty member. After this followed the Affiliation covenant facilitated by her mentor Isabelita Bulala, SFCC who is at the same time the RCC of the San Pedro

Calungsod Region.

After the Affiliation is the simple celebration followed by the community meeting. During the meal, Bernadette reminded the sisters about the ATA subscription fee. The group decided to choose the possible contribution of each member and coordinate with the ATA team how to send the said amount for the ATA subscription, after which Joi, reported on the financial standing of the solidarity fund. The sisters decided to have a one-day Recollection and Christmas Fellowship on December 26, 2024, at the residence of Isabelita Bulala in Mahayag, Bohol. The region felt the need to have a monthly meeting via onsite or online meeting so they have scheduled the next monthly meeting for November 23, 2024.

Submitted by: Bern S. Mendez



DAR ES SALAAM REGION

We are two Affirmed sisters and two affiliates. We are striving to live our charism in engaging in various apostolates in collaboration with the local church, the small Christian communities and the community of the society that surround us. One of us is working in government. Apart from this apostolate she has. We all have passion to save the poor elderly people. We visit and deliver food and as well as praying for them and with them. We are also in collaboration with the religious unions in

activities such as seminars, recollection days, community service to the poor, celebrations like Feb 2, thanks giving Mass mention but are few. We also arrange for our own retreat's reflections and recollection days celebrations and relaxation. We are open and attentive to the signs of time responding to the needs of time as we listening to the Holy Spirit to guide us so that we bear witness to our call as SFCC sisters united with our sisters across the globe called to serve in the mission of Christ. **Submitted by Columba J. Thadey**



EAST CENTRAL REGION

Members of the East Central Region met by zoom on October 25. Participating in the session were: Sandy Bevec, Roberta Kardell, Rita Yeasted and inquirer Margaret (Peg) Christopher. Knowing the theme for Assembly 2026 is Synodality: The World, the Church, and SFCC, the members centered the meeting around this theme. In preparation for the meeting members read *Synodality Works: A report from Rome* by Austin Ivereigh which

provided a summary of the process from 2021 to 2023, *Synod on Synodality begins, with controversial matters and cooperation 'intertwined'* from the Religion News Service and listened to a podcast from America Magazine *"How authority is being reimagined at the Synod."* Members shared their own experiences of participating at the grassroots level at their local parishes and with Future Church. Discussion centered on the hopes that were created in the listening sessions and the perceived notion that there would be some "radical" or long-awaited changes - often the ideas covered in the media. There was a

realization that listening was the heart of the synod on synodality and its real importance. Members of the synod used the process familiar to SFCC in our consensus process and referred to at the synod as “conversations in the spirit.” Members remarked on the gift of this process in our community and the understanding of its importance. We owe a debt of gratitude to the insightfulness of Lillanna Kopp and our early members. In both the readings and the podcast our attention was called to the idea that the synod on synodality is considered by many as the most transformative event in the church since the Second Vatican Council. In discussing this thought members questioned this idea wanting to see those radical changes concerning women in the diaconate or as priests, an inclusive policy regarding LGBTQ+ as well as deep structural changes in the church. We had to remind ourselves of the main point of the synod was to

introduce the concept of synodality-of gathering as church to listen without distinction of role, gender, or age. There was some question about how the use of synodality will be realized since in the church in our area little if anything has been said about the synod. It was if we did our job, we let people talk as instructed by Rome, but now it is over. Hopefully, we are wrong! Members of the group were looking forward to the release of the final document which has now been published and translated into English. Since Betty Waigand could not join the meeting on October 25, Rita and Roberta met her for lunch to share thoughts and insights. Betty's immediate reaction was to express the very common feelings of - so what happened-nothing! She too was looking for some immediate radical change! Betty shared her local experience of a pastor in control with little regard for listening.

Submitted by: Roberta Kardel

KOINONIA (Kentucky, Ohio, Indiana plus)



meets each first Friday by Zoom with Rachel Richards, Patsy Guyton,, Fran Smith, Mary Jo Meadow, Debbie Clingsmith

(Affiliate), Carmen Gillick, who stays in contact with Jeanne Tighe, Becky Ijeonia (Inquirer) and others.

We rotate the opening and closing prayer among us with lovely experiences. Patsy and Carmen alternate being facilitator. Each time we have a spiritual question: October: What is a favorite form of prayer and how does God speak to you. November: What constitutes being a saint and who is a Saint/saint who inspires you. We had a great and lovely variety of sharing. Every other

month we share about a power point that we watched as part of the becoming process with Debbie and deepen our own understanding of the gift of the community. Then one of us also meets with Debbie to discuss it plus we get to know her better and she also gets to know us. This month we also talked about the ATA article about the next Assembly Theme of Synodality....was insightful and challenging. Of course, we spend time sharing about our lives and what empowers us. If there are community issues or information this is part of our sharing. Finally we end with sharing our prayer intentions both global and personal and have our concluding prayer. We find our gatherings a blessing but wish it would be possible to meet in person but with us being in 5 states and 2 countries!!!!this is more of a hope.**Submitted by Carmen Gillick**



Carmen Gillick

News

Merging of UK Region with Ireland Region

On the first of December 2024 the UK Region and Ireland Region will merge and be known as **The Ruah Region (UK and Ireland)**. Please pray for the flourishing of this new SFCC Region.

REMEMBER



ISSUE 5: June-July 2025
is the deadline to submit a
proposal or recommendation
for Manila Assembly
January 2026

Marantha

Wisconsin

The Marantha Region of Wisconsin met on October 19 at Avalon Square in Waukesha.

Present were Judith Smith, Roberta Zelhofer, Darlene Kanera, Rosella Reinwald, Julie Krueger, Deb Murphy, and Inquirer Florence Ogah. Elaine Beluschak was excused but with us in spirit.

Our opening prayer, led by Deb was a prayer to the Divine from the Assembly. Through this prayer we thanked our Creator and sang our joy to Him for His blessings, both great and small, which surround us daily. This prayer led us into our discussion of three questions raised at the Assembly on how the Divine has shaped us and continues to shape our lives as we live them now as part of SFCC.

Some of our thoughts were:

-my former community shaped me to be ready for SFCC – free to experience the Divine as I know Him and allowing me to be able to serve as I choose.

-SFCC has opened a whole new world of experiencing the Divine in my choices, in my

prayer life, in my freedom to be who I am and who I am called to be.

-in SFCC I feel the support and presence of my sisters surrounding me. I am secure, knowing they are only a phone call away.

-in SFCC I am free and able to serve and find the Divine in ways I never would have been able to in my former community. God bless SFCC. I am free to find my own method of prayer and truly live in the Spirit.

On a general note, we noted that the paper copy of the ATA is \$40.00 and discussed the importance of paying the Service fees. Sister Judith also had a suggestion for future notices from the Assembly. She would appreciate it if copies of presentations etc. could be posted on our website or sent in e-mails. This helps in presenting the information to our Regions.

We closed our meeting with a prayerful reading by Deb. Due to Wisconsin weather, we will not have our next in person meeting until April 12, 2025.

Submitted by Deb Murphy & Darlene Kanera



On the 28th September, 2024, the six active members of the Ruah UK Region: Lilian Ehidihamhen, Roz Frampton, Stephanie Hartas, Esther Iheme, Patricia Irogementi and Mary McCullough met in London. We were delighted

to be joined by Ellen Frances Lenihan who had travelled from her home in Ireland to be with us.

Both Ellen and Lilian were present in person at this summer's assembly in Jacksonville where, as well as forming a firm friendship, they shared a wish to develop closer bonds between the SFCC Regions in the UK and Ireland. This wish, which we all have, resulted in us travelling from various parts of England and Ireland for what proved to be a truly joyful and fruitful meeting. We shared our desire for a closer sense of community and following some discussion we were all delighted to accept a proposal to merge our two regions.

At Zoom meetings that have followed we decided that, taking effect from 1st December 2024, the first Sunday of Advent, the UK Region and the Ireland Region will merge and be known as The Ruah Region (UK and Ireland). We plan to meet on Zoom that day and celebrate our new beginning. We'll be

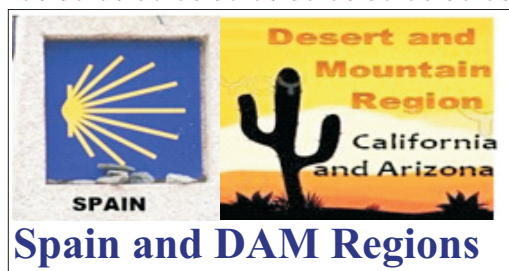
meeting again on Zoom in early December to share our hopes and plans for our new region.

At every meeting we remember and pray for Agnes Miller who has, until fairly recently, been a 'leading light' in the UK Region. She was admitted to hospital on 28th October in considerable pain and x-rays showed she has a broken vertebrae. The residential care home where she has been living for almost a year have told us that, when she is discharged from hospital, they will no longer be able to cater for her needs as she will need nursing care. Agnes is also suffering from dementia and any change is confusing and distressing for her. Please keep her in your prayers.

Left to Right: Esther Iheme, Patricia Irogementi, Mary McCullough, Ellen Lenihan, Stephanie Hartas, Lilian Ehidihamhen and Roz Frampton.

Submitted by Stephanie Hartas





Spain and DAM Regions

Members shown in the photo gathered either in person or via zoom in Phoenix, Arizona November 8-10. Not present was Pat Mullen who is recuperating from a broken ankle. We spent a few hours with her in person Saturday afternoon.

Opening prayer was led by Suzanne Dunn with a post USA election reflection about seeking light within the darkness. We shared ideas on how to continue to be persons of integrity, justice, compassion and tolerance wherever we find ourselves.

We reviewed Assembly 2024 reports and continue to see the need for a financial oversee committee to ensure that slippage in accountability during past years is not repeated. The proposal put forth by our combined regions was a repeat of the same proposal submitted to the 2016 Assembly: a request for an objective check that funds are being handled well.

We then focused on the 2026 Assembly in Manila. While we realize that the theme is set, we are cautiously surprised by it.

Next, we focused on our shared spiritual reading, *A New Christianity for a New World*, John Shelby Spong. We welcomed Spong's antidote for a Christianity in the USA that

increasingly preaches division, hate and intolerance and no longer communicates the original intent of the gospels. As Christians we must be the place where the "light" and "dark" come together in a place of wholeness.

Our next shared spiritual reading: *Not the End of the World*, Hannah Ritchie

Our afternoon was spent visiting Pat Mullen at the rehabilitation center where she recuperates from the broken ankle. From the center, we went to dinner.

Submitted by Fran Campbell



from top left
to right: Magda
Bennasar, Fran
Campbell,
Suzanne Dunn,
Jeannette Love,
Rose Miles, Pat
Mitchell, Pat Mullen and Carmen Notario



For this and the next issues of the ATA, we are highlighting two of our early sisters namely, Diana Dale and Alice Kelsey, who have each made very significant contributions to the Community. From facilitating business meetings to challenging our understanding of what SFCC could be, Alice and Diana have shared their wisdom with us all for many years. **Submitted by Mary Ellen Pitts**

A Note from Diana Dale SFCC Hello Sisters – I am still a workplace chaplain, President of Worklife Institute and Director of the Texas Veterans & Families Transition Program here in Houston and loving what we're doing. A lot of folks come to our Resource Center for employment help and to have their disability benefits improved. Now that the Holiday Season is here, many are looking for the comfort of being with others in our welcoming, homey Center, so we're holding open-house gatherings. In January, I am planning to fly to Washington, D.C. for the annual Military, VA and civilian chaplains' leadership conferences; I've been a chaplain endorser and supervisor since 1988 so have been transitioning several

associate endorsers in. I was looking forward to the Assembly this past summer but was getting over leg surgery and couldn't travel, visiting sisters virtually. Wishing everyone a peaceful and blessed Advent and Christmas. Diana Dale, SFCC

My brother, Ted, died in the summer of 2023. He went to a number of Assemblies and many SFCCs will remember him. I took care of him for many years. I have purchased an Independent Living Apartment in the Pines of Manchester, NJ. It is part of a Continuing Care Community. I keep in touch with Miryam Francis. She has been living in Hoonah, Alaska for the past several years. She is very happy with her decision to leave NJ. I am still settling the estate of Ted and selling my Lakewood condo. I have only moved fifteen miles but I have gone from New York sub land to Philadelphia hoagie land - same sandwich different language and accent. Hope all in Jubilee are well, happy and prospering. May all in SFCC be blessed with graceful aging.

-Alice Kelsey

SUNBELT REGION

Funeral Mass for Helen Mary Waugh was hosted and richly celebrated on November 22, 2024, in the Chapel of Bon Secours Saint Francis Hospital, (where she served many years) in Charleston S.C. Lucy Comer and Andrea (FL Region) attended along with 50 former inter-faith co-workers and Pastoral Care Chaplains she'd supervised and mentored. They shared reflections of high praise and humor for Helen's rich life of service.

Recent monthly Conference Calls (Patsy

Guyton, Judith Pask, Gertrude O. Bassey, Mary Ann Wachtel, Lucy Comer included sharing on : "Season of Creation" and personal applications and Rita Yeasted's Assembly talk on "Ritamary Bradley ' We cherish Ritamary's wisdom and insights on SFCC with emphasis on "Ecclesial Prophetic Community" focus, for a spirituality of consecrated life rather than on non-canonical status. We also appreciated the assembly theme presentations "That All May be One". Other conversations: "Risking the Questions" Podcast content (Joan Chittister & Tom Roberts) and the permanent location of SFCC Archives. Gertrude shared about "Project for Boys" in Nigeria.

Submitted by Lucy Comer, RCC



South Nigeria Region

The meeting started with an opening prayer reflection "Be a Person of Peace" led by Sr. Gert Bassey. In attendance were Sisters Mary Balogun, Gert Bassey, Theresa Maiyamma, Stella Chibuoke, Nneka Okoro, and Onemena Oghenejode. A reflection on the questionnaires about how our lives individually and as a region align with SFCC Charism "That All May be One" in Nigeria culture was extensively examined. We took into consideration in the discussion our simple life style, our presence, and active, positive involvement in the community in which we live and work. Region's

discernment went well, and glad to announce the acceptance of Sr. Nneka Okoro, and Sr. Saratu Abraham for Affirmation in December, 2024. The Sisters in the Region participated actively in weekly Biblical and Spiritual article reflections to enhance their spiritual growth and union with the Divine. Also to enhance Non-violent Communication. The Region spent time reflecting on the goodness of the Lord throughout the year. Sisters were encouraged to continue to take their prayer life more seriously, and to pray with the people around them. Sisters were encouraged to take care of their health. We ended the Region meeting with a deep gratitude to God for the gift of one another at 6:45 PM.

Submitted by : Gert Bassey, RCC.





South Central Region, Houston , Texas.

We continue to connect through phone message groupchat; sharing scriptures, inspirational words, universal truths; as well as through emails, visits to and with

each other; living the SFCC vision 'that all may be one'

We meet every 3rd Sunday via Zoom. Our usual meeting includes opening and closing prayer, a spiritual sharing, updates about our lives and ministries. The Sisters take part in the becoming process which leads to insightful conversation for those in the becoming process and for the rest of us. We have chosen the book: Prophets in their own country: Women religious bearing witness to the Gospel in a troubled Church, for the Becoming process at this time.

We had our Regional retreat on October 25-27th at the RUAH Spirituality Center, Villa de Matel, Houston, Texas. This was attended in person by Srs Mary Pat Morris, Odessa Stanford, Juanita Martinez, Mary Ifeanyi, Helen Marie Akosile: and virtually by Sr Helen Popoola, Ann Pennington. Sr Ginny Braniff was unfortunately not able to attend.

During the retreat, we had two major presentations.

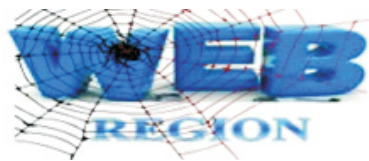
ØThe Dynamic Process of Religion and Evolution: Illia Dello. By Sr. Mary Pat Morris. We shared experiences about the Evolving nature of God's love and service, the communion with God and communion with the earth, and a communion with God through the earth.

ØCatholic Theological Union Religious Study: Moving Beyond the ARC: By Sr Odessa Stanford. We had discussions about supporting a change to sustain equality and equity within the American Consecrated Women Religious Community. We focussed on A Call to sustain justice and love for one another as SFCC.

We also participated in spiritual listening: New Problems and New Directions: from falling Upward.

We concluded our retreat with updates about our Affiliate (Sr Laura Mosley); and Inquirers: (Srs Patricia Anuws, Juliana Ibe, Irene Duru and Morgan Garvey).

With every meeting and contact, we continue to encourage and support one another in our journey of faith. *Submitted by Sr. Helen Marie Akosile,*



The sisters in the WEB Region met via Zoom on the second Saturday of the month in October and

November. In October, ten sisters and three inquirers participated. Pat McCarthy thanked for our prayers and support at the time of Anne's death. Pat was blessed with the help of a neighbor, Barbara, who was a nurse and came by four times a day to care for Anne in her last week.

Ana Marina reported that she had visited with Mary Bowman, formerly a member of WEB Region. Mary is in a nursing home in W.Va. suffering from Alzheimer's. Our opening prayer focused on Immigration, after which the sisters shared their ancestors' histories of immigration to this country.

The stories were fascinating and varied; all spoke of risk, courage and faith. We talked about the ethnic communities that formed from the early Polish, Irish, German, Italian etc. immigrants, separate entities within our cities, exclusive in language and culture. Lynn, who is African American, reminded us that her ancestors did not come here voluntarily.

Fifteen sisters and three inquirers gathered for our Zoom in November. After greeting and prayer, we addressed the themes of the meeting: Post Election and Thanksgiving. The discussion

was stimulating, interactive and enlightening. Surprised at the breadth of Trump's victory, we realized that perhaps some of us had no meaningful conversation with those whose views are different from ours nor the reasons for their choices. Understanding cultural differences helps to explain the results.

Although the U.S. is 50+ years behind other nations in trusting a woman for leadership, until the country deals with its racism and sexism, it will not move forward in that direction, nor toward any unity and equality. There is concern that religious communities and other christian agencies that are dedicated to care for the poor, the immigrant etc. will be unable to fulfill their mission in the future. Each of us, as the future unfolds, are committed to deeper love, kindness and compassion for the "other". As we remembered Thanksgiving Day, many sisters expressed gratitude for their religious vocations, for SFCC that enables them to continue their vowed commitment and ministry. We are grateful for the technology that connects SFCC around the world. Lynn, one of our newer, younger sisters would like to do an oral history project to capture the life experiences of our older members. Lynn has done this with other groups.

We closed the morning with a poem by Rumi that addressed the needs of our time.

Submitted by Alma O'Brien



Affiliate



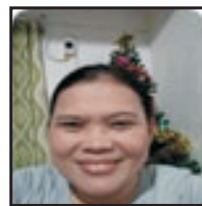
Agnes Esarza Namocatcat
10/06/2024
San Pedro Calungsod
Region



Marietta
Calderon
San Lorenzo
Ruiz de Manila



Cora Navarate
Holy Trinity
Region



Precious Marie
Gamier
San Lorenzo
Ruiz de Manila



Shailine Carabot
San Lorenzo Ruiz
de Manila

Submitted by Isabelita Bulala RCC/Archivist Philippines



India



I am Tresa Veni (MA., M. Ed M. Phil), born and brought up in... Rayakottai (Tamil Nadu).. and I am 45....years old. Presently working in a private school in Rajasthan, teaching English. Formerly I

was in St. Anne's of Madhavaram Congregation in Chennai and I was there 10 years including formation. I left the congregation in 2009, before my final vows due to health reason, (I was affected by fever , leptospira). My zeal and the desire to follow Christ, it still alive in my heart. I came to know about SFCCs through our parish Br Nixon Fernandes and he connected me to Sr Olive D'Souza SFCC. I would like to dedicate my life to Christ and serve the poor and the needy.



Hence, I am expressing my thirst to follow Christ through the SFCC way of living.
Submitted by Margaret Gonsalves RCC India

Merry Christmas



Inquirers

Africa



Blessing Onuchukwa N.
Zambia Region-Ghana
Born on 20/4/1987

Blessing Onuchukwa joined congregation in the year 2020 and later she left because she felt she was treated unjustly despite of her loves

and service to God through the Congregation.

Blessing Onwuchekwa's guiding principles in life are respect, integrity, daily prayers, forgiveness of self and others

Blessing Onuchukwa holds Degree in Early Childhood Education. She is currently teaching at Bishop Vincent Academy Yendi in Northern Region of Ghana

Blessing Onuchukwa was attracted to SFCC by the way of how the evangelical vows are interpreted.

Submitted by Marta Nyaga Archivist, Africa

REMEMBER

ISSUE 5: June-July
2025 is the
LAST CHANCE
to submit
proposal or
recommendation
for Manila Assembly
January 2026



Obituary



HELEN WAUGH

LIFE: 1931-2024

SFCC: 1995-2024

Sister Helen Waugh departed this life on October 12, 2024, at the age of 93. For 41 years Helen served with the Society of the Holy Child of Jesus, leaving them in 1993.

Two years later she joined SFCC and remained an active member in the Sunbelt Region. Helen ministered as a hospital chaplain, director of chaplaincy, supervisor of ministry students and on faculty with Duquesne University's in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

While Helen's first love was art, earning an MFA in Art from the University of Notre Dame, focusing on painting and sculpture, the most significant change in her life came with her M. Div degree from the Washington Theological Union. For decades Helen became a leader of the Clinical Pastoral Education movement in the United States, supervising the training of ministers, and overseeing Clinical Pastoral Experience nationwide, serving as the Clinical Pastoral Education Catholic Chaplain Training Officer. Helen is one of the pillars of CPE education and training in the United States,

In 2013 Helen retired with plans to "play and work at I love to do...painting, gardening, and being with friends." At her retirement party, it was noted how "It is the people who have been her greatest delight



Elizabeth Henry
LIFE 1935-2024
SFCC 1998-2024

Elizabeth Henry departed this life on Wednesday, September 25, surrounded by close friends. Born in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, Elizabeth Henry joined the Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth (SCL) (Kansas) after working in their hospitals. She remained with the SCLs for 24 years working in their

hospitals in Kansas, Missouri, and Colorado.

Elizabeth was educated as a nurse, working primarily in hospitals and medical clinics. Eventually she moved into ministering home health care. When Elizabeth left the SCLs, she made public vows and located in Montana where she met Ruth Vontz, SFCC and began exploring the possibility of SFCC. She attended the SFCC



assembly in Calgary, Edmonton, Canada and from that point forward pursued membership in SFCC. She was affirmed the following year, 1989. She remained in home health care until her retirement. Blessed Be Our Sister Elizabeth Henry.



Anne McGinn, SFCC

LIFE 1929 - 2024

SFCC 1989-2024

Pat McCarthy, Anne's longtime friend and sister-in-community, notified us that Anne passed early in the morning on October 4, 2024 at age 95, following a short time in hospice. Anne's sister was able to

visit the day before.

Anne was with the Discalced Carmelites of Detroit 20 yrs, serving the monastery as music director, sub-prioress, and novice mistress. She and two other members left the Carmelites in 1971 to live their vows in a modern form and formed a non-canonical relationship with the Carmelite monastery in Reno, Nevada.

Fourteen years later, because distance proved the relationship with the Reno monastery difficult to maintain, Anne was affirmed into SFCC at the 1985 SFCC International Assembly (Lakewood, New Jersey). Anne was an accomplished musician, with a specialization in Black American Catholic music.

Anne and Pat McCarthy were devoted to SFCC, active in the WEB Region, and facilitating the forward growth of SFCC at a most critical moment in the evolution of SFCC at the 1996 Assembly in Detroit, Michigan. In reflecting on her call to follow SFCC, Anne wrote "I recently read a wonderful article by Rochard Rohr. "God treasures freedom.

God is free and wants us to be free. The religion which promotes and helps us be free is the most perfect." I found that here."

In addition to her love of music, Anne is most fondly remembered because of her smile and her love of sisterhood. "All has been God's work in me and so many others. I didn't do any of it alone." Blessed Be Our Sister Anne McGinn.

Submitted by Karol Jackowski, Archivist



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Quote:

“Whatever changes the people had wanted from the 1962-65 Second Vatican Council were, it seemed, formless, silent, lost in the bustle of a busy church frozen in a medieval mind. Instead, after 400 years without a council of reform, the kinds of changes the people had expected from this council lay yet in Rome, drying in wet ink there and largely ignored ...,” ~ **Joan Chittister**

“Walk together. Question together. Take responsibility together for community discernment, which for us is prayer, as the first Apostles did: This is Synodality, which we would like to make a daily habit in all its expressions.” ~ **Pope Francis**

“Precisely at this time, when there is much talk and little listening, and when the sense of the common good is in danger of weakening, the Church as a whole has embarked on a journey to rediscover the word together” ~ **Pope Francis**



'Synodality and its significance to SFCC way of Consecrated Religious Life today'

The momentous time of Vatican II was envisioned by the visionary Lillana Kopp, who was a forerunner of implementing the Spirit of Council. Synodality is imbedded in the basic fabrics of SFCC way of being consecrated religious life for today. The vision of Pope John XXIII with regards to Vatican II- Inter-Religious Dialogue; Collegiality and Ecumenism was explored by the Council as the mystery of the Church, and brought us closer to the truth that our Mother Church is not a hierarchy but the **'Whole People of God'**. Lillanna, when she penned the 'Sudden Spring' it was a master stroke for the visionless church and religious life those days.

Today this 'Whole People of God' is disintegrated by the wasted interests of the power mongers among the church leadership mostly [mal]e. For me integrity is everything, may it be personal or communal- the whole people of God. The synodality is not a work of fickle and fleeting minded people, but of deep and transformative listeners who believe in the fixing the church as an integrated Whole.

52 years ago, Lillanna Kopp, envisioned the prophetic ways of defining SFCC evangelical vows: Listening, Serving and Loving, which is the Thrust of Synodality today.

Synodality represents the precise style that qualifies the life and mission of the Church, expressing her nature as the People of God journeying together and gathering in assembly, summoned by the Lord Jesus in the power of the Holy Spirit to proclaim the Gospel.

When the world is going through a change, our conscious listening should bring us closer to the intricacies faced by the vulnerable groups, putting into practice the dream of Jesus 'that they may all be one' (Jn 17:21).

Thus, indicating us the road map: "Because there is one bread, we, who are many, are one body, for we all partake of the one bread" (1 Cor 10:17). "You are the Body of Christ, each one in his own way, members" (1 Cor 12:27). Lillanna envisioned that every SFCC should be seeker and trail blazer of tomorrow's vibrant, radiant and all-inclusive church and society at large. Let us pray to Ruah, that we may all experience the pangs of birthing a new vision: Inclusive and Radiant Church, open for all.

Lillanna, felt the pulse of today's problem of the world, which is 'Listening'. In her wisdom she renamed our Vow of Obedience as 'Listening' Listening as an art that can heal a human heart. She simplified the heavily loaded word 'Obedience' which is beyond ordinary people's understanding. She groped SFCCs together in listening mission of the Church.

By praying and listening to the Holy Spirit through God's people, every Christian is able to discern together the pathways to God-the three dimensions of the synodality: to a deeper communion, fuller participations and greater openness in fulfilling our evangelizing mission in the church.

Journeying together as pilgrims praying, listening and discerning will make the church radiant, and profoundly interrelated which Lillanna dreamed of. Listening is the strongest and vital pillar of the synodality will make every person counted as member of the church through whom God speaks.

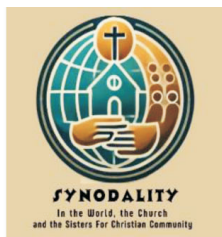
SFCCs has brought men and women together for mutually strengthening, encouraging and equipping. This unity empowers us to go out as individual or community to extend God's influence into the world by sharing the gospel or contributing to the order and betterment of creation.

Just as the "Synod on synodality" is focused on the pilgrim church, to which all are belong to and collegial way of sharing and exercising our leadership and authority which makes everyone belong to one family.

- Reflection on Synodality by Sr. Margaret Gonsalves



Sr. Margaret Gonsalves



SYNODALITY: IN THE WORLD, CHURCH, SFCC

REGISTRATION

SFCC INTERNATIONAL ASSEMBLY - January 14 to 17, 2026 PIUS XII CATHOLIC CENTER

Location: 1175 United Nations Ave. Paco, Manila 1007 piuscatholiccenter@gmail.com +63-28356-2232

(Please check where appropriate)

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☐ Executive – Single/Double P1130 or \$20, Triple Ph1500 or \$25 Total _____

☐ Suite – Single/Double P1450 or \$25.50, Triple Ph1900 or \$33 Total _____

Specify Room mate _____

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City/Town _____ Country _____ Zip Code _____

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