



GLANCE

Sisters of St. Francis of Penance and Christian Charity
Generalate – Rome, Italy

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Even after years of commitment, we need others to inspire us to serve more unselfishly and to grow more deeply in relationship with Jesus. GC#31

Tell the story of a sister in your province/community/mission who by her life inspired other members to serve more unselfishly and to grow more deeply in relationship with Jesus.

DIVINE PROVIDENCE COMMUNITY

Heythuysen, Netherlands



On August 7th all the sisters of the Dutch Community of Divine Providence at Heythuysen, in a personal way, commemorate the death anniversary of Mother Magdalen. On this special day the sisters in Heythuysen themselves feel connected and united with all the daughters of Mother Magdalen, living in 12 countries all over the world; so far away, yet so near.

The burning candles at Mother Magdalen's tomb, with the image of Mother Magdalen, are surrounded by twelve flags, one for each of the countries where our sisters live, symbolizing our everlasting unity that makes us stronger day by day. This strengthens our faith that the words Mother Magdalen are proclaimed, that God will provide and help us to continue our pilgrimage on the way to the Father. (GC 1.3)



The Sisters from Heythuysen

IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY PROVINCE

Santa Maria, Brazil

"Therefore, since we for our part are surrounded by this cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every encumbrance of sin..." (Heb. 12: 1).

We want to call to mind this teaching of St. Paul as a reminder of those people who lived with us in their simplicity as "signs of peace and joy" (GC # 1). Among many others, we chose to refer to our Sister Maria Lorena Krindges, who died on June 12, 2016.

The General Constitutions make us one heart wherever we are and are the way each one is inspired to live the Franciscan way of life. This way does not distinguish us by academic preparation nor by the ministry we have in our community or outside of it, but by the ability to witness by our daily life that we have embraced the poor and humble Christ.



Sister Lorena made her life to be a joyful, melodious and uncomplicated service. In a friendly way, faithful to her commitments, she reached 74 years of consecrated life in simplicity and willingness to serve whoever. She had always worked in education and music ministry and spared no effort to teach. With zeal and enthusiasm she served in liturgy and as formation director, she companioned the postulants with warmth and firmness. Very early in her life, God asked her to sacrifice her plans. In the 60's, she was affected by cancer. At that time medicine resources were still very risky in Brazil, which made the treatment extend for years with little effectiveness. This fact brought to Sister Lorena's life an apparent defeat. However, once she could resume activities, her optimism and willingness to live and serve enabled her to live to the age of approximately 96 years. She always took part in community life, in common prayer and in recreation, always happy to be together with the Sisters. Grateful for everything, she always referred to the poor and crucified Christ, who, according to her, "had suffered much more, being innocent and pure."

At the end of 2015 she was transferred to Ala São José to get appropriate care according to the need of her physical weakness and limitations. During her illness in silent apostolate, she bore witness as a true daughter of St. Francis and Mother Magdalen. Everything was fine for her and her gratitude was for even the smallest attentions. Her joy was admirable and contagious, and even in pain and growing limitations, she found sufficient reasons to realize God's love and affection for all, thanking him for his eternal love. Sister Lorena was a happy and fulfilled person in life, in vocation and in mission. She had a kind and friendly look, welcoming everyone who came to her.



"Even after years of profession, we need others to inspire us to serve more unselfishly and to grow more deeply in relationship with Jesus." GC# 31

At the age of 96, Sister Lorena suffered a fracture of the femur and while waiting for medical help, and asked about pain, she just answered: "It hurts, but my Lord suffered much more on the cross!" After days of hospitalization, her state became worse and the day before her death, after having

spent most of the morning in silence, when Sister Maria Valdete and I visited her, in an outburst of joy, "as if seeing the invisible," she began to speak of eternity awaiting her. We have collected some of her last words, as precious pearls for us: "God is love, is mercy, what else do we want? If the divine love is with us, what else do we want? Eternity will be an eternal love, there awaits us a great love. I hope to be received in the merciful hands of my Savior. One day we will be in the presence of God!" Her last moments were of silence, and with a serene and usual happy face, she left for the Father, leaving us the legacy of a happy Franciscan sister.

Sister Maria Aparecida Marques

MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS PROVINCE

Orlik, Poland

When the cornflowers bloom I always remember her. I used to pick them for her every year. After my first profession I went to Więcbork to my new community. The state of health of Sister Antonina, who was a member of this community, was already bad: she had very advanced Alzheimer's and had been in bed for several years; she didn't speak, she had extensive contractures, and in general, she was very fragile. At that time in our community there were three sisters who required special care and it was my duty to look after them. To tell the truth, I was scared because I did not have any experience and I did not want to add more suffering to them.



But in obedience always lies the greatest blessing: the Lord gave me these sisters and it meant I was to serve them. Gradually I learned to feed them, to wash, to lay them down in bed properly. As the state of health of Sister Antonina was the most serious, it was necessary to spend more time with her. I stood by her bed and somehow we both got to know each other.

Sister Antonina could not speak. She sometimes moved her head to say yes or no. "Sister, do you want another drink?" I asked. Sometimes she wanted it. "Sister, do you have any pain?" She always denied, although it was evident that she was in much pain. She wanted to be very brave, despite all the difficulties. Over time, I learned that Sister Antonina understood everything in spite of her sickness. I also realized that she understood me; that time I was very shy and I did not believe in myself. But she did not care about it. Somehow I saw in her eyes a reflection of my value and I realized that it had no connection with what I did or who I was. I am valuable just because I am God's child.

Humanly speaking, Sister Antonina could not do anything. But in her suffering she was able to love, and this love cured my heart. So if you fulfill God's will you can do everything. Sister Antonina passed away in 2015, but I am still taking care of the elderly sisters, and I know this is my place because some time ago I saw that in her eyes. Sister Antonina smiled more beautifully than anything in the world. Today, each cornflower I see is like her smile for me.

Sister Francesca Glowicka

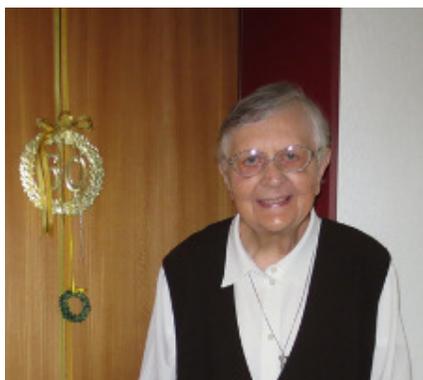
MARIA IMMACULATA COMMUNITY

Nonnenwerth, Germany

What contributes to a deeper understanding of the significance of our vocation and proceeding on our way of following Christ? There are various answers to this question: Maybe a word of the Gospel or reading a good text, or days of retreat or moving events in our personal life – and a lot more. Most of all there are meetings, encounters with people who live their vocation in an authentic and convincing way.

In the life of our community, feasts are very important in this connection, feasts where we come together and recall and celebrate the vocation of individual sisters. There are Religious Jubilees, such as the ones we have just celebrated for three sisters. Together with the jubilarians, we thanked God for the grace of vocation and for their fidelity to their way of following Christ throughout many decades. Thus, according to the individual personality, the variety of forms and shapes becomes evident when answering God's call – in the various services and tasks, as well as in the very personal shape of the relationship with Jesus. Meditating liturgical texts in Lauds and Vespers and the celebration of the

Eucharist inspire us to reflect on our own way with God and our going on in fidelity. In this way the deep joy at one's own vocation is kindled anew, in a new special way.



But also parting from a sister can be an important inspiration for one's personal life. At the beginning of this year we experienced this fact at the funeral of Sister Felicitas Lellingner. Through and after her death, she who has done so much for the good of our congregation and beyond it, has gathered and brought together many people: Sisters from all convents of our community, Sisters from the Netherlands and Lüdinghausen, her relatives, many co-workers from our fields of activity of our foundation and a lot more who felt enriched by meeting her. They all have again focused their attention and remembrance on Sister Felicitas who has lived her vocation of following St. Francis in the spirit of Mother Magdalen convincingly, with passion and humility. All of

those present have probably reflected on the meaning and the significance Sister Felicitas might have had and still has for them personally. For us, sisters, her love of the community, her fearless, realistic views on the development of the religious orders and her endeavor to preserve, as well as to go new ways, are an encouragement on our way into the future. Thus the day of parting from Sister Felicitas was at the same time a joyful feast which filled us all with gratitude.

The Sisters from Nonnenwerth

SAINT FRANCIS PROVINCE Redwood City, California

Although it has been 20 years since the death of our own "Sister-Artist" Karen Boccacero, it is her life and the contributions she made to the East Los Angeles community that continue to be celebrated, not only by the artists she mentored, but by the civic leaders, school children and community agencies whose lives she influenced. This was the community in which she was raised and, although her own family was Italian-American, she came to admire and appreciate the traditions and culture of her Mexican-American neighbors.

Pursuing her own art education, initially in Los Angeles, California at Immaculate Heart College, she was introduced to the social and politically charged serigraphs of her mentor, Sister Corita Kent. In Rome, she learned from master print-makers. In Indonesia, she acquired the traditional techniques for intricate batik prints and at Temple University, she earned her Master's Degree in Fine Arts. She returned to East LA, in southern California in the early 1970's, which was experiencing a 'cultural renaissance' after the social, racial and political turmoil of the 1960's. Sister Karen joined with other local artists, using art as an instrument to introduce peaceful social change. Initially working out of the house garage, she invited young aspiring artists to learn new techniques in print-making and encouraged them to express their own heritage through their art. As more artists came to learn from and work with Sister Karen, she was able to move into a larger area nearby, adding a space in which the artists could take photography classes and a



gallery in which they could display and sell their work. Thus was born the studio for which Sister Karen is so well remembered and continues to be to this day, “Self Help Art and Graphics”.

Continuing her goal of bringing traditions and culture back to the community, in 1974, she organized the first local “Day of the Dead,” a celebration which is an ancient Mexican tradition honoring deceased ancestors, celebrated on what some call All Souls’ Day. Having had the privilege of living with Sister Karen at that time, I remember well the preparations for that day – not only flowers, costumes, banners and colorful decorations, but special altars covered with photos, candles, marigold flowers, religious objects, incense, favorite foods and, most traditional of all, *pan dulce calaveras* - sweet Mexican breads decorated like skulls, frequently with the names of the living family members, as well as the deceased! The celebration began with Mass at the local cemetery, followed by a colorful, energetic procession back to the studio, where young and old enjoyed a festival of music, food, art and dance that lasted well into the night! This celebration has become so popular that it is now a widespread Southern California tradition, thanks to Sister Karen’s dream to bring the arts and the community together to celebrate the ancient and modern in Mexican culture and to unite the artistic with the spiritual.

Sister Karen was also able to create a ‘Barrio Mobile Art’ project, using a van filled with art supplies to visit local schools with the goal of allowing children to express their own creative abilities while sharing their cultural heritage. Sister Karen’s numerous contributions to the Mexican-American community have been memorialized in an impressive tiled mural in the entryway of the local East L.A. Library, which honors local leaders “who have formed indelible aspects of the socio-political Chicano (Mexican-American) identity.” In 2006, she was also honored as one of the prominent figures of the community when large banners bearing her image were displayed along the major streets in East L.A. But, perhaps, it is the reflections of her co-workers and students that best express how Sister Karen is remembered. One noted “that anyone who knew or worked with Sister Karen quickly saw that she was not about silence or complacency, that daily she challenged racism and worked for the dignity and respect of everyone she encountered. She did this through Self Help Graphics and the ethical conduct of her life.”

Sister Karen's legacy continues to inspire all of us by her own Franciscan philosophy of life, as told to someone who asked why she did what she did for so many years. It was "to make an everyday effort to practice and nurture the value that every person has to offer.

Katherine Carlsten

SACRED HEART OF JESUS PROVINCE São Leopoldo, Brazil

Sister Leticia Bentz was born on April 19, 1922 in Estrela, RS. She lost her father when she was 10 years old. His illness affected the family's financial situation. She treasures his deep spirituality and the Angelus prayer he prayed three times a day when the bells rang is a precious memory of her father.

When she was 18 years old and all the family debts were paid, her life became calmer. She was called to the consecrated religious life after a novena to the Holy Spirit which she held to know what her future would be. Initially her answer was “no”, because for once she could enjoy a happier life. However, the strength of the Lord won and she was seduced. Her “yes” in following Jesus in the consecrated religious life brought her much peace.



When she informed her mother about her decision, her mother said, “God is the Lord.” Throughout her formation she experienced deep joy brought by encounters with Jesus. One of the greatest and most profound experiences in her life was when she became ill. She had to stay in the leper colony in the city of Itapuã for more than seven years. Four months after her profession in 1945, she had to leave the warmth of her beloved and dear community as she refers to it herself. In Itapuã she transformed her suffering into a mission and gave her heart as a mother to many sick children whose bonds of friendship extend to this day! Throughout the years of her fruitful life, she served her brothers and sisters in the area of education, as a secretary and, above all, as a younger sister in the community. Sister Letícia always knew that as a community minister it was her mission to love her sisters and as a director to love education.

Daily, our dear sister contemplates the great mystery of the incarnation of Jesus. She admires, enchants and is always surprised by such greatness. She does not get tired of praying. One of the books she is reading is the Writings of St. Clare. She became involved in the newness of the love of Jesus, sent by the Father, which renovated her life by the grace of the Holy Spirit. She continues to make her life praise for the witness of faith, joy, giving and service to her brothers and sisters where He wants her and wants it!



The wonderful apostolate of writing letters to friends and people who are in need, evangelizes with the beauty of the Good God and Providence! She makes cards with the image of the merciful Jesus with the phrase “Jesus, I trust in you.”

She is always available and generous to respond to the Lord's appeals, counting on his grace! At this moment in her life, while she is ageing and living in the Saint Elisabeth Home, she puts herself in the closest perspective of eternity with serenity and confidence every day. She greets everyone with a smile and welcomes her own and other's limitations with a calm look of mercy and patience. She says, “From the hands of God only good comes and what is healthy for us. He never gives us an excessive burden. And every weight we bear, prepares us for eternity!” Or, “The sunflower, as its name already says, always seeks for the sun. When the sun goes down it becomes sad, for it does not know that behind the clouds, the sun exists. But we know that beyond the dark clouds of life is God, who loves us. When I think of my 95 years of life, I notice that everything passes and happiness consists of: ‘MY GOD, MY EVERYTHING!’”

Sister Vera Lúcia Konzen

CHRIST THE KING PROVINCE **Lüdinghausen, Germany**

When Mother Regia Spital, the first provincial minister of Christ the King Province, died unexpectedly in her second term, in 1956 Mother Petrisa Verweyen became her successor and remained in office until 1972. In her term Vatican II brought important changes in church and religious life. With mottos like “back to the sources” and “aggiornamento,” religious were called to review their mode of life and to renew it. When I entered in 1959, I had been introduced into the pre-Vatican II religious life and made profession according to the Constitutions of 1929, slightly revised in 1957. With burning hearts, we followed the exciting reports about Vatican II. We felt affirmed about questions that until then had been more unconscious; questions regarding convictions and customs lived unquestioned. Full of joy and impatience we waited for changes and a new structure.



I myself was fortunate to study theology from 1968 to 1971 at the University of Münster where at the time famous theologians taught. With a lot of religious and priests who studied new theological questions, we met in seminars and workshops to discuss and look for new attempts and ways of the renewal of religious life. For a lot of religious the implementation took too long. They left their communities. The trust Mother Petrisa invested in me helped me to stay. During my studies, she was my liaison. In our regular talks my topic over and over again and my impatient question was: “How and when do we in our province implement the impulses and the impetus of Vatican II?” A lot of aspects of the renewal in church and religious life were and remained foreign for Mother Petrisa. But she always listened with great attention, when I talked about all the things that I thought had to change. And – to say it with Scripture – I got the impression that “she pondered it in her heart,”

even if for understandable reasons she often could not agree. It happened that afterwards sometimes she called me to explain her different point of view or she corrected herself. I experienced Mother Petrisa as a deeply humble, contemplative and pure woman who never took her opinion for absolute truth. She put unconditional trust in me. That helped me to keep in touch, not to drop out of the relationship. It helped me to search and find my way in freedom.

One concrete example to end with: In the student revolt in the “wild 68’s” superiors were advised to allow their members in studies to wear civil clothes. Surely not with a light heart, but without any reservations, she gave me permission. When I returned to our provincial house, Antoniuskloster, on the weekends, in the beginning because not wearing the habit, I took the shortest way to my cell to get changed. One day, I told M. Petrisa that I could not bear this “hide and seek” any longer, for I had her official permission to wear civil clothes. The next Saturday Mother Petrisa waited for me at the front door. There she had a long conversation with me, in the corridor at a time in which a lot of sisters passed by and saw me in civil clothes. I felt at peace. That’s the way Mother Petrisa was! All my life I remain grateful to her.

Sister Gerhardis Schütter

HOLY NAME PROVINCE

Stella Niagara, New York

As I began pondering writing about a sister who by her life inspired others to serve more unselfishly and to grow more deeply in relationship with Jesus, I found it difficult to focus on just one person. However, as is usually the case, the Spirit intervened.

One day as I arrived at the main entrance of Stella Niagara, I had an unusually long “to do” list on my mind. It must have shown on my face because I was greeted with the most joyful, sincere “Good Morning!” I had ever heard. It certainly shifted my focus!



Sister Marion Karl, 93 years young, was “at work” opening the door, answering the phone and greeting all who entered the building: guests, employees, school children, delivery personnel and sisters. Her joyful spirit, beautiful smile, and welcoming Franciscan presence were just what I needed. I can well imagine how many others felt that too! I asked her how she was and her quick response was, “Fine, as usual! I like to keep busy... if you don’t, your brain gets stale.” Sister Marion’s brain is far from stale. Her past ministries of teaching second and third graders, as well as working as a school librarian were only stepping stones to her present ministry of, as she describes it,

“being present to whomever I am with and always being willing to listen. I am a better listener than talker.” What an inspiration for all of us!

When asked what a typical day looks like for her, she indicated that no two days are the same. The only constants are her daily personal prayer, Eucharist, keeping up with the local and world news and playing cards with small groups of sisters in the community and health center. Sister Marion will take any opportunity to go out and be among people. One day a week she joins the Lewiston Senior Citizen group for conversation as well as bingo. She shares the gift of herself by talking with other senior citizens, hearing their stories and always assuring them of her prayers. A real perk is when she wins at bingo... maybe cookies, fruit, candy, cheese, etc. – something to share with the Stella Niagara Health Center Sisters. Another outing is to the PACE (Programs of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly) facility in Niagara Falls. While there, she has physical therapy on her shoulder, takes part in activities (crafts, sing-alongs, cards, communion services and bingo), shares the gift of herself through conversation and listening, and then takes a van ride home. One person at the facility was overheard saying, “You can tell when the sisters are here. There is a difference!” When Sister Marion is not “on the go” she is a joyful presence to everyone at Stella Niagara, sisters and lay people alike!

Pope Francis in his 2013 Letter to Consecrated Men and Women writes, “In our busy troubled world, there is often a lack of joy. We are not called to accomplish epic feats or to proclaim high sounding words, but to give witness to the joy that arises from the certainty of knowing we are loved.” That day I walked into Stella Niagara with my “to do” list, I knew that I was loved and that was all that mattered. Certainly all who encounter Sister Marion – sisters in community, Stella Niagara students and employees, senior citizens, visitors -- are inspired by her positive, joyful, peaceful, prayerful presence. We are blessed that she is part of our lives.

Sister Nancy Zelma

SAINT CLARE MISSION

Tanzania



“O faithful worker” and “O loyal companion” and “O blessed one!” Those and many, many other such names could be said of Steven Kadogo, our worker who retired after long labor beginning in the early 1960’s. He came as a youth to work at the new hospital in Biharamulo, remembering opening day when the then Tanzanian President Julius Nyerere came to open the building and dined in our Dutch Sisters convent.

Over the years...non-stop!!!...he has seen and lived with and greeted literally all of our Franciscan Sisters. He has been a part of so many of our experiences and conversations. He is family! He has taught so many the fine art of banana tree growing, as well as cultivating so many shambas (fields) of corn, peanuts, beans, pumpkins, spinach, cassava and many, many other vegetables. He has cared for in the same kind, faithful way so many of our animals: cows, chickens, pigs, ducks, turkeys, dogs, cats, birds: that work as we all know can take hours of searching for grasses, the vet, milking as well as chasing after stolen chickens. All the while as the father of a family, he cared for his wife and five children, grandchildren and other members of his extended family. Dependable, truthful, concerned, humorous, and insightful, a person who loves God and neighbour, including that wonderful Franciscan outlook: every creature is loved by God and we have a sacred relationship with all.

We had a Mass of Thanksgiving for him, followed by a small family party. We are sure all of our Sisters -- past and present...in heaven and on earth...missionaries...visitors...Tanzanians – all would sing out

our refrain: ALL THE GOOD THAT YOU DID AND DO, STEVEN, WILL LIVE ON IN OUR HEARTS! GOD BLESS STEVEN KADOGO!

The Sisters of the Biharamulo Community

SACRED HEART PROVINCE **Denver, Colorado**

Latina SafeHouse was founded in 2003 by Sister Alicia Cuaron and other Latina leaders to support victims of domestic violence across the Denver metropolitan area with culturally and linguistically responsive behavioral health care, self-sufficiency, advocacy, and legal services. This unique organization incorporates the knowledge of the cultural aspects that may influence a woman staying in a situation that is damaging to her and her family, as well as speaking the Spanish language in which she is most comfortable communicating.

The immigrant woman may lack social support as their family is in another country and their only means of financial support is their abusive partner. An especially powerful strategy used against Latinas and other undocumented non-English speaking women is to threaten them with taking their children away if she leaves them.



Sister Alicia Cuaron, Gina Del Castillo, and Sister Rita Cammack

Language and culture play a major role in the psychological abuse with constant reminders that if a woman leaves, she is breaking up the home and will further cause shame in the family or church. The lack of education is also prevalent and serves as a means to further impose abuse and threats that no one will believe her or will take her or her children away if reported. Fewer than three in ten Latinas have heard of intimate partner violence protective orders. Not many know about local domestic violence agencies.

“You Can Get to the Other Side”, describes one woman’s journey. Veronica was in a domestic abusive marriage 10 years. She had encouraged her husband to get counseling for his behavior but to no avail. After each explosive episode He would apologize and make the promise not to do it again. People often asked why she stayed and although her reason was to keep her family intact and honor her marriage vows, she realized that her children were also deeply affected by the abuse, and this she would no longer tolerate.

As the years passed, Veronica grew in confidence acquired the strength needed to leave her husband. She went back to school and later earned her real estate license to sell homes. As time went on there were other incidences of abuse so Veronica decided to file for divorce. On the day of finalizing the divorce he asked her “why”? Every time you broke my heart and tried to put it back together there were pieces that could not be repaired...you broke too any pieces, was her response.

Veronica is now a prominent business insurance broker and shares her story often with other women She is an example of how an immigrant woman can overcome a tragic situation and become a self-assured, successful woman.

The Sisters of St. Francis, Sacred Heart Province, Denver, Colorado have supported and given financial assistance to Latina SafeHouse from its inception. The Latina SafeHouse Board and the women in the domestic violence program are extremely grateful to the Sisters for their interest in this most pressing social justice cause. Their involvement has been instrumental in the success and sustainability of Latina SafeHouse.

Gina Del Castillo

MOST HOLY TRINITY PROVINCE

Semarang, Indonesia

Special Educational Needs (SEN) Division - Marsudirini School, Bogor – West Java, Indonesia
Inclusive education is an education system that provides opportunities for all learners who have abnormalities and have the potential of intelligence and/or special talents to learn in an educational environment together with learners in general.



The Government issued a law for the National Education System which provides new regulations in the provision of education for students with disabilities. This special education is education at the primary and secondary level for learners with disabilities or learners who have extraordinary intelligence. The latest regulation on inclusive education is the issuance of a regulation which states that inclusive education must provide opportunities for all learners who have abnormalities and have the potential of intelligence and/or special talents. This is certainly a breakthrough in the form of educational services for children with disabilities with a form of implementation of inclusive education that aims to provide the widest possible opportunity and realize the implementation of education that respects diversity and non-discrimination.



The purpose of inclusive schools is to provide the widest possible opportunity to all children (including children with special needs) to get a proper education according to their needs. Marsudirini Bogor School is one of the schools designated as an inclusive school because it is considered to be a child-friendly school with special needs. The inclusion student criteria we receive are as follows: Autistic, Slow Learner, ADD/ADHD, Down Syndrome, Children with Learning Difficulties

We implemented these regulations with workshops, seminars and experts to provide us with teaching. As time goes by, inclusive education at Marsudirini School is growing. Schools provide a variety of facilities to meet the complexity of children's needs, such as special classrooms, therapy rooms, playrooms, self-building, skills rooms, art space, cooking kitchens, and farmland. All prepared well by the school. In addition, the school also selects teachers who have specific skills in teaching and assisting inclusive students, as well as guiding counselors in learning and teaching activities.

The number of inclusion students in our schools is 60 students from elementary to high school, scattered in each school. Parents feel happy because their children have the opportunity to study in formal school. They are very enthusiastic to work together to overcome the difficulties faced by students every day. Together with school committees and parents, we organize learning activities so that the child's abilities (affective, cognitive, and life skill) can be balanced.

The school hopes that inclusive students will form an empathetic personality for all students to appreciate diversity, including students with disabilities. We believe inclusive education in the Marsudirini School still exists by not abandoning Marsudirini mission vision amidst the growing number of new inclusion schools. This condition will be our motivation for inclusion education in Marsudirini School more qualified. We pray for blessings so that we can continue to grow and continue to serve inclusive students who are granted to us. It is our hope that other Marsudirini schools will take the same opportunity to serve inclusive students as well as the Marsudirini School.

Sister Rosali Prime Hatmani

GENERAL COUNCIL SHARING



Interior of the Church of the Capuchins where Mother Magdalena did her profession in the Third Order Secular.

October marks an important Jubilee for the Congregation: on October 12 we remember Mother Magdalen's 200 Jubilee of Profession of Vows in the Third Order. This was an important day for her, what she considered her total giving to God.

In a small house on the Capucinerstraat in Maaseik, a few pious women came together to observe the Rule of the Third Order under the direction of the Capuchin Father. They lived a life of prayer and made and restored church vestments. They seem to have won the hearts of the kind Maaseik people, who called them affectionately: "de Masoeurkes op de trepkes," the sisters on the steps.

We do not know the exact year in which these women began to lead a community life; but it was probably in 1815 that they joined the Third Order of St Francis. Catherine Damen came to live with them the following year and on October 12, 1817, shortly before her thirtieth birthday, she made her profession as a tertiary, in the hands of Father Eleutherius Meers. After the congregation was founded, the first sisters "erroneously paid no attention to the difference between the vows of

the secular Tertiaries and those of the regulars, and omitted to renew their profession." Mother Magdalen explained the significance and importance of her profession of vows as a Tertiary in her letter to the Vicar-General, Father Kerchkoffs, "We have all made our vows forever under the former Guardian Eleutherius and Father Praeses." These sisters subsequently made profession for three years in 1839 and final vows in 1842.

Sources:

The Life of Mother Magdalene Daemen, OSE, Rev. W.J. Metz, 1917

Mother Magdalen Damen and her Congregation, Sister Ligouri Mason, 1935

Called by God's Goodness, ed by G. Ackermans, Sister U. Ostermann, Sister M. Serbacki, 1997

Please pray for us in the coming months:

2017

October	General Visitation: Mexico
October 3-4	Celebration of 25th Jubilee of the Mission in Palenque, Chiapas, Mexico
October/November	General Visitation: Stella Niagara
October/November	General Visitation: Redwood City and Denver
December 10-17	Provincial Chapter: Indonesia

2018

January	Annual Visitation: St. Clare Mission
May 7-18	International Franciscan Charism Experience, Rome and Assisi

The General Council: S. Deborah, S. Dirce, S. Patricia, S. Clara, S. Pacyfika