Congregational Spirituality Centre
From the depths of our heart, we lean back into the Heart of Christ. The fire of his love animates our inner being. Drawn by Christ’s energy, we join together and participate in the dynamic movement of the cosmos towards greater love.
That the Spirituality Centre in Angers be the coordinating body for developing a worldwide spirituality and research network.
The Congregational Spirituality Centre, at the pivotal point of the Motherhouse, is at the heart of spiritual animation for the Congregation, at the service of the CLT and thus the entire Congregation.
The Coordinator of the Spirituality Centre and her Team will work with the Congregational Leadership Team (CLT) to create a five-year plan, including:

- A review of the recommendations from the February 2009 Spirituality session
- A review of the role and function of the Spirituality Centre in Angers
- Developing appropriate structures and programmes to act as a coordinating body for developing a worldwide spirituality and research network
- Ensuring further research on the spirituality of St. John Eudes and St. Mary Euphrasia from a cosmological perspective
- Fostering a deepening of the life of profound prayer across the Congregation
• To follow through on the initiatives of the Congregational Spirituality Committee
• To nourish a vibrant spirituality for today, through reflective living
• To promote an appreciation of our heritage (spirituality, people, places)
The Congregational Spirituality Centre: its role

- To Respond to requests for individual/group Accompaniment and Formation
- To Develop Pilgrimages/Sabbaticals connected with our Congregational story and roots
- To Offer Retreats enlivened by the spirituality of SJE & SME
- To Maintain and respect the Historical Archives and encourage continuing research
Congregational Spirituality Centre: Team
June 2015

Sr. Irma Del Valle Gallo
Sr. Noreen O’Shea, Coordinator
Sarah Elbisser
Sr. Theresa Kim
Sr. Dénise Déschamps
Sr. M. Ángeles Moráles Roda
Sr. Elizabeth Lim
Animation:

- Pilgrimages
- Retreats on Congregational Spirituality
- Reflection Days
- Conferences
- Inputs at Sessions
- Participation in Congregational Meetings
- The Labyrinth, the Tunnel, Noirmoutier
Retreat Themes

2011 - “Live joyfully with your God… let love be your soul’s atmosphere”

2012 - “Your life is like a tree that is always green and bears fruit in due season”

2013 - “Living in Creative Fidelity”

2014 - “Prayer unites all aspects of our lives…”

2015 - “Energized by the Spirit we risk together for mission”
Congregational Spirituality Centre

Research

- Alleron Project
- Archives
- Contemplatives in Africa
- Blessed Maria Droste
To foster a deepening of Good Shepherd spirituality and a new consciousness of our identity

Hanan Youssef
Irma del Valle Gallo
Jane Ng (GS Partner)
Pélagie Ratsarimananjato
Caroline Price
Vivienne Fernando
Raquel Toledo Puebla
Marie de Los Angeles
Melinda Stricklen
Noreen O’Shea
Odile Laugier
Anne Josephine Carr

Liban/Syrie
Argentina/Uruguay
Singapore/Malaysia
Les Isles
Australia/Aotearoa-Nz
Ireland - Sri Lanka/Pakistan
Canada - Ecuador
BFMN
Mid-North America
Coordinator Angers
Consultant Europe-BFMN
CLT Liaison
Spirituality: Source of Spirit and Life

4 Initiatives

• Developing an appropriate structure to act as a coordinating body for developing a worldwide spirituality and research network.

• Data Collection, Sharing Resources, Research, Translation

• Shepherding in the 21st century

• A New Way of Looking at our Spirituality and Identity
Initiative 1

Develop an appropriate structure to act as a coordinating body for developing a worldwide spirituality and research network – New title … New structure

Congregational Spirituality Centre
Congregational Spirituality Network
Link Persons at Unit Level
Circles of Provincials choose Continental Link Persons
• REAL Link persons met together and with the Spirituality Committee in Argentina in February 2013
• APC Link persons met in Indonesia in March 2013
• CEP Link persons met in ANGERS in May 2014
The Congregational Spirituality Centre is directly accountable to the CLT.

- CEP: Circle of European Provincials
- APC: Asia Pacific Circle of Provincials
- CPNA: Conference of Provincials of North America
- REAL: Red (Network) de Provinciales de América Latina
- RIMOA: Réseau (Network) – Iles, Moyen Orient, Afrique
- Mission Development Office
- GSIJP Office
- Communication Office

The Congregational Spirituality Centre, Angers
Spirituality:
Source of Spirit and Life

Initiative 2

Data Collection, Sharing Resources, Research, Translation

Grid for Data Base of Human Resources (e.g.: Spiritual Guides, Retreat givers, Facilitators, Translators, Interpreters, Archivists, Historians), and Material Resources (e.g.: Books, Electronic, Resources, Theses, Liturgical Resources, Spirituality Centres).

Sent to Units in September 2012
Deadline extended to September 2014
Spirituality: Source of Spirit and Life

Initiative 3

Shepherding in the 21st century

Reflection questions (drafted with Sr. Généviève Commeau and Odile Laugier)

Spirituality Committee has asked the Congregational Spirituality Centre to prepare a Retreat on this reflection.
Initiative 4

A New Way of Looking at our Spirituality and Identity

Worked with Sr. Veronica Lawson, Australian Mercy Sister, Biblical Scholar on creation theology in October 2012

5 Reflections on “Ecological Conversion” on the Congregational website: April – August 2013: “Shepherding God’s Creation”; “I am the Good Shepherd”; “Feed my Lambs”; “Mary treasured”; “You are the Light”.

Notes and Powerpoints from Gail Worcelo’s workshop on Evolutionary Zeal, prepared and put on Website from October 2013: “Evolutionary Zeal and Merciful Love in an Unfolding Universe”; “Movements of Grace”; “The Divine Dynamism - Being and Becoming”; “Leaning Back into the Evolutionary Heart of Christ”.

Spirituality: Source of Spirit and Life
Collaboration with GSIJPO and MDO

• Encouraging collaboration between Spirituality Link Persons and Justice & Peace persons at Province level

• Moving towards greater integration of important aspects of Spirituality, Justice and peace and Mission Development

• Workshop on Anti-Trafficking for Good Shepherd (postponed from 2015)
October 2011 – August 2012: The Congregational Spirituality Centre Coordinated Teams of OLC and RGS to produce, edit and disseminate Monthly Reflections

Collaboration on Retreat preparation and putting Retreat on website
THE LABYRINTH
ANIMATION IN NOIRMOUTIER

- Oratory opening with Mass in summer
- Bicentenary event in June 2013
- Renovations: 2 double studios; 3 single studios
- Animation with Parish: 28th September 2014
- Week of guided prayer: December 2014
Living Heritage Committee
Sub-Committee of the Motherhouse Committee
Meetings twice a year
Inventory of objects began in February 2012
Writing project for subvention
Monthly meetings with Scenographer - regarding objects and illustrations to display
Preparation and translation of texts
Interviews/Videos - Selection & editing
Museum Opening - 3rd July/April 2016
Living Heritage

- Motherhouse Committee – asked to find people to form an Association to run the Museum
- 3 Sisters ex-officio
- 9 people identified
- Draft of Constitutions drawn up over 5 meetings
- Association now legally constituted
Museum Association Members
Blessed Maria Droste Committee

Time of commitment: June 2013 - June 2015
Sr. Noreen O'Shea, **Committee Coordinator** (International Community at the Motherhouse/ Spirituality Centre - Ireland)

Sr. Andrea Tillmanns (BFMN - Germany)

Sr. Theresa Kim (Northeast Asia - South-Korea)

Sr. Carolina Madariaga (Bolivia/Chile - Chile)

Sr. Ma. Fátima Pires (Portugal)

Sr. Sadhani Welmillage (Sri Lanka/Pakistan, contemplative)

Sr. Maureen Kunz (Mid-North America)

Ms. Betsy Selman-Babinecz (Mission partner, Directress of Maria Droste Counseling Services in New York)

Br. Reginald Cruz, cfx (vice-postulator of the cause of Bl. Maria Droste, Philippines)

**CLT Link person:** Sr. Anne Josephine Carr replaced by Sr. Yvette Arnold

(Congregational Secretary – Rome)
Blessed Maria Droste Committee - Role

To work with the Congregational Spirituality Centre and the Spirituality Committee

The Bl. Maria Droste Spirituality Committee will review resource materials on the life and spirituality of Blessed Maria Droste and her devotion to the Sacred Heart during her time.

The purpose is to publish documents, flyers, pamphlets, prayer cards, etc., with an updated theology and language relevant within today’s world.
“Keep your present spiritual outlook, pass it on to future generations, and the Congregation will always be like a tree planted by running waters, extending everywhere its branches, covered with leaves, flowers and fruit.”

SME Conferences 68
At Congregational Chapter 1864
Gracias
Thank You
Merci
Obrigada
Grazie
Danke