



# Bulletin Association Family of Jesus and Mary

n° 2

15<sup>th</sup> June 2016

*The salt of the earth ... "You are the salt of the earth. But if salt becomes tasteless, what can make it salty again? It is good for nothing, and can only be thrown out to be trampled underfoot by men" Matthew 5:13...*

In this 2<sup>nd</sup> bulletin, you will find news of the "Extraordinary Year of Mercy" in the life of Afjm and international news of RJM

## Message from Sr Monica Joseph to the RJMs for the Jubilee Year of Mercy

"...I encourage you to be pilgrims, physically if possible - to pray and pass through one of the doors, but I urge **all** to make an internal pilgrimage. We can all set out on a journey into our hearts, into the depth of our being...and find in there the mercy of God. I invite you during the Examen /meditation, to ponder:

- How/when/where, did I experience the mercy of God? What graces have I received?
- How/when/where, did I experience God's mercy in and through my sisters and others?
- How/when/where, have I been merciful and compassionate to others?

This exercise will enable us to be aware at a personal level of the constant outpouring of the mercy of God and to take concrete steps to be merciful like the Father.

The more we make our own the mercy of God, the more we are able to give. Thus we will contribute to creating a more compassionate and merciful society for ourselves and for the future generations.

The Holy Father writes, 'How much I desire that the year will be steeped in mercy, so that we can go out to every person, bringing the goodness and tenderness of God'.

Imagine what our society would be like if all the 1.239 RJMs, 1400 AJFMs round the world just did this!



*Some excerpts from a document written by the AFJM Byculla Mumbai India Province of Pune in January-February 2016*

*« Be merciful as your heavenly Father is merciful »*

*Luk 6:36*

« We need constantly to contemplate the mystery of Mercy. It is a wellspring of joy, serenity and peace. Our salvation depends on it. The mercy of God is His loving concern for each one of us. He desires our wellbeing and he wants to see us happy, full of joy and peaceful. Mercy is the very foundation of the Church's life. The church makes herself a servant of this love. Wherever the Church is present the Mercy of the Father must be evident, in our Parishes, our Communities, our Associations, everyone should find an Oasis of Mercy. In mercy, we find proof of God's love for us. He gives us himself entirely asking nothing in return...Remember Corporal works and spiritual works of mercy! .. .. »

## Wellington New Zealand



**Visit of Sr Monica Joseph to AFJM Members: Wellington New Zealand February 2016**

RJMs of Ireland initiated the mission in New Zealand. Today the AFJM run the school. Some AFJM members, former pupils, teachers and others associated with the St Claudine Thévenet School met Sr. Monica and they were very happy to know of the 200 years of the Congregation in 2018.



**Visit of Sr. Monica Joseph and Sr. Alejandra Diaz to the Province of Colombia in March and April 2016**

During the general Visit to Colombia, the AFJM was present. There were meetings held in the town of Medellin, Bogota, Barrancabermeja and Cimitarra. We lived beautiful, profound moments of sharing and mutual understanding. Throughout we had the hospitality and abundant food, the highlights of the country. The groups presented and shared on the pastoral actions they perform based on community needs. They are involved in parish activities, catechesis, visit to the elderly and sick or hospital, assistance for young people and a group of natives. They have meetings for learnings, time of prayer together, pilgrimages, celebrations etc, Something to note: The AFJM group at Barrancabermeja continues to keep the presence of the charism of Claudine in spite of the absence of the RJMs in this area.



**News from Spain** We would like to inform you of the Next Afjm National Assembly to be held in Murcia on 22nd and 23rd October 2016 and that, on this occasion, will meet with the Association of Former Students of Jesus and Mary Schools of Spain, with all that this implies as links and common feelings ...

Already many groups have come together to jointly work the priorities that Jesus of Mary Sisters have chosen at their last General Chapter. We would like all groups of AFJM have the chance to do so as it allows to review our way of living and of being in the world.

A Murcia AFJM the groups of the Centre Alfonso X and Senda organized in May a round table meeting on the theme "The person in the family to 21st century ", in a perspective of openness and hospitality of all people in different family models with which we live. It was a very rich experience of tolerance.



**News from Pakistan AFJM Karachi**

In 1997, the Association of the Family of Jesus & Mary began with a few members under the spiritual guidance of Rev. Sr. M. Andrew, who first introduced us to the life of St. Claudine and her zeal to make Jesus and Mary known and loved. The group consisted of mainly teachers and a few parishioners of St. Anthony's Parish.

At present, we are under the spiritual guidance of Rev. Sr. Mary Langan, who continue teaching and guiding the group who has now grown to about 25 members and another group of about ten young men and women under the guidance of Sr. Clara.

Both the groups are involved in various Church and other activities visiting Old Age Homes and Orphanages etc. Recollection days were arranged during the season of Advent and Lent at the monastery of Angels or any other convenient place.

At our meetings once a month we have a session on the life of St. Claudine for example: Her ability to forgive, her complete trust in God etc., Members share their experiences, followed by a meal prepared by a group of members..



**News from Canada Quebec**

In keeping with the Year of Mercy on April 23, 2016, a pilgrimage of thirty AFJM visited the Church of Notre-Dame-de-Saint-Roch Quebec to receive the indulgences of the Year of Mercy, to experience the merciful goodness of God as lived by St. Claudine. It was a day of prayer concluded with Eucharist and fellowship meal. A meeting of God in his temple - in the sacraments - in sharing with others. It is to experience the merciful goodness of God (I am loved by God) and be inspired by the charism of St Claudine. 7 important steps

Place the door of Mercy

Table of Christ Mercy

The ceramic of the Trinity Merciful"

Holy Shrine John Paul II and St. Faustina

Divine Mercy -The Glorified

The God Centre and the Sacrament of Forgiveness

The Adoration Chapel

- Personal prayer, worship, meeting for forgiveness, and prayer visit to the shrine of Dina, Mass and dinner together,

**Good New !**

We are preparing a blog AFJM: we would like to receive regular information from your groups, national meetings or interesting activities to share. This could be an easy way to be closer and communicate with AFJM!

For some groups it is a holiday period ... so we want to wish you a good time to rest.

Sincerely !

Consuelo and Sr M Elisabeth Ides RJM