Please send your articles on or before 5th of
January, March, May, July, September and November.

**JANUARY- FEBRUARY**
- Central South US
  - Peru
- Eastern Central Africa
  - (Kenya, Congo, South Sudan, Uganda)
- Italy-Malta
- North Mexico
- Indonesia

**MARCH- APRIL**
- West Africa (Senegal, Burkina Faso)
- New York-Toronto
- Europe-BFMN
  - (Belgium, France, Hungary, Netherlands)
- Southeast Latin America (Brazil, Paraguay)
- Great Britain
- Egypt-Sudan
- Ecuador
- Colombia-Venezuela and Cuba

**MAY- JUNE**
- Montreal, Canada
- Philippines-Japan
- Angola-Mozambique
- Central America
  - (Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama, Puerto Rico)
- Argentina-Uruguay
- South Africa

**JULY- AUGUST**
- Mid-North America
- Lebanon-Syria
- West Mexico
- Australia/Aotearoa-NZ
- Eudist Family
- East Asia
  - (Cambodia, Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam)

**SEPTEMBER- OCTOBER**
- Bolivia-Chile
- Northeast Asia
  - (China, Hong Kong, Macau, Taiwan, South Korea)
- Germany-Albania
- The Isles (Madagascar, Mauritius, Reunion)
- Portugal
- Austria-Switzerland-Czech Republic
- Singapore-Malaysia
- Spain

**NOVEMBER- DECEMBER**
- South West India
- Central East India-Nepal
- Ireland
- Sri Lanka-Pakistan
Society needs transformative communities that seek the common good, as the rhetoric and choices of many nations is becoming more tribal. Transformative communities are imperative because they embody the spiritual journey of incarnation or relationships with the resurrection or transcendence. This collective spiritual journey is critical in a world of both advancement and struggling with cultural identity. These communities are called to live Teilhard de Chardin’s words, “There are two types of energy in the universe: tangential energy (energy of attraction) and radial energy (energy of transcendence).” He illuminated these energies regarding love and consciousness, indicating these energies “undergird the inner and outer dimension of nature.” Transformative communities embody both of these energies as they discern and explore their future in the mystery of these times.

At this historical moment and into the future, information, biotech, artificial intelligence, and a myriad of other technological advances are shifting every fiber of our culture. This paradigmatic shift offers extensive opportunities and fosters economic and emotional dislocation. For many, this feeling of alienation is causing a range of emotions from hope to despair. For this reason, the role of transformative communities is to be a beacon of realistic optimism in the midst of emotional change.

Transformative groups enter into the mystery of change that seeks to create healthy societies grounded in a more interdependent societal framework. They experience themselves as pilgrims on a profound and holy spiritual journey. Transformative communities understand the importance of systems thinking and collaborative relationships that transcend themselves, discovering meaningful solutions to approach critical issues such as environmental degradation, poverty, immigration, and human trafficking.

Transformative communities balance the importance of relationships with the realization that life is about transcending this moment. It is balancing the organizational ego and the common good. God is always calling us to move beyond this time. In his book, A Future of Faith: the Path of Change in Politics and Society, Pope Francis states, "This is the secret, dear friends, all of us are called to share in it. God expects something from you. God hopes in you. He comes to open the doors of our lives, our dreams, our ways of seeing things. God comes to break open everything that keeps you closed in. He is encouraging you to dream. He wants to make you see that, with you, the world can be different. For the fact is, unless you offer the best of yourself, the world will never be different.” …

To continue the reading Click here
In June 2018, the local communities provided a gathering space for dialogue, prayer, and reflection. The focus was on the rediscovery of the joy of being disciples and missionaries. It is our great joy to be sent to make the great treasure of the Gospel known with our words and works. From October to December, the Colombia-Venezuela Province conducted a Spiritual Human Formation Program for the formation and training of two hundred people, including employees, volunteers, and sisters. The material provided could be easily duplicated and shared. Overall, the Program was participative and turned out to be an instrument for the formation of the participants.

Good Shepherd values and principles guided the training that was held in various areas of Medellín, Rionegro, Ibagué, Bogotá, Pereira, Manizales, Cali-Palmira, Barranquilla- Cartagena, Caracas-Barquisimeto, Cúcuta, and with the laity of San Cristóbal. The prayerful reading of the text “The Mountain” and the methodology of “See, Judge, Act” used in applying the social teaching of the Church enriched the process.

Catholic Social Teaching, the position documents of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd, and the spiritual leadership of Jesus, the Good Shepherd illuminated the content of the Program. The local leaders received a light as a symbol of the mission, to keep it alive. The light serves also as a reminder of the thoughts of St. Mary Euphrasia and St. John Eudes. In addition, they received materials in order to teach what they had learned, along with mementos of our Foundress.
There is an urgent need to combat trafficking in the tourist city of Cartagena although authorities have dismantled networks of traffickers that undermine the welfare of young and adolescent girls. The Talitha Kum Program of the Archdiocese of Cartagena under the leadership of the Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd is committed to and draws its inspiration from the Congregation’s position on the trafficking of women and girls. Sister Blanca Nubia López Rendón is the director of the training program, “If We Prevent It, There Would be no Trafficking,” aimed at the prevention of trafficking, a crime of global proportions. Program participants include young and adolescent girls who live on the outskirts of the city, such as the Barrios San Francisco and María, members of the interdisciplinary team, friends, benefactors, and volunteers.

Eighty people took part in the training program from February to November 2018. Seventy of the participants were beneficiaries of Talitha Kum, girls between 9 and 16 years of age. Various pedagogical methods used were stories, theatre, music, and painting which allowed participants to be creative, playful, and to choose their own way of promoting the goals of the program to other institutions, especially to schools and colleges in the city.

Several significant events took place at different institutions to reinforce the training. A showing of the movie, “Human Trafficking” at the University of Sinú highlighted the dangers to which girl children and adolescents are exposed, the dynamics of trafficking, how the victims of trafficking feel, the tactics used by perpetrators, and the risks to the families of the victims.

The Jesuits organized a symposium held at the Atrium of the Gentiles in observance of the International Day Against Trafficking. Experts gave presentations on current, relevant information regarding the crime of trafficking. The girls from Talitha Kum participated wholeheartedly in discussions and demonstrated their depth of learning by their assertive responses to questions. Sister Yolanda Sánchez, province leader, and the province leadership team also took part in this event.

The launching of “It’s a Story,” a campaign against trafficking in persons, took place at the Plaza de la Aduana on August 1, 2018. It was the site of the signing of the commitment to fight against sexual exploitation and trafficking in persons. “It’s a Story” encourages young people to discern carefully before deciding to accept job offers abroad because, as the title of the campaign warns, the job offer could be nothing but “a story.” This event allowed the Talitha Kum Program to have greater visibility; the young girls were in charge of welcoming and interacting with the people. In doing so, the young girls were clearly empowered and committed to work against trafficking.
The head of the Public Ministry gave a financial report covering the period 2017-2018. He gave this report on January 23, 2019 in the presence of social leaders, victims, ethnic authorities, citizens, local authorities and heads of departments, representatives from the Archdiocese of Cartagena, and Mr. Fernando Carrillo Flórez, the National Procurator General. The event featured Sr. Blanca Nubia López as a panelist. There was a recognition of the impact of her work and contribution toward the prevention of abuse, sexual exploitation, and trafficking. For the past five years, Sister has done this work in collaboration with non-governmental as well as government organizations. Since the visit of Pope Francis in September 2017, there has been greater awareness of these issues.

In her presentation, Sr. Blanca Nubia invited the governor, the mayor, and other government leaders to go out to the peripheries of the city in order to have a first-hand experience of the poverty, the sense of abandonment, and the abuse of the rights of the children and adolescents, especially concerning education. She encouraged them to become better aware of the factors that negatively affect the youth of the city: the lack of a healthy environment, their exposure to drug trafficking, familial and extra-familial violence, and their use as drug couriers.

Finally, Sister pointed out to the authorities that the riches entering the city because of tourism remain in the city; hence its designation as “The Walled City.”

Someone raised a question about plans to strengthen the Talitha Kum Program so that more girls can survive sexual exploitation and benefit from the Program in the city where the “pirates of tourism” operate. In response, Sr. Blanca did not hesitate to emphasize the position and commitment of the Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd and the Archdiocese of Cartagena to replicate the program in the peripheries of the city to welcome more young and adolescent girls, especially in the neighborhood of Ciénaga de la Virgen. At present, they empowered sixteen girls to reach students in different colleges in the city, using the theater (plays) as a training tool. In doing so, the youth can multiply their influence in their various social circles. Sr. Blanca made clear the goal is to empower the youth to prevent sexual abuse and exploitation and to defend their rights.

Video is available in Spanish:  https://youtu.be/9i20Fum0eM
Our commitment to nonviolence is an everyday practice

By Chloe, Resident of Collier Group Home

When one door closes another one opens. But often we tend to stare at the door that's closed and we don't pay attention to the ones that are open. Collier Group Home is just another step in our life that makes us who we are. Collier Group Home teaches us to forget what hurts us and lets it be a lesson to our lives. It teaches us to be strong in our own way and to use our safety plan to express how we are feeling or doing. We do something called community meetings which helps every person in the house express how they feel, (emotional intelligence) and identify their goal for the night. We go around the circle and one at a time ask the person next to us, “How are you feeling? What is your goal for today or tonight?

Who can you ask for help?” This is part of both growth and change and social responsibility.

I have learned that letting go hurts but holding on hurts more. A wise person once told me that you can’t hold on to your past because your future will turn out just as bad. I have had my ups and downs in Collier Group Home to the point where I have isolated myself.

It got to the point where I didn't use my coping skills and my safety plan. Collier Group Home is a safe place Anne Marie (Collier Group Home social worker) tells me. She says no matter what goes on, the staff will always love us and they will continue to be here when we fall or when we feel like giving up. Growing up I never had people in my life to guide me the right way or who were there for me when I needed them to be.

Being in this house makes me feel safe and makes me feel like I can go beyond what I think I can do. I have been in an out of home placements for four years now and this is by far the most respected placement I have been in. I would like to share with you this poem I wrote of my experience:

I've been hurt, I've been crumbled, I've seen my world come to an end.
   I have had loss, it’s too toxic to live my life running and hiding.
   I just want to feel my heart beating inside my chest for
      Nobody but myself.
People say that I should be happy because they made me who I am today; but, to be honest, I made myself.
   I grew up by myself and never once sat down and took time to ask myself, Am I Ok?
   It's my time to rise up and say enough, to say it's time to grow and be me.
      I have always had doubts about believing in God
   because of all the stuff He put me through, but there's a saying where He states
      "I gave the hardest battle to my strongest soldier."
He gave me something to fight for and that was my little brothers. He gave me something to stop running from and that was my dad and my past.
   He gave me something not to hide from and that was my issues.
   It's time for me to say thank you mom and dad for the best time I have had in years. You took me in when nobody else wanted me.
   I'm so thankful, thankful for you
      loving me.
Together, let us Celebrate the Joy of Being a Disciple

By Alain Faure, Mission Partner

A year of meetings and exchanges in the Province of Europe – BFMN (Belgium, France, Magyarorszag, and the Netherlands) reached its peak on November 24-25, 2018. The chosen theme was “Together, Let Us Celebrate the Joy of Being Disciples.” More than 160 participants made the trip to the Motherhouse in Angers. Once more, the program was rich and full of promise.

We looked forward to the annual gathering and experienced joy in anticipating another reunion. There are always beautiful, sometimes unexpected moments. One sees faces light up with big smiles and gives or receives a friendly hug as one turns a corridor, or gets off an elevator, or walks through the cloister.

Colette Nys-Mazure, poet and award winning author, led a morning conference on the theme, “The Disciple: An Upright Person.” The elegance of Colette’s voice, the beauty of her poems, the texts from Georges Huldas and Marie Noël carried the audience along the path of disciples of Christ, women and men standing together with dynamic enthusiasm and momentum. The words of Maurice Bellet echoed the discipleship theme: “I love you. In other words, I rejoice that you are what you are and I will do everything for you to become greater.”

Father Olivier Michalet, Provincial Superior of the Eudist French Province, illuminated the exciting concept of “Disciples Together: Creating Communion” by insisting that it is better to create communion rather than communities. He traced the path of discipleship in Mark’s Gospel: the “healing of a blind man” (Mark 8:22); the announcement of Jesus’ Passion; the disciples’ lack of comprehension; and the teaching of Jesus (Mark 9:30-35). He reflected on Jesus making his way to Jerusalem and the healing of a blind man in Jericho whose faith saved him and who then followed Jesus (Mark 10:46-52). It is up to us to make these beautiful words our own and to let them ring in our ears. “He who has ears, let him hear” (Matthew 13:9).

Each year the weekend gathering focuses on sharing. The 2018 event demonstrated the extent of the work done by the various communities of the province on the theme “The Joy of Being a Disciple.” The participants experienced abundant joy. Those present as well as sisters and groups associated with the communities developed artistic representations exhibited at the gathering.

Water is essential to life and it is God, the source of life, who gives water in abundance. Before the Eucharist, each participant, disciple and friend, participated in a symbolic gesture, a ritual blessing from Sri Lanka.

Each one took some of the water, symbolizing a gift from God, and poured it into a bowl. The water filled the bowl to the edge and overflowed, allowing life to flourish represented by a flower that each one brought up at the end of the Mass as a reminder of our mission, our call to missionary discipleship.
Shrove Tuesday at Our Women’s Drop-In Centre in London

By Sr. Lizanne Marsh

“When I know that the world around me is both the hiding place and the revelation of God, I can no longer make a significant distinction between the natural and the supernatural, between the holy and the profane....Everything visible is the outpouring of God.” (Richard Rohr)

Our drop-in centre for vulnerable women, run by Sr Kay for 12 years, opens every Tuesday night at the Methodist Church. Our regular volunteers are young, vibrant and dedicated Christian women who have a heart for the marginalized and belong to a new type of Christian Church. They are from diverse backgrounds and countries such as New Zealand, Australia, Poland and Japan as well as UK. Others, from the different organizations we work alongside, also visit to get to know the women in a relaxed and informal atmosphere, slowly building relationships based on trust and human interaction and the sharing of a simple meal. Here, in a room in the heart of one of the busiest “red light” areas in London, we build community.

The women who come into this safe and hospitable “woman space”, are homeless, sleeping on the streets, or may have temporary shelter. In the centre they can have food and hot and cold drinks and also have a shower and a clean change of clothes. Most of these women have been coming regularly to the drop-in centre for years and have developed friendships amongst themselves, helping to support each other through life’s ‘hard knocks’, bereavements and all kinds of trauma. Many are struggling with addictions and have lost their children to the adoption services. Our volunteers run small groups in which there are a variety of activities for those who want to participate. The favourites are creative writing, led by volunteer Yosola (top right photo) nail painting, and art work. Very often it is during these activities that some women are able to relax and open up about problems they would otherwise find too overwhelming to share. The conversation is always friendly and sociable and there is also the opportunity for those who need to have a confidential chat with one of us. This can often lead to them being referred to organizations where they can access further professional help. Outreach and follow-up work continues with the women on an ongoing basis to provide help and support. Among other things, this could mean accompanying women to court, or to various appointments. Sisters Kay and Lizanne also work at two different women’s prisons where new connections are made and old ones followed up. Jo (left photo) leads a free community cooking club for our women held on various Saturdays. Here the women learn to cook healthy, tasty, inexpensive meals and at the end of each session they sit together and share a meal they have created themselves.

As well as celebrating each woman’s birthday, there is a party for the significant times of the year such as Christmas. Every year on Shrove Tuesday, commonly known in UK as Pancake Tuesday (the day before Ash Wednesday), we have a party, during which pancakes are the main item on the menu! The lovely mother of one of our volunteers has been coming in every year and making the pancakes. This year, her daughter made the pancakes which were served hot and fresh. A long table had been set up with a delicious variety of fillings, oranges and lemons cut into segments, chopped bananas, sugar, marshmallows, chocolate spread, toffee and nuts. All agreed they were delicious and some managed three pancakes!

The ‘party’ atmosphere never fails to attract and the word soon gets around. On this occasion, as well as having women from Scotland and other parts of UK, we had women from Saudi Arabia, Bulgaria, Somalia, Senegal, Jamaica, Russia, Lithuania and Israel. It never fails to impress us that no matter where you are from, the same basic needs unite us - the need to have enough food, warmth and the security of a home, the need to be loved and accepted for who you are, and the need to belong.
With the ongoing migration discussions still at the top of the European agenda and the need to strengthen collaboration, awareness and learning across OLCS apostolates in Europe, this Gathering was organised in the frame of the European Project in collaboration with the Province of Italy-Malta (especially the apostolate in Palermo), who hosted the participants with great generosity and warmth.

The Gathering took place in Sicily for 3 days, as a chosen spot for a learning visits (Palermo and Catania), as well as a relevant spot for migration discussions. 5 European Provinces were represented and 10 apostolates. 25 people with experience and expertise on migration got to know in greater depth about the work that each Province is doing in this area, learned from ongoing initiatives and explored communication and networking across apostolates. It was also a great opportunity to discuss the Future of the mission in Europe, highlighting the Italy-Malta Province’s model, because of the “family relation” between Sisters, lay workers, and beneficiaries.

The Gathering started with a mass in the Palermo Chapel of the Sisters, celebrated by Monsignor Francesco Montenegro, and followed by a warm welcome by Sr. Angela Ricci, Province Leader of Italy-Malta. During opening remarks, Sr. Angela celebrated everyone in attendance for showing great initiative in convening the gathering, and shared an insightful reflection about the importance of the work in migration. Sr. Angela also encouraged everyone in the Gathering to keep working and helping people suffering violence, human trafficking and the consequences of unsafe migration, especially in the current political context. Sr. Giuliana followed these words and stressed the importance of Sisters giving the example for people living in Italy through the work with migrants, even though there are less Sisters.

The Gathering took the form of an open space, where 2 speakers gave their perspective about migration: Mons. Montenegro, Bishop of Agrigento and President of the Episcopal Commission for Migration and President of the Foundation Migrantes; and Professor Fulvio Vassallo, lawyer and lecturer on right of asylum and constitutional status of foreigners, and member of the doctoral committee on “Human Rights: Evolution, Protection and Limits” at the Department of Legal Sciences (University of Palermo) and director of Associazione Diritti e Frontiere. Mons. Montenegro provided a very committed and moving overview of the current situation of migrant’s rights in Europe, stressing the need to think about “what Europe are we building”, in a context of increasing numbers of walls. Monsignor also challenged the fear to “the different” and stressed that regardless of nationality, ethnicity, etc., everyone has the right to enjoy a full life.

To continue the reading Click here
The Integrated Childhood and Adolescence Center (CENIT*) is a Good Shepherd ministry in Ecuador in operation for twenty-seven years. On March 8, 2019, International Women’s Day, we participated in a march through the streets of the market zone of Chiriyacu in the south of Quito. Vulnerable children and adolescents as well as their families, various government leaders, educators, religious, lay partners, national and foreign volunteers marched in order to advocate for gender equality in the city and throughout the country.

The march made visible the fight for the rights of women and their personal development. In addition, it was in protest of violence against women. In Ecuador, six out of ten women experience some form of violence. That translates into approximately 3,260,340 women who do not have a life free of violence. Between 2014 and 2018, there were 600 gender-based homicides.

Ruth Rosero, the director of CENIT and a mission partner, points out in her dissertation: “We educate women on their rights, we strengthen their self-esteem, and we guide them with their life projects. We offer them opportunities for a better future. From the beginning of CENIT, we developed strategies to empower women who have not been exposed to this level of support.”

The distance of the march was three kilometers and ended at the Commercial Center of Chiriyacu. At the conclusion of the event, different groups gave presentations by means of theatre, music, and dance. Colegio Maria Eufrasia and CENIT were among the presenters. Government representatives talked about the importance of this date which recalls the brave Ecuadorian women that fought for women’s rights such as Tránsito Amaguaña, Manuela Sáenz, Dolores Cacuango, Manuela Cañizares, Mariana de Jesús, Nela Martinez, Matilde Hidalgo, and others.

Sister Hilda García, RGS, closed the event in the name of CENIT. Sister expressed gratitude for those who participated in the march in defense of the rights of women and girls. The Congregation and CENIT affirmed their commitment to children, adolescents, and families. They pledged ongoing support for women and girls in their daily lives through education, attention to their psychosocial realities, and the promotion of their capacity for personal and social changes.

*Centro Integral de la Niñez y Adolescencia (CENIT)
On November 12, 2018, we opened a “special class,” the fruit of our reflection on how to reach out to the most vulnerable youth in our area. With the help of our mission partners, we created a list of resources. Based on this list, we organized visits to local neighborhoods in order to evaluate the needs of each situation and try to offer solutions accordingly. The next step was recruitment.

The first group to graduate named “María Droste,” consisted of fifteen members. The majority had never attended school. The training approach was very basic. We began with baking pastries and cooking skills. We hoped that they would one day become the instructors and take over the classes. We helped them form a small business based homemaking skills they were learning. They also had other courses such as learning to read, basic math, communication, management, and reproductive health, all in the hope of providing a well-rounded training.

The program lasted eight months, from November to June. We are very happy with this experience and the dedication of many of the women encouraged us. The women themselves consider the experience valuable and testify to the benefits they are enjoying. We are grateful to everyone who contributed to the success of the program.

The Prison: a New Impetus. Christmas

On December 24, 2018, Christmas was celebrated in the prison of Mbour. Sisters and lay mission partners organized the celebration, starting with the Eucharist led by the prisoners themselves. There were hymns in different languages, readings, and playing of drums. This provided a rich diversity. The celebration continued with other cultural festivities such as singing, dancing, eating, and opening of gifts. The men and women shared in the joy of Christmas.

They later sent us a letter expressing their joy and gratitude. “You have not stopped praying, gifting us, and expressing warm feelings. We are very grateful. May God protect your families and the Congregation. You are witness to love, care, and understanding. May God’s name be glorified.” We give thanks to God-with-us for having given us this experience of love in each of our imprisoned brothers and sisters.

Is there life after prison?

Reintegration of former inmates after their release from prison is difficult. After many years in prison, a person may experience loneliness and the inability to adjust in a changed society. Yet there is hope; and nothing is impossible with compassion. In collaboration with a judge of the Court of Appeal of Thiès, we obtained a reintegration order for a woman who started the nine-month reintegration program on February 11, 2019.

The second phase of the reintegration to society project started with one former inmate. We visited with the family. We helped her start a sewing micro-project of bedding and tablecloths. On February 26, 2019, the smiling former inmate affirmed that, indeed, there is life after prison.

Life after prison requires us to journey with former inmates. The relationship helps them to discover and develop their strengths and capacities to renew their life. The social workers, our courageous collaborators and facilitators support them as they engage in an interior process of confronting discouragement, mistakes, temptations, and other challenges.
The National Council of Women (NCW) organized an interfaith training program in Cairo to combat violence against women. The sisters of Egypt/Sudan Province are part of NCW and three sisters participated in the training, which took place October 28-30, 2018.

The training program aimed to bring together women of different faiths to meet, get to know each other and learn to work together for the rights of women and to end violence against women. The program participants developed a booklet to raise awareness of the issue and share methods and interventions to prevent and stop violence against women. The actions of today’s Egyptian women that promote and protect the rights of women can serve as models for future generations. The publication of the booklet coincided with the celebration of Women’s Day.

The National Council of Women intends to initiate a process of sensitization and develop action plans promoting the empowerment of Egyptian women by 2030. This strategy is consistent with the spirit of the Constitution and is based on the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. The three-day training program provided knowledge and skills to the participants. There were lectures, including a PowerPoint presentation by Good Shepherd Sister, Jeanette Alfi, RGS, on the strengths and weakness of women survivors of abuse and violence and the treatment needed to overcome trauma.

The participants formed small groups to discuss violence against women in order to identify ways to protect, educate, and develop strategies to transform attitudes that prevail in Egyptian society. At the conclusion of the training, the participants had opportunities to attend a show, a concert, a photo exhibit, and a crafts fair.
International Mother Earth Day – 22 April
Celebrating with Aguchita and our Position Papers

The Mother Earth is a common expression for the planet earth in a number of countries and regions, which reflects the interdependence that exists among human beings, other living species, and the planet we all inhabit.

“The discord we experience within the very air we breathe, the water we drink, and among our communities calls for a response consistent with our mission of reconciliation which calls us to “join together to bring forth a sustainable global society founded on respect for nature, universal human rights, economic justice and a culture of peace.” Sr. Agustina Rivas, affectionately known as “Aguchita,” has shown through her life how to be a “Sign of conscious commitment to Integral Ecology.”

Aguchita embraced the earth whole-heartedly like a Mother challenging us through her life to see “the world as a source of deep contemplation and sacred activity, calling us to the heart of what it means to be inclusive and reconciled in all ways with the Whole.

“In this sense, Aguchita loved nature and promoted recycling. The seminarians called her “Sister Lettuce” in reference to a photo that shows her carrying a head of lettuce. It was only a symbol of her conscious commitment to an integrated care of creation.”

“She worked at the Good Shepherd program in Florida, Peru, which focused on young women and women farmers in the local jungle areas – the poorest in the valley. She was a simple minister who taught cooking, made candy and supported the dignity of girls in Florida’s poor jungle region.”

Memory of her Commitment to Creation

Aguchita: “The reality of the spiritual life is a continuous imitation of the Lord, our model; because he has felt fatigue, thirst, pain, and hunger...the disciple cannot be more than her Master....May our life be like the wear and tear of the candle that illuminates and diminishes!”

In our time, our Commitment to Creation is reinforced through our Congregational Position Papers which state:

“Our first response is to contemplate reality. We learn from the natural world and from groups, such as women and indigenous communities, who are most adversely affected by ecological violence.”

CONGREGATIONAL POSITION PAPERS IN POWERPOINT FORMAT

To read more comprehensively about our Congregational Position Papers (PP’s) we invite you to visit our website as we present our Position Papers in PowerPoint (ppt) format prepared by Sr. Clare Nolan. We express our gratitude to Sr. Clare Nolan and all who have translated her work to be used personally, communally, and with wider groups. You are requested to translate the PowerPoints into your local languages for wider participation with all partners in mission.

To continue the reading Click here
Good Shepherd Newsletter

Thank you to the translators, and the proofreaders

Adriana Perez
Province of Europe-BFMN

Karla Bernabé
West Africa (Senegal, Burkina Faso)

Marie Hélène Halligon
Province of Europe-BFMN

Marta Ceballos
Province of Mid-North America

Mercy de Leon
Province of Mid-North America

Simone Moubarak
Mission Partner Lebanon-Syria Province

Yolanda Martinez
Province of Central South US

Monique Tarabeh
Communications coordinator
Email: Com@gssweb.org
Website: http://rgs.gssweb.org/