



CONGREGATION LIFESTREAM

WE ARE DIFFERENT YET ONE

“The way of Jesus...to walk united with our differences.”

-Pope Francis

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Missionary Benedictine Sisters of Tutzing, Casa Santo Spirito, Via dei Bevilacqua 60, 00165, Rome

INTERNATIONAL FORMATORS MEET IN ROME



Generalate and IFM Participants

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INTERNATIONAL FORMATORS
MEET IN ROME

SR. MARKLINE NATURINDA, OSB

The participants of the International Formators' Meeting (IFM) at the Casa Santo Spirito, Rome from October 12 – November come from all our Priors and Generalate Districts apart from formators from Peramiho Priory who could not obtain a visa.

In her inspirational welcome address, Mother Maoro Sye emphasized that *“The formation of our sisters is one of our vital concerns because formation is so fundamental to the future of our Congregation. It is necessary to update and strengthen our formation program with a common vision according to the contemporary world, the church, the changing situation of the congregation and the General Chapter mandate. I hope our IFM 2022 will become a laboratory of living our charism, synodality and intercultural living.”*

Our meeting as already made clear in M. Maoro's opening address was a time of being together in a synodal way, sharing, listening, and learning from each other. Our focus was the Formation of Formators who are to form the candidates in the charism of the Missionary Benedictine Sisters of Tutzing. Hence, our meeting was chiefly structured in three phases: Spiritual Sharing based on these questions: For senior formators: What are joys and challenges in formation work? What has become clear to you in all these years of working in formation? And for new formators: Why do you think you were called



Sr. Mary Thomas

chosen to be a formator? What are your anxieties and hopes as a formator? Sr. Mary Thomas Prado, assisted by Sr. Pauline Trivino, who are rich in the knowledge and experience in formation and leadership positions, took us through a one-week-workshop helping us to understand ourselves as Missionary Benedictine Formators and the qualities we need to cultivate and to remain relevant in this ministry in the spirit of



Sr. Pauline



M. Irene



Fr. Like

interculturality.

Very helpful also was a video presented by Mother Irene Dabalus on the Charism of the Missionary Benedictine Sisters of Tutzing, tracing its origin from The Most Blessed Trinity, through the Holy Spirit that stirred up Fr. Andreas Amrhein to renew the idea of mission in the Benedictine tradition. M. Irene expounded on the 6 constitutive elements of The Charism of our Congregation based on our Constitutions, Chapter I.

We also had a session on Interculturality and Formation facilitated by Fr. Lawrence Sakubita Like, OMI who is well versed on the topic since this is part of his doctoral dissertation on Canon Law.

We took time to share our realities in the different priories/ GD houses, relevant issues and concerns that would usher us into the main task of revising our Congregations' Formation Manual 'Unfolding God's Gift.'

Besides the serious plenary sessions, we also had relaxing educational moments and activities like the Pilgrimage to Subiaco and Monte Cassino, a free day when majority of participants visited the Vatican City and other historical places around Rome, Group Dynamics during our recreations, group sharing and interactions; multilingual liturgies and intercultural feeding.

On the third day of our sessions, we were blessed with a brief visit of Fr. Jean-Pierre Longeat, the President of Alliance International Monasticism (AIM).

We would like to sincerely thank the Generalate for the brilliant planning and the opportunity to have such a wonderful formative experience, so much desired and well-timed. Likewise, we thank the Casa Community for their warm hospitality. As in M. Maoro's opening address, we reiterate the message of Pope Francis praying: *“May we live this ministry with joy and in gratitude, with the certainty that there is nothing more beautiful*

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in life than belonging forever and wholeheartedly to God and giving one's life to the service of one's brothers and sisters."



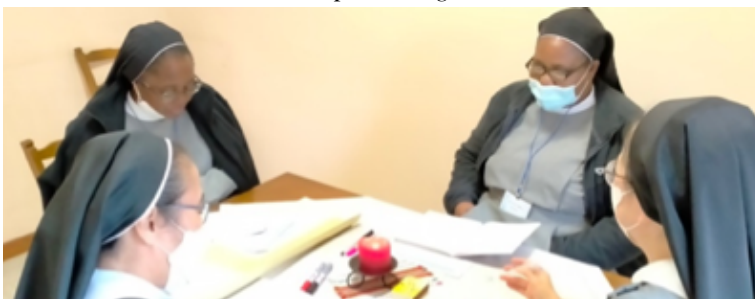
Opening Mass, October 12



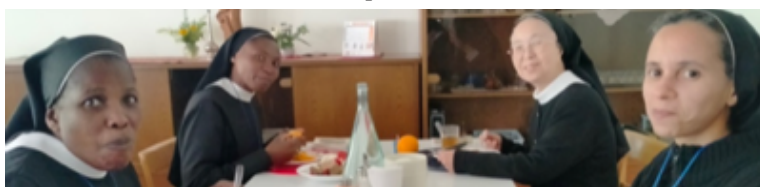
Mission Sunday Mass, October 24



Group Sharing



Group Work



Meal time



The Generalate with Fr. Jean-Pierre

IFM PARTICIPANTS

Tutzing

Sr. Marie-Therese Brodman (juniors)

Ndanda

Sr. Otilia Mbiro (juniors)

Sr. Dafrosa Mniwako (pre-novitiate)

Olinda

Sr. Karla Mirella (postulants and novices)

Sr. Maria do Socorro Silva (Juniors)

Sorocaba

Sr. Nicoli Stecker (aspirants)

Manila

Sr. Pauline Triviño (juniors)

Sr. Mary Paul Baul (novices)

Windhoek

Sr. Antonia Shilunga (novices)

Sr. Maria Sikindo (postulants)

Sr. Germana Kim (juniors)

Norfolk

Sr. Michael Marie Rottinghaus (pre-novitiate)

Daegu

Sr. Lumen Choi (juniors)

Sr. Zeno Sagong (novices)

Sr. Ecclesia Park (postulants)

Nairobi

Sr. Lusina Ng'eny (juniors)

Sr. Marie Bernadette Kithuka (novices)

Sr. Carolyne Isiaho (pre-novitiate)

Seoul

Sr. Lioba Yang (novices)

Torres Novas

Sr. Catarina Mutango (novices)

Sr. Crescenciana Chilimbo (juniors)

Jinja

Sr. Markline Naturinda (Aspirants & Juniors)

Sr. Rose Amoiti (II year Novices & Postulants)

Punalur

Sr. Rimolda Flory (superior)

SR. LUGARDA INSTALLED AS CASA COORDINATOR

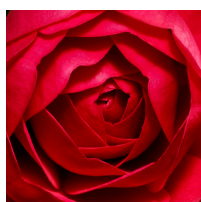
M. Maoro Syc installed Sr. Lugarda Pak as the new Casa Santo Spirito Coordinator, Rome on October 1. Sr. Lugarda belongs to Daegu Priory. In 1986 she was missioned as a junior sister to Sao Paulo where she worked at the Fr. Daegon Parish, a parish that ministers to the Koreans. After one year she stayed at the Sorocaba Priory where she made her final profession on August 1, 1987. She then returned to Sao Paulo for the same mission. After 15 years in Sao Paulo she was sent to Rome where she earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Missiology at the Urbaniana University. True to her course, she selflessly dedicated her service in Angola for 16 years.



Sr. Lugarda receives her document of appointment from M. Maoro



l-r: Sr. Lugarda, M. Maoro & Sr. Antoinette



Heartfelt thanks to Sr. Antoinette Adelman for her faithful service as Casa Coordinator for 7 years, 2015-2022. She returns to Norfolk, her home priory, on November 14, 2022.

SR. MIRJAM RECEIVES DOCUMENT OF APPOINTMENT

M. Maoro delegated Sr. Martha Baumeister on September 1 to hand in the document of appointment to Sr. Mirjam Schweiger as the new General Mission Procurator (GMP) for the next three years.



Sr. Mirjam (l) & Sr. Martha (r)

OLINDA PRIORY WELCOMES VISITATORS

The sisters of the Olinda Priory welcomed Sr. Lumen Gloria Dungca, Vicareess General, and Sr. Vania Maria Toscano, General Councilor, for their canonical visitation from August 10 to September 10. There are 58 final professed sisters, 6 of whom are Germans, 1 Indian and the rest, Brazilians. There are 5 temporary professed sisters.

The visitors went to the 5 stations of the Priory, held community meetings, listened to various concerns of the sisters, had some individual interviews and were accompanied to the apostolate areas of the communities.

It is interesting to note that Academia Santa Gertrudes located in the heart of the Priory House celebrated its 110th year of foundation on June 3, 2022.



OLINDA PRIORY WELCOMES VISITATORS



OLINDA PRIORY HOUSE



RECIFE



CARUARU



BAIRRO NOVO



BARBALHA



BUIQUE



CIB Conference Participants, Sr. Lynne McKenzie at the front center

CIB MEETS IN ROME

The Communio Internationalis Benedictinarum (CIB) Conference of Delegates 2022 was held at the Casa Santo Spirito, Rome from September 8-11. It was a hybrid conference. Present were 25 participants, including translators and staff, and 15 zoom participants from other parts of the world. Some highlights that took place were the following:

- the very touching sharing via zoom of M. Klara of Zhytomyr, Ukraine about her monastery in the war situation and the care the nuns have been extending to the refugees. She expressed her gratitude to the big Benedictine family for being in solidarity with them and for the support they have been receiving.
- the possible new structure for the CIB as shared by Sr. Scholastika Häring, OSB. A study committee will further tackle this matter.
- the re-election of Sr. Lynn Mckenzie as CIB moderator and the election of the administrative council
- the sharing of Benedictine news by Abbot Primate Gregory Polan
- the talk of Sr. Aquinata Böckmann on the beginnings of the CIB which happened in Casa Santo Spirito, Rome in the 1990s.
- the reports of each region
- the pleasure of having the CIB in the Generalate House of the Missionary Benedictine

Sisters of Tutzing in Rome where the participants experienced the sisters' hospitality and the joy to join their liturgy

- the presence of M. Maoro Sye during the entire conference and who saw to it that details of the participants' needs were met. Truly, it was a resounding AMEN to the fruitful CIB Conference.



CARE OF ELEPHANTS IN INDIA

SR. RIMOLDA FLORY, OSB

India boasts of a rich cultural heritage and has one of the strongest laws against the exploitation of animals. The wildlife Protection Act, 1972, entitled: An Act to provide for the protection of

(next page)



CARE OF ..from page 6

wild animals, birds and plants and for matters connected therewith or secondary or incidental thereto with a view to ensuring the ecological and environmental security of the country, clearly lays down the laws that protect the elephants in India.

Currently, Section 40 (2A) & (2B) allows the private ownership of elephants, the only wild animal to be legally owned by a private individual through the possession of an ownership certificate. Elephants already do not have the protection from sale that the law guarantees other wild animals but there is an absolute prohibition on the poaching, trafficking and trading of elephants, inviting a heft and incarceration of seven years.

According to the article, “Unique Hospital Cures Elephants in India” by Shuriah Niazi, “A medical center in Mathura, 180 kilometers (111 miles) south of the Indian capital New Delhi, has facilities for the diagnosis, laser treatment, thermal imaging, ultrasonography, hydrotherapy, and even quarantine of the largest existing land animals – the elephants. The hospital focuses on the plight of captive elephants in India, who are privately owned and have the cruel history of being used for begging, or are held in temples for 'blessings the temple visitors' or are being forced to perform in circuses.

THE CORK OAK TREE

SR. ANA MARIA RACA, OSB



When one goes down the pebbled steps in the midet of the Casa Santo Spirito garden, one cannot help but see a welcoming majestic oak tree in the middle of a circular

area. A few weeks back, some sisters in the casa community were shocked to see it stripped of its bark, not knowing that it is the nature of the tree – being a Cork Oak Tree. According to Sr. Aquinata, it is one of the few trees that existed before we acquired the property, so for sure it must be more than fifty years old. And this is the first time that it was stripped of its bark.

Browsing through the internet, here are some amazing facts of a Cork Oak tree. (Source:1.<https://nordgrona.com>. Cork/ A Renewable Source of Raw Material).

1. The outer bark of the cork oak tree which is the cork is a natural material used by humanity for over 5000 years.
2. The cork tree is the only tree which can regenerate after each harvest of bark. The bark is removed from 2/3 of the tree with the first harvest after the tree has reached approximately 20 years of age.
3. After the first harvest, the bark is carefully peeled from the tree every nine years until the oak is around 150 years old. After each harvest, the bark is left in the forest to dry in the sun before it is brought to the factory where it is boiled in order for it to be flattened. The process is an ancient tradition, using the same methods for thousands of years.
4. Cork oak forests are one of the most important ecosystems in the world for preserving biodiversity. It is the natural habitat for 135 plants and over 200 animals.
5. It is 100 % natural, reusable and recyclable.
6. As with other trees, cork oaks convert CO2 into oxygen via the photosynthesis. However, they capture and store additional CO2 each time the bark is harvested and regenerated. Harvested cork trees absorb 3-5 times as much CO2 as unharvested trees! It is estimated that cork forests retain about 14.4 million tons of atmospheric CO2 each year.
7. The cork is One of the world’s most versatile materials:

Lightweight - Allows for light-weight furnishings & wall coverings

Durable - Will last repeated impact or rubbing and is impermeable to liquids and gases

Thermally & acoustically insulating - Among
(next page)

THE CORK...from page 7

the best insulator of any natural material
 Fire retarding - Naturally fire-retarding and does not emit toxic gases

Hypoallergenic - Does not absorb particles such as dust or pollen and is easy to clean



barks from the oak tree

2022

November 9- January 31, 2023
 Daegu Visitation,
 -M. Maoro Sye & Sr. Katharina Mtitu

November 18-19
 Tutzing Priory Election Chapter
 -Sr. Vania Maria Toscano &
 Sr. Regina Tesch

November 25-26:
 Norfolk Priory Election Chapter
 -Sr. Lumen Gloria Dungca

December 4-11: Annual Retreat
 Casa Community, Rome
 -Fr. David Glenday, MCCJ, Retreat Master

December 29-30
 Angola Discernment Process
 -Sr. Vania Maria Toscano

2023

January 7-8
 Torres Novas Discernment Process
 -Sr. Vania Maria Toscano

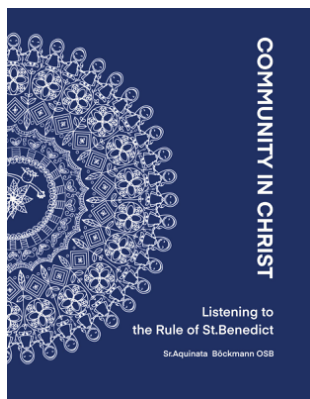
January 14-15
 Peramiho Discernment Process
 -Sr. Regina Tesch

February 24 – March 19
 Ndanda Visitation
 -M. Maoro Sye & Sr. Katharina Mtitu

March 25-26
 Peramiho Priory Election Chapter
 -M. Maoro Sye & Sr. Katharina Mtitu

Upcoming Election Chapters for 2023
 Torres Novas, Sorocaba, Daegu, Olinda

Still due for Canonical Visitation:
 Generalate Districts: India, Bulgaria
 Priors: Seoul, Windhoek, Manila



CONGRATULATIONS
 to SR. AQUINATA
 for her latest
 RB commentary!



Sr. Gabriella Urian from Norfolk Priory to Haus St. Benedikt/Generalate District

REST IN PEACE

- +Sr. Ursula Worrigen, 103, who died in Recife on September 12.
- +Sr. Maria Markus Zettler, 96, who died in Tutzing on October 22.
- +Sr. Felicitas Zell, 91, who died in Barbalha on October 28.

**BLESSING OF MONASTERY IN
ZAREVBROD, BULGARIA**
SR. REGINA TESCH, OSB



On August 15 we received the invitation from Sr. Abraham Kang to celebrate with them the blessing of the newly renovated convent in Zarevbrod. The

quote from Ps 127:1 was well chosen: “If the Lord does not build the house, in vain do its builders toil?”

I was happy that I was chosen to represent the Generalate for this event and that I could go a few days before. A photo, which I received before my departure gave me an idea of the “builders’ toil” which was still ongoing. On the day of my arrival another problem was discovered, which necessitated removal of tiles and re-opening the wall. Three days were left to finalize all the work, to clean up and make the house presentable for the blessing. And there were anxieties, if the weather would enable us to celebrate in the garden as planned. If it would rain, as the forecast predicted, what could we do?

There was not much time wasted with thinking. All went to work, sisters, constructors, workers, volunteers. Everybody did his / her best to finish the work, clean, prepare tables and chairs for the celebration, cover them,...On Friday evening the monastery looked beautiful, the environment was clean. Would the weather stay well for the celebration?

When we woke up on Saturday morning, the sky was blue. It seemed like a miracle that the work could be finished so far, and the weather was very pleasant. Many people came to celebrate, priests, religious, lay people, friends from near and far. I could feel that the whole Bulgarian Church as one family rejoiced with us. The main celebrant was Bishop Strahil Kavalenov of Nikopolis / Russe. He was assisted by many priests, diocesan and religious from as far as Sofia (5 hours by car), priests with different nationalities who are in Bulgaria to support the church. From Rakovski / Sekirovo came a hired bus bringing parishioners

and also our Sisters Angela Pak and M. Ignatio Chung.



Bishop Strahil Kavalenov with the priests during Holy Mass

After mass Bishop S. Kavalenov blessed each room of the monastery. Many others took the chance to see the quasi-new monastery, which became so beautiful and bright.

Lunch was offered to all. There was time to share and dance the traditional Bulgarian round dance. In the early afternoon people left having in mind the long way some had before them. Soon after the celebration the predicted rain and thunderstorm came. It was tangible that the Lord was holding his hands over us to enable the finalizing of the necessary work and celebration in beautiful weather and a good atmosphere.

Already now we can feel, and people share with us that Zarevbrod Monastery is a special place, where one can breathe the air of peace and tranquility. Surely, it is the beautiful garden and fresh air, yet it is more than that, the history of Missionary Benedictine Life faithfully lived even in times of persecution, the Spirit of our sisters, who in the past and presence fill this place with their prayer, work, and commitment to community.

My special thank goes to the Zarevbrod community, which helped me *(next page)*



during the blessing

BLESSING..from page 9

to experience what is possible, when we all help together and trust in God!

May God continue to hold his hands over Zarevbrod Monastery that many people can find there peace and tranquility.



Zarevbrod Community with Sr. Regina
l-r: Sr. Elisabeth, Sr. Ludwig, Sr. Tecla, Sr. Regina,
Sr. Abraham & Sr. Nadya

**ICBE PREPARATORY
COMMISSION MEETS IN RIO DE
JANEIRO**

SR. M. ROSARIO R. OBINIANA, OSB

The International Commission on Benedictine Education (ICBE) exists to support those schools which promote a Benedictine vision of education. With this vision an international symposium of Benedictine Educator’s Network (BENET) was organized. Teachers and administrators in different Benedictine schools all over the world gather every three

years. They were able to hold meetings in different places like Great Britain, Sao Paolo, New York, Chile, Philippines, Germany, Rome and Australia. Next year October 11-15, 2023, BENET will meet again in Rio De Janeiro. The host school will be Colegio De Sao Bento do Rio De Janeiro.

The ICBE Commission 2022 composed of 15 delegates (P. Julian M. Schaumioffel, OSB, Italy; Dom Geraldo Gonzalez y Lima, OSB, Italy; David Donovan, USA; Cristobal Valdes Raczynski, UK; Fr. Robin Checkathadiahl, OSB, India; Br. Josef Gotz, OSB, Germany; Herbert Herring, Germany; Stuart McPherson, UK; Mario Canales Turpaud, Chile’ Dom Abade Filipe da Silva, OSB, Brazil; Jim F. Duffy, USA; Mike Nickolai, USA; Gabrielle Sinclair, Australia; and Sr. M. Rosario R. Obiniana, OSB, Philippines) together with the team of the host school led by Dom Abade Felipe da Silva, OSB met last October 13 – 16, 2022 in Colegio De Sao Bento do Rio De Janeiro. They were able to come up with the theme:

“What we have received we pass on to you: Our past and future in the now of Benedictine education”

Suggestions were raised in terms of Liturgy, celebrants/ presiders, Lectio Divina, keynote speakers, deaneries, schedules for the 5-day event and other essentials for the big Benedictine symposium. The preparatory commission together with the host school hoped and prayed through the intercession of St. Benedict that more participants will join this Benedictine gathering. The expected number of participants would be two hundred (200) educators coming from different Benedictine schools all over the world.



ICBE Commission 2022

CONGRATULATIONS to the Newly FINAL PROFESSED SISTERS



*Sr. Sarah Elizabeth McMahon
Norfolk Priory, September 3*



*Sr. Maurice Mary Kamari Sr. Mary Placid Joseph
Windhoek Priory, October 1*



*Sr. Evelyne Nanfuka, Sr. Regina Nakkazzi, Sr. Rose Marie Kavugho
Jinja/Generalate District, September 24*



*Sr. Mary Rita Kyalo, Sr. Bernita Mwololo, Sr. Felistus Kamote,
Nairobi, September 24*

**PAN AFRICAN
INTENSIFICATION
PROGRAM**

in Ndanda Priory:
November 15, 2022 -
March 16, 2023

**INTERNATIONAL
JUNIOR'S
PROGRAM**

Casa Santo Spirito, Rome
March 1, 2022-January
31, 2023

**THAT IN ALL THINGS GOD MAY BE
GLORIFIED
THE GENERALATE**