Dear Sisters,

### "For the Almighty has done great things for me."

Lk. 1:49

On this wonderful month of August, the month of the Feast of the Assumption, the birthday of our dear Mother Marie Eugenie, and the Feast of our father St. Augustin, we share with you our experiences for the past months. Looking back, like Mary, we proclaim, "the Lord has done great things for us."

## THIRD YEAR 2019



We welcomed twenty-two sisters, from eleven provinces, and from the four continents at the Mother House from April 24 - July 14, 2019 for the Third Year Session. The three months experience of being close to Marie Eugenie for a renewal session has been a great moment for each one of our sisters. The life lived together as an international community has deepened communion and love for one another as sisters. The spiritual journey, especially the 30-day retreat, has intensified the desire to know, love, follow, and serve Jesus Christ. Each one proclaimed her own "Magnificat"- thanking God and the Congregation for the great things and transformation in their life.

As you welcomed back in your Provinces our sisters, we ask you to support and accompany our sisters in living-out the opening message of Sr. Rekha:

"My prayer for you is that you seek out the voice of the Spirit in the most unexpected ways, giving thanks to God for the many blessings of your life, looking for the 'gifts of your failures' and trying to do small things to renew your mind, body, and spirit. The journey thus implies taking risks in identifying your peripheries, allowing yourselves to be renewed in order to go back to your respective provinces as GOOD NEWS to your communities,

at the frontiers of life and mission, always in favor of God's choices, in conformity to the will of God."

### INTERNATIONAL TRAINING SESSION AFRICA-MADAGASCAR

In Nairobi-KENYA from 03 to 25 June, a session of young professed of 2-5 years of vows was held bringing together the 4 African Provinces, Madagascar, and the Region of Central Africa. A rich and hopeful experience for the Congregation. For the first 3 weeks, 31 young sisters had a session that allowed them to deepen their understanding of the themes: Identity, discernment, communion and peripheries in the unique context of the African-Madagascar continent, and they explored in depth the implications of the orientations of the 2018 General Chapter. The interventions and exchanges generated passion and a desire for a more responsible commitment!

You can read on the web page of the Congregation the detailed sharing of this session. <a href="https://www.assumpta.org/Continental-Session-for-African">https://www.assumpta.org/Continental-Session-for-African</a>



SESSION OF JUNIOR SISTERS IN NAIROBI



26 June -03 July

After the young sisters, it was the turn of the formators who also deepened their mission as "formators" in relation to the challenges of the Church and the Congregation today.

The result of their work was the finalization of an already unified work: the development of a common training program for all stages of formation (Aspirancy-Junioriat). Sr Marthe Marie

was present in both sessions to represent the General Council

#### **NEWS FROM THE MOTHER HOUSE:**



In June, we had the joy of participating in the temporary profession of Mercedes Flores (A.C-Cuba), Victoria Kamene (Spain) and Francesca Filiaci (Europe) in the chapel of Auteuil. The respective provincials were present. A reason for thanksgiving and a testimony of the gift of our internationality.

Together with the community of Auteuil, we bid farewell with gratitude to our sisters: Claire Josee, Marie Jeanne Françoise (Rwanda-Chad), Claudine (Central Africa), Mary Emmanuel and Peris Eugenie (East Africa), Egle (Europe) who have returned to their respective provinces after some years at the motherhouse.

This year we welcome in the Auteuil Community our sisters: Francoise Martin (France), Marie Valérie Lagarrigue (France), Begoña Vila (Spain). Ada Luz Jarquin (junior sister of Prov. Central-America Cuba) and Francesca Filiaci (junior sister of Province of Europe).

#### VISIT TO THE PROVINCE OF MADAGASCAR

From July 7th to August 8th we visited the province of Madagascar, Marthe and Sandra started the visit to the communities of Tananarivo, Manandona, Ambomimasoha, Ampikately, Andohanilakaka, Alakamisy- Itenina, from August 18<sup>th</sup> Isabelle and Irene visited Ampasimanjeva and Antesavolo. Rekha made the visit of the community of Manovohasina (Novitiate).

Madagascar is blessed with rich natural resources and with people gifted with music and dance. The daily liturgy with the sisters were concrete manifestations of alive faith.

The welcome and hospitality have touched us very much. We are grateful for the involvement of each sister, each community, each collaborator, whether in Assumption Together, in parish, teachers, students... their hospitality has allowed us to appreciate the culture, generosity and richness in their diversity. We felt at home.



We had the joy of sharing in the parish of Ambomimashoa the celebration of the Golden Jubilee of Sister Laurentine Ravaonirina and the perpetual vows of Sister Pierrette Dimbisoa, a great moment of thanksgiving in the life of the local church. The ceremony was presided over by Monsignor Fulgence Rabemahafaly, Archbishop of Fianarantsoa and concelebrated by many priests.

We concluded the visit with the provincial assembly, a place of formation and fraternal exchanges, then the PPC, and the meeting with the PC. The presence of our missionary sisters Mundica (Atlántic Sud) and

Josefina (México) is a valuable contribution and mutual enrichment.

We returned with great hope for the young province with great apostolic vitality, a real desire to deepen and live the charism of the Assumption and to go to the peripheries of Madagascar.

As you know, the General Chapter has asked us to accompany the provinces of France Notre Dame and Madagascar during these years. For us, it has been a time of immersion in this reality, of thanksgiving to God for what we have received, the journey made after the fusion and the challenges of continuing the accompaniment for the rooting of the Assumption in Madagascar.



FIANARANTSOA-AMPITAKELY







**ANDOHANILAKAKA** 



**AMPASIMANJEVA** 



**ANTANANARIVO (TSIAZOTAFO)** 





**ANTSENAVOLO** 



**MANOVOHASINA-NOVICIAT** 



# Meeting of the International Youth Secretariat



From 05-14 of August. Carmen López (Mexico) and Marie Valerie (France) had their first face-to-face meeting in Auteuil to finalize the plan of action of the International Secretariat of people and to present to the General Council. We are grateful for the effort and the commitment in the service that has been entrusted to them, and we are sure that it will

impel the Congregation to retake with passion and audacity our option for young people and vocations.

Assumption Together. From 20 to 24 August in Rue des Plantes the CPAE: Marthe Marie r.a. (General Council), Catherine Marie Lienard r.a. (France), Inés Polotan (Asia-Pacífic), María Arinero (España) y Rodrigo Naranjo(América Central-Cuba), meets to begin its service in the animation of Assumption Together in the light of the calls of the General Chapter.

Indeed, God does great things for us!

May we always have the grace to see God's actions and movements in our lives.

In grateful and loving communion, Rekha, Sandra, Isabelle, Marthe, and Irene