



International Newsletter

Adorers of the Blood of Christ

Year XIX – Issue 3, March 2017

I would like to cry as well ...



In days long past when the world was brand new, spring made all the plants on earth spring up from the darkness toward the light, and all of them flowered as if by magic.

Only one plant did not hear the call of spring, and when it finally was able to break through the hard sod, spring was already long past

“Make me flower as well, O Lord!” the small plant begged. “You will flower as well,” the Lord answered.

“When?” – the small, nameless plant anxiously asked. “One day...,” and God’s eyes sadly misted over.

By now much time had passed, spring that year came

and at its touch the plants of Golgotha had put forth their flowers. All the plants, except the small, nameless plant.

The wind carried the echo of coarse shouts, moans, crying: a man moved forward among the crowd with his shoulders bent over under the weight of the cross. His face was disfigured by pain and blood “I would like to cry as well, like humans cry,” the little plant thought with a tremor. Meanwhile that man suffering under the weight of the cross passed right beside him and his tears mixed with blood fell on the pitiful little plant. Immediately a very beautiful flower burst forth, with the instruments of the passion imprinted in its corolla: a crown, a hammer, some nails .. it was the passion flower, the flower of the passion.

The passion flower opened because it allowed itself to be touched by the pain of humans and opened its heart to the one passing by.

Editorial

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I would like to cry as well ...

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Celebration day at Our Lady of Guadalupe Hospital

On February 17 of this year there was a wonderful celebration for the inauguration of the renovated wing of the second floor of Guadalupe Hospital (GH), an area that had been out of use for various months.

The new wing has 18 rooms and a new service of Digestive and Respiratory Endoscopy, which is added to that of Oncology with Chemotherapy. These departments are greatly needed with the increase of cancer in Belem. Many doctors, workers and friends of the Hospital were present. The ceremony began with the blessing of the new rooms, done by Father Francisco, a Cappuccin priest. This was followed by a joy-filled reception.

The ASCs of the Our Lady of Guadalupe Hospitality House community (Sr. Marlene, Sr. Clara and Sr. Marilia) enjoyed the presence of Sr. Ivone Freitas, Hospital director from 2010 to 2016, who had arrived from Manaus to participate at the event to show respect to the new administration Group.

The new administration Group includes, in addition to Sr. Marlene, the vice-president of the Hospital, Mr. Sebastião Carvalho, President; Doctor Marcos Moreno, technical director; Doctor Ana Emilia Magno, secretary and administrator; and Mr. Alexandre Moreira, financial administrator.

As we know, after many years of praying, difficult negotiations and study by the ASC local, regional, and general administrations to find a satisfactory solution to the challenges of a large work - especially in the context of the grave economic crisis that Brazil is dealing with - Guadalupe Hospital seems

to have some relief from the most difficult times.

Sr. Marlene and Sr Ivone unveiled a stone with the name "St. Maria De Mattias" to whom the new wing is dedicated in homage to the Sisters Adorers of the Blood of Christ. Sr. Ivone thanked the administrative Group stating that with the excellent installation of the second floor, the dream of many people has been realized for the health treatment of our people. Father Francisco praised the Group by applying the words of Matthew (Mt. 6:13-16) to the work of Christians, laity and others, "salt of the earth" and he stated that the hospital which enjoys the powerful protection of Our Lady of Guadalupe, will continue its service for the good of our people.

Mr. Sebastião confirmed that the union of everyone is needed in order to guarantee appropriate services with new specialists and to continue to carry out the wonderful mission of Our Lady of Guadalupe Hospital.



Sr Marilia Menezes, asc



*Continental Area: the Americas
Region: USA*

Circle the Cities with Love

The Adorers of the Blood of Christ at the Wichita Center invited others to join them in a nationwide prayer event called "Circle the Cities with Love," which was held in our convent chapel from 2 to 2:30 Sunday afternoon, Jan. 15.

Participants joined others from around the country in silent meditation to send the power of love that brings healing, peace, and justice to our cities, our country, and

our world around the inauguration of President Trump and the demonstrations that would follow.

The event was a continuation of the Circle the City with Love action that was held before the Republican National Convention in Cleveland last summer.

The format was very simple. We joined in a circle as silent witnesses with others across the country, all at the same time. A simple chime

marked the beginning and end of the prayer period. Even though it was a cold day with icy roads, several people came to join us: Associates, members of other churches and friends of the sisters for a total of 36 in our circle.

*Sr Joann Stuever, asc
Sr. Fran Schumer, asc*





Together for the least

Adorers and friends joined the protest of President Trump's executive order banning certain immigrants from the U.S.

Sr. Joan Hornick, ASC and Cecilia Hellmann, ASC and friends gathered Jan. 31 on the Belleville, Ill., Square outside the office of U.S. Representative Mike Bost.



They were joined by Associate Ada Jimenez and Junior Associate Teresa Jimenez Nickerson.

Sr. Cecilia Hellmann holds a sign that says "Resist."





*Continental Area: the Americas
Region: USA*

Women's March

Adorers, their Associates, coworkers and friends participated in the worldwide Women's March on Jan. 21, 2017 to protest policies of the newly inaugurated U.S. President Donald J. Trump.

They marched in St. Louis, Missouri; Wichita, Kansas; and the U.S. capital, Washington D.C.





Report of the formee gathering

The awaited days set apart fully to celebrate formee day in the Trichur-Arampilly community on 29th and 30th October, 2016 has at last arrived. All the formees had come together and were very happy to take part in this great event after lots of preparation. They made these two days more meaningful with active participation.

The formees and formators along with community members went to the sanctuary of God for the prayer service. The sisters led the formees to the Lord to the honour of one's vocation through a short and meaningful prayer service. The very symbol of coconut and its narration remained as an eye opener for the formees to

look into their precious call and to thank God for the gift of vocation. This gift of vocation made the formees realise more deeply through a beautiful story of a woman who struggled to husk a coconut and drank the sweet

water which is fresh enough with lots of satisfaction within. A gospel passage



from St. Mark 8:34-38 was read aloud (the Call) followed by the writings of St. Maria De Mattias, our foundress. After the reading, the formees and formators recited the prayer to St. Maria De Mattias. They promised to God that

they would grow toward faithfulness and loving service to God, the creator. Sr. Mini Pallipadan and Sr. Elsy Palatty were requested to hand out to the formees the symbols, which were decorated with colourful flowers and written virtues essential to lead a holy life and then follow Christ radically. They called

all the formees to the altar and greeted them with good cheer. We then concluded the prayer as we sang a hymn to our Lady. Input sessions on Vocation were given by Rev, Fr. Johnson SDB. He used lots of activities where all the formees could turn back to their own precious call received from God. There was also a second session given by Rev, Fr. Lawrence Olekenkil on Sacraments. It was worthwhile and an eye opener to today's younger generation who are striving to run away from realities and spiritual practices. At the end Swarna proposed a vote of



thanks to the father. In the colourful evening hours of this day our formees put together a cultural event. They prepared various items like dances, skits and other en-

tertainment programmes. They also had outdoor game competitions held on that day. The formee gathering was colourfully concluded with a pilgrimage to the Church dedi-

cated to St. Thomas, the Apostle of India.

*Sr Hemema
Juvvannapudi, asc*

*Continental Area: Africa
Region: Tanzania*

2016 National Exams

It seemed like a joke to us when we filled out our forms for participating in two national exams. But it was true.

We studied hard, the best we could, with the effective help of the teachers, both sisters and lay, to complete all the themes for our second level of study.

The sisters encouraged us and our companions by taking on the task of caring for the cleaning of our area and creating a spirit of friendship.

On Monday, November 14 we began our exams. It is a matter of the second national exam for all levels of instruction. We courageously dealt with them with our prayers and those of many people. Before beginning we studied the rules well and this made it easier because we had no problems during the exams. The exam overseers kindly encouraged us. With God's help we finished the exams and school was out.

While we were at home we anxiously awaited hearing about the results. The school reopened on January 3, 2017. Thankful to God for the beginning of the new year and for being back together again, we did not know exactly the date the results would be communicated.

Finally, one Monday morning, during the opening ceremonies, the Director of our school announced to us that the results would come out that morning. We were happy to see that 81 out of 84 of us were in the group with

the highest grades and that the other 3 were in the group with medium high grades. No one was in the lower groups. Such good results as these surprised us a lot because some of the tests were very hard, especially the one in business.

Each teacher, both lay and religious, congratulated us as did the other students.

We are grateful for God's help and we are awaiting to hear if our school was classified among the top three in Dodoma and what our ranking is on the national level.

We can all say that what we obtained is also the fruit of the work of the sisters who were committed to lovingly serve us.



*The students of Maria De Mattias High School
of the Village of Hope*



Ways of networking

Liechtenstein is a prosperous country. Sometimes rich countries or people are prejudiced against BEING pretentious.

This is not the case at this time, because in Liechtenstein there are many people who work in private organizations or sometimes alone with a lot of energy and imagination for a development project in a country of the South. In some of these groups, the desire grew to foster networking and bundling forces, as an African proverb says: "When you want to walk fast, then walk alone. If you want to walk far, walk with others."

Twenty organizations spontaneously followed the invitation to search for a way together. Among them was the VIVAT group of Schaan. After one year of intensive search, the foundation of the "Network for Development Cooperation" took place on 24 January 2017. The project was presented during a panel discussion. The present representatives of the state administration and the state development service were very grateful for the emergence of the network of private organizations.

At this foundation meeting, the guidelines, which had previously been developed, were also adopted. The objectives of the network are to:

- Raise awareness of global cohesion and the need for international solidarity;
- advocate the interests of people from developing countries to political and economic actors;

- promote the perception and appreciation of civil society involvement in Liechtenstein;
- provide a platform for the involved organizations so that they can get to know each other better and coordinate their activities;
- strengthen the project work of the individual members through the exchange of experience and further training.

The preamble states: "We are aware that the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable presupposition for sustainable development."

The VIVAT Group in Schaan is small. Through the network, the members hope to be able to co-operate with projects carried out by larger organizations. Concentrated forces can do more.



An "Independent Association for Human Rights" was established in Liechtenstein on December 10, 2016. Independent means that the association is politically neutral and is not manipulated by the government. It is a place like a refuge, where people or groups can go to get help when they feel their rights are threatened. As a VIVAT group, we did not want to be one of the founding members, but we want to work with them in concrete situations.

Sr. Lisbeth Reichlin ASC



General Administration Calendar

March 4:

Sr. Mariamma, Sr. Barb, Sr. Zita and Sr. Sonia participate in the celebration of the 183rd anniversary of the Foundation of the Adorers of the Blood of Christ in Acuto.

Look at the Crucified One often, especially at his most holy wounds ... Oh, what love ... Oh, what power to communicate to everyone a perfect peace flowing from the loving wounds of Jesus Tender love, tender love, great love for Jesus and for the salvation of souls for Jesus. My daughter, never stray from Jesus' wounds. Study in those wounds the way to bring happiness to everyone.

Maria De Mattias, August 8, 1862



They have returned
to the Father's House



Region of Italy
February 14, 2017
Sr Lucia Pacifico

Region of Italy
February 14, 2017
Sr Paola Chenet

Region of Manaus
February 16, 2017
Sr Maria Dolores Praia Soares

Region of Italy
February 17, 2017
Sr Chiara Fruttini

USA Region
February 20, 2017
Sr Loretta Gegen

Region of Italy
February 22, 2017
Sr Margherita Proietti