



JPIC

Newsletter

We open our hearts to the cries of our earth & its people

No. 03

October-November-December 2018

INDONESIA

A LITTLE THING : A PROJECT WITH ENORMOUS MEANING

A reflection and real action.

The presence of God in the reality of natural creation makes of our lives a blessing place where we meet face to face with God. We are grateful for everything that God has provided for us and we will use, maintain and keep it well.

To keep and to maintain the beauty of creation is part of the plan of God's kingdom which began at the creation of the world and has become our duty as perfect creations of God. A simple project has been started to build awareness in our daily life in the Novitiate. It has enormous meaning for our lives.

First, every first Saturday of the month we turn the lights off, from 20.00-21.00 Local Time (it is known as Earth Hour) and second, we use the leftovers from meals and the fruit skin to make it into compost for the Novitiate garden.

This simple project:

a. Gather the fruit skin and start the rotting process.



The method: every day, we gather the leftovers from meals or various fruit skins.

Then, we cut them into small pieces. We then put it all into a closed place or a pail which contains water and it is stored ± 7 days.

b. Filtering

The method: on the eighth day, the skins and the leftovers in the closed place or pail are mixed and crushed and then filtered to separate the sediment from the water essence.



c. The subsequent process

After filtering, the water essence from the skins and leftovers is used for watering the vegetables or the fruit trees. The skins and the leftovers are planted into the ground or are spread around the root of the trees as compost.



Each novice has one square of soil to plant vegetables. They plant the seeds of vegetables and tomatoes, cucumber, caisim, cabbage-lettuce, green pak-choy, and beans. They are given responsibility for taking care and maintaining their garden. Each Saturday we work together to cultivate our own garden. The products of the garden will be eaten and enjoyed together.



These are the sour-sop tree and eugenia jambos tree which always give us their fruits. From the fruits, we often make juices and fruit salads as a supplement to nutrients at noon. Its fruit skins are then processed as compost and so on.



The Eden garden of the Novitiate shows God's abundant kindness because of his love for us. He provides a very beautiful and fertile place.



This abundant kindness of God, day by day, makes us able to realize and understand that we are partners in the love of God as we use our capability to take care of the Eden garden that has been entrusted to us for the glory of his name.

The Ursuline Novices of Indonesia.



ST ANGELE D'AFRIQUE CAMEROON

Pollution is an unavoidable reality for our planet. It is everywhere and threatens our ecosystem. We are aware of the danger we face and so as not to stand idly by, we join the international community to fight against plastic pollution.



If plastic is used as packaging, it seriously damages our environment: it dries up the rivers and impoverishes the earth. Our activities are small awareness-raising activities. At the community level we make small awareness-raising excursions to become spokespersons for the protection of our environment and builders of peace and justice for the integrity of the earth.

Together with the children of the Catholic action movements, young people, adults and especially our colleagues, we are trying to organize the collection of plastic and the cleaning of rivers. These activities, at the beginning, seemed to be a waste of time and an attack on human dignity for some, but as these activities are carried out, others become aware of the importance of saving our environment.

Plastic is collected and given to an association called ASSOVIE that fights against any damage to the environment and which is concerned for the preservation of nature. This plastic will be, if the means allow, recycled for construction of a village for seniors, a village that will serve as a meeting place between youth and the elderly for the transmission of values.



Collection of plastic garbage and cleaning of rivers



We are campaigning for a sacred environment

Thérèse Emile Zobo, OSU



DAKAR-SENEGAL

1) What kind of people does PARI help? Where does the PARI budget come from? It must first be said that PARI means (*Point d'accueil pour réfugiés et immigrés*). Reception point for refugees and immigrants). Therefore the services offered by PARI are reserved for migrants, namely refugees, asylum seekers, migrants in conflict with the law of the country, returning migrants, etc.



Listening and caring for immigrants

PARI receives funding from donors who are partners such as Catholic Relief, Caritas Spain, Caritas Belgium, Fédasil, the Embassy of the Netherlands etc.

2) What does the aid consist of?

Firstly, the aid is to allow them to be cared for when they are sick, but also for housing without forgetting the financing of income-generating activities to enable them to take care of themselves; and they are also helped to take training courses that open the doors to employment; and, for children, PARI helps in their schooling and scholarships.

3) There are no criteria except that the services are offered to those that I mentioned above, but it can happen that the Senegalese benefit if they are in an authenticated vulnerable situation.



4) We can say that the majority comes to Senegal to flee war. Others are in Senegal because they think that in Senegal they can earn a living easily and even better than if they were in their own country.

5) They come most often from the sub-region and from all over Africa and often from Europe.

6) The causes of immigration are many and varied but we can mention a few:

- Ethnic conflicts
- Political conflicts
- Search for a better tomorrow
- Injustice in the distribution of resources, etc.



7) There is no follow-up action, in other words, tools for monitoring very small projects at the moment, but they are thinking about how to follow up the projects. However, short visits are made to see the development of the activity, if necessary.

Rosette Doukoya,OSU



SOUTHERN AFRICA CANSAS SHAVATHON

On 28 February, Brescia House School held their annual Shavathon. Pupils, parents and staff showed their support by donating money towards this event. Two staff members, along with grade 11 pupils, cut off their long ponytails. The hair was used to create wigs for cancer patients.



Three very brave pupils, Caitlin Felton, Julia Dederling and Kianne Coltman, shaved their heads in support of the cause.



At the same time, the girls held a Ribbonathon. Girls in the primary and high-school decorated their hair with colourful ribbons and proceeds from the purchases of the ribbons were added to the Shavathon donations.



HEARTS OF HOPE



The Grade One girls of 2018 generously donated jars of peanut butter to **Hearts of Hope**. Hearts of Hope is an organisation that provides a safe home in Wendywood that houses and cares for 34 orphaned and vulnerable children, aged between birth and 18 years old.

The home uses over 3 bottles of peanut butter a month to feed the children they provide for. With each Grade One girl committing to bring one peanut butter jar, Hearts of Hope would have enough peanut butter to hopefully last them well over a year (or two). Many of the gracious and thoughtful Brescia families generously donated more than one jar of peanut butter per Grade One child; which should hopefully bring joy and nourishment to the children of the home for a very long time.

The generous collection of jars was collected on 6 July 2018. The peanut butter was handed over with nothing but love and well wishes for the children and staff of Hearts of Hope. Our prayer for them is that this pea-

nut butter fills their tummies with sustenance and their hearts with love.

MANDELA DAY



For Mandela Day the Grade 6 girls brought baby products, the Serviam girls participated in sewing baby blankets, all the girls made personalised baby cards and they all packed a Baby Box pack. Each Baby Box pack was personalised for a girl or boy, including a blanket, a beanie, a teddy bear and a baby product. The representative from Baby Box Project, Tippy Haird, came to explain how this concept started in Denmark and the process of handing these packs out. Tippy takes these Baby Box packs to Leratong Hospital, Rahima Moosa Mother & Child Hospital and the Edenvale Hospital. The girls thoroughly enjoyed this outreach task and appreciated seeing where their efforts were going.



In the year of celebrating what would have been Mandela's 100th birthday, Brescia House School continues to support many registered NPO's through their annual knitting campaign. This year, the campaign included teddy bears, scarves, blankets, beanies and jerseys. Parents, grandparents, pupils and staff got out their knitting needles and have been knitting and crocheting for the past couple of months. Every teddy

bear that was knitted, is donated to an individual child in need of knowing there is someone out there who cared enough for that child, to spend time and effort making them a teddy.

The knitted teddies, blankets, beanies, scarves and jerseys were on display in the Brescia House School Resource Centre in a living yarn-bombed expo.



On the 18th July, the school hosted a knit-along. Parents, grandparents and alumni arrived with knitting and sewing needles, wool etc to turn knitted squares into blankets.

In total, the staff and high school girls knitted over 560 scarves that were displayed as the South African Flag. Some were hung in the trees near the school, waiting for someone deserving to wrap warmly around themselves, while others were taken to be handed out in areas of need.



In addition to this, well over 1000 teddy bears were knitted, 26 sets of booties and bed socks, 57 baby blankets, 12 large blankets, 11 baby jerseys and 320 beanies. This excludes the well over 1000 knitted squares that were turned into additional blankets on the 18th July at the Knit-along. Moms and grannies arrived at the school to assist in turning the squares into beautiful blankets. All knitted and crocheted items have been

donated to various NGOs/NPOs. E.g. CHOC, Kids Haven, Nazareth House Old Age Home and Children's Home, Salvation Army Old Age and Children's home, Witkoppen Clinic and school and Teddy Bear Clinic and Hearts of Hope Home.

SERVIAM AND ECO COMMITTEES

The Grade 6 Eco Club and Grade 6 Serviam Club went to visit Witkoppen Clinic and Witkoppen School to handover outreach collections.

Eco Club girls donated a wheelchair that came from the bottle top collections. This wheelchair was given to a disabled young lady in Grade 4 at Witkoppen Schoo who did not have her own wheelchair. She was overwhelmed with this life changing gift. Mr Mashimba the Acting Headmaster was present to receive the wheelchair



The Serviam Club girls handed over the Mandela Day Class Projects made for Witkoppen School. Mrs Makama was delighted with these teaching materials.

The Serviam Club girls then handed baby products, baby blankets and teddy bears to Witkoppen Clinic.

The Eco Club and Serviam Club are most grateful for the support in making these initiatives possible.



Donne Toldo



FRANCE/BELGIUM/SPAIN

From August 2nd to 21st, 2018, ten students from Foyer Merici (Angers) and Institut Serviam (Paris), accompanied by Sr. Agnes-Marie Duchesne, had a solidarity experience in St Lucia (South Africa) in link with our Ursuline Sisters.

"We embarked on this project in September 2017. The initial aim was financing and building a house for a poor family, as well as help with homework. With the money we obtained from the various sales carried out during the academic year (including the production and sale of 1690 litres of apple juice!), we were also able to fund splints for Nana, a disabled girl.

During our stay, the days were full. During one weekend, on our arrival, we discovered our surroundings and from Monday morning one group was already on the construction site helping the workers to build the house for the family. The afternoon was devoted to helping the children of Khula village with their homework.

We also helped with Nana's care: Madeleine and Lucie went to Richards Bay with Nana to

buy her splints. Noëlle, through her experience in physiotherapy, gave a few sessions of rehabilitation to Nana to familiarize her with the wearing of her splints.

Throughout our stay, we met many people, both the inhabitants of the village and the sisters present on site. Dolly, a resident of the village, shared with us the joy of making mats. We were also able to talk to the modest but extraordinary Brother Neil, director of a Marist school during the Apartheid. The celebrations in the village of Khula were exceptional times, marked by songs full of joy.

Much more than just a pleasant moment spent together, it has been a strong human experience. We have all emerged permanently changed.

Claire, Madeleine, Marjorie, Jeanne, Noëlle, Maëlle, Lucie, Astrid, Jeanne, Emma and sister Agnès Marie Duchesne, OSU



IRELAND/WALES/ KENYA



In our Acts of Chapter 2016 we said:

The Chapter calls us to examine our resources (personnel and material goods) in the light of our lives as religious women, called to stewardship of what we have been given and aware of the current state of the marginalized and homeless in our countries

Here in Ireland we continue to experience a housing crisis of huge proportions.

Last September we committed the proceeds of the sale of Ardeevin, a house we had in Enniscrone, Sligo to be used for housing the homeless in Ireland. Since then we have been working on devising a simple project through which we could respond quickly and effectively to those we know who are in immediate housing need.

The Ardeevin Housing Support is available to

- support families experiencing immediate housing problems, mortgage arrears, rent issues, homelessness,
- support migrants and asylum seekers moving from direct provision.

An application consists of a completed application form and a letter of support and /or referee.

To date we have 16 applications: a number of people who moved out from direct provision. One was a single mother and her 18 month old son who borrowed money from a friend in order to secure an apartment, so she applied to the fund in order to cover rent for two months. A number came through the Society of St Vincent De Paul - one family who needed to get out of the house they were in due to dampness and suffer from a range of illnesses, because of this were on a council list for 17 years but because of rent arrears the council would not house them until arrears were cleared. They have now moved in to a new house.

Another application came from one of our schools, a family in a very perilous position with their mortgage provider and were in negative equity and awaiting an eviction notice to be served. They had to move out and find other accommodation. The Principal of the school put forward their application to help with rent to get them to the end of the summer.

Anne Marie Dixon, OSU



SLOVAKIA

CLAUDIANUM

THE PLACE OF ACCEPTANCE

After the period of communism, when our sisters were given back their buildings, schools and convents in Slovakia, they were able to start once again to live a new life. They immediately started to work everywhere according to the needs of the local citizens. By being attentive to the needs of the people, they discovered that in the area of Modra there was a big gap in the services for disabled people: after finishing at special school they have nowhere to continue their therapies, education, etc... Most of them, despite the effort and desire to get involved in the world of work, stay at home where their acquired skills no longer develop. They easily lose their social skills and habits too, and fall into social isolation. These people need to live in and form a community, just like everyone else.

Our sisters managed to recognise this need and as an answer they trusted their vision to a group of citizens who were able and ready to establish "Claudianum", a daily social rehabilitation centre for mentally and multiple disabled adult people.



The Centre opened their doors on 1st March 2008. From then on we were able to receive 12 clients every day from 8 am till 4 pm. Our clients receive personalized help. Their individuality grows through work and social rehabilitation. The aim is to activate their abilities and prepare them for the most independent life possible in the future.

Claudianum offer their members:

- a suitable place for daily meetings and meaningful time to spend;
- occupational rehabilitation, through professionally supervised occupational therapy, art therapy, movement and dance therapy and other activities aimed at stimulating acquired skills and developing new work skills, fine motor skills, working habits;



- social rehabilitation - developing social skills, training in communication, acquiring new social contacts, orientation in the world around us;



- individual development based on a personalized plan (e.g. English language course, therapeutical riding, cooking course, IT course...)



- And we are helping also to fulfil their realistic desires e.g. one of our clients is working on her first book that we are going to publish and release in December for the Advent market.

Everyone needs not only to be loved and to love others, but also a sense of self-worth and some place to belong so they can find

the meaning of their existence and be a gift to each other and to everyone else.

Our vision is that people with mental disabilities can actively engage in the community in which they live and experience that they are an important part of it. Together, we strive to create an atmosphere of mutual acceptance, understanding and a space for the consolidation of our own values.

Sára Szabó, OSU

LAUDATO SI' SUMMER CAMP

From 6th to 10th August 2018 in Modra in Slovakia there was a daily summer camp Laudato si' attended by 22 children from 7 to 14 years old. The summer camp was led by two sisters, Sr. Damiána Lužná and Sr. Antónia Fabianová.

Every morning we gathered together in the Pleasure Center. We had our logo, flag, hymns and dance. The main aim was to discover the beauty of creation, to touch nature, to be responsible and to take care of our common home as invited by Pope Francis in his encyclical Laudato si'.

The first day we learnt how to segregate rubbish and what is possible to make through a recycling process. We installed new rubbish bins for plastic and paper on four of the most frequently used places in the Pleasure Center.

The second day we had a trip into natural surroundings. We walked through the forest, walking across a stream of water and listened to the sound of nature. Some of us had a personal experience with bees, since we ran into their home. We also learned how important water is and how we can save it.



The third day was very special.



Everyone prepared their own bread and yogurt. It was an amazing experience to touch the dough, to see how it was growing and to smell the aroma of freshly baked bread.

The fourth day we visited a farm. We saw many different kinds of animals. We cleaned the horse. We learned to recognize different kinds of herbs.



The fifth day we celebrated all the goodness which we receive daily from our God. We planted melissa in pots which we took to our homes and we will continue to take care of it and use it for tea, so that we don't need to buy tea in the shop.



At the end of the camp we wrote a letter to Pope Francis expressing our gratitude for his Encyclical.

It was such an enriching time for all of us. We were witnesses of so many miracles

which happen in nature, and also in people's hearts, since we received so many gifts for free as a sponsorship. We are grateful for all that we learned, to feel the breeze, to be attentive to other people, to do things consciously and carefully for our common home.

Laudato si', o mio Signore!



Damiána Veronika Lužná, OSU



with the message of the last EGC in 2016 - decorated with the following sentence from the Gospel: "Who is my neighbour?", "Whatsoever you did, to the least of my brothers, you did to me." and "Go, and do likewise!"

During the year, those who wish write something short about their personal experience with this particular exercise.

At the end it will be possible to read, reflect and share together on these collected witnesses to the active charity that has been shown as the visible expression of God's Love for humanity.



Grete Traußnig OSU



SLOVENIA

"JESUS, WHO IS MY NEIGHBOUR?"

In the province of Slovenia, we have decided to try something new in our communities that could help us to do acts of charity more consciously.

Every month has its own "challenge".

For example, listening more intently to others, showing an active interest in the lives of the people around me, giving something from my belongings to someone who needs it - without asking to buy something new instead,...and other concrete actions.

For this, each Community received a box made of paper. These boxes are - in union



ENGLAND

For over 10 years our province has had close links with The Ursuline sisters of Gandino in Ethiopia. This year we paid our last visit. During our long connections our communities and schools have funded the rebuilding of the Orphanage at Wukro, supported the hospital at Kobo, and enabled the sisters to build a hostel and relocate their Fashion and Design College at Gherji a developing suburb in Addis Ababa.

There is absolutely no way in which this could have happened without the support of so many diverse people and the moral support we received when the going got tough. We are very grateful for the support we received from so many OSU's.

But by far the greatest contribution has come from the dedication, courage and

sheer hard work of the sisters. Their Italian foundresses came with a mission to improve the quality of life, especially of women among those living around them. They also had a great trust in Divine Providence and the sixty plus indigenous sisters who continue their work are absolutely faithful to that mission.

They are by no means out of the woods of third world poverty and uncertainty but they are at a point from which they can now go forward and they are very grateful for what so many described as "the push they needed". Saying "goodbye" was sad for all of us but at the same time we all knew that the links and memories would endure.

I give below a picture of the impressive St Angela Merici Fashion and Design Centre which in its 5 years of coming to birth required all the Divine Province we could muster.



Good news: two Ethiopian ophthalmologists have performed 254 cataract surgeries in 3 days at Our Hospital!!!! 300 poor patients with eye problems were treated for free. We are very happy for this great job and we hope to continue providing this service: Restoration of vision to the community members.

Information sent by Kobo Primary Hospital on 23/08/18. The JPIC group from Chislehurst Parish London, encouraged by a Greenwich past pupil, has supported this hospital for 2 years

Una McCreesh, OSU



USA EAST

SERVICE LEARNING PROGRAM IN ECUADOR



As summer began, most students were looking forward to a break from classes and the daily grind. For educator Amanda Neill and her 13 sophomores and juniors from Ursuline Academy in Wilmington, Delaware, they were actively embracing a different kind of daily grind – a full week of globally-minded, leadership-based service in Ecuador with WorldStrides Camps International.

This rustic program wasn't like any school trip Ursuline's students have ever experienced. As a seasoned-traveled school, they have traversed the globe. But on a WorldStrides Camps International program, students are taken to locales that are facing significant obstacles, as well as opportunities. They live among locals and steep themselves in service experiences.

Ursuline students got off the plane in Quito and six hours later, through the Andes, into the Cloud Forest, and through the rainforest, they had made it to their destination—Camp Ecuador. Their goals for the week were significant: help build a water collection tank and a septic system, teach English classes and help refurbish furniture for the village's school. Each student would take turns in a leadership role to complete each day's tasks.

They knew that each task would help support the community.

"Each time we completed a task, whether it was building a shelf or a septic system, we felt more capable," said Jane Lyons.

"We didn't want to leave," said Lyons. "The people were coming up to us to say thank you. We had an impact on them, but they had more of an impact on us."

As they were leaving and saying goodbye, the students left their luggage filled with clothes and shoes for the villagers. "It was our way to say thank you and to give them something they would need. We practically left with the shirts on our backs," said Shearer. Both Lyons and Shearer agree, "This trip changed our lives".



Jessica Shein

LIFEWAY NETWORK

Here in the Eastern Province of the USA we have been very concerned about Human Trafficking. In response to the statement of the UISG in 2001, "to address insistently at every level the abuse and sexual exploitation of women and children, with particular attention to the trafficking of women which has become a lucrative multi-national business." We joined others in the formation of

the Coalition of Religious Congregations to Stop the Trafficking of Persons (CRC-STOP). By 2012 this group of representatives from 34 Congregations representing over 20,000 members and associates were hard at work focusing on three areas of concern; Legislative, Educational and the Provision of Safe Housing for victims of trafficking.

The Legislative Committee was very active in efforts that were successful in passing the New York State Anti-Trafficking Law in 2007, one of the strongest laws in the country.



Each year the Education Committee collaborated with local colleges to provide workshops educating all generations on the problems of trafficking in the supply chain, and on the prevalence of trafficking in the area of hospitality, hotels and air travel. Rachel Lloyd, founder of Girls Education and Mentoring Services (GEMS) was given a platform one year and the Immokalee Workers of Florida spoke another time. Students at the colleges were encouraged to research the issues and to participate in various ways.

At the start Sisters provided emergency space where women in crisis were able to stay for a few nights. Then, in 2007 Sr. Joan Dawber SC founded LifeWay Network, an effort to provide long term housing.



In February 2012 the LifeWay Network Safe House in New York City opened. Three Sisters, one, an Ursuline, formed a host community ready to welcome and support the first guests. Collaborating with many organizations including social service agencies and Health providers as well as with legal advocates and law enforcement networks LifeWay Network grew to a staff of nine with thirty regular volunteers. They now have two safe houses that have cared for 28 women this year and two rooms dedicated to emergency stays.

At this point in time we, as Ursulines, continue to work together with LifeWay Network in four main areas; funding, volunteering, education and advocacy.



LifeWay Network has provided 51 educational presentations reaching 1,781 people this year. We will continue to support these presentations and to use curriculum materials to raise awareness of the always changing methods of trafficking. We invite you to learn more by participation in US Catholic Sisters Against Human Trafficking

<https://www.sisteragainsttrafficking.org/joinus> and to subscribe to a Stop Trafficking newsletter at <http://www.stopslavement.org>.

LifeWay also provides relays that help us to advocate in many ways not only to support

its programs but to support laws to abolish human trafficking.



"LifeWay Network envisions a world in which human trafficking is abolished and every survivor is strong, connected and free."

Alice Marie Giordano, OSU



DO YOU
REMEMBER?

October



<http://www.un.org/en/events/nonviolenceday/>



<http://www.fao.org/world-food-day>

**DO YOU
REMEMBER?**

November



20
November

<http://www.un.org/en/events/childrenday/>

28
November



Happy Roman Union day



DECEMBER



10
December

<http://www.un.org/en/events/humanrightsday/>

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Thank you!



Thank you very much
for your contributions!

We are looking forward to hearing from you
for the next edition of JPIC Newsletter.
Please send your contribution to your JPIC
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