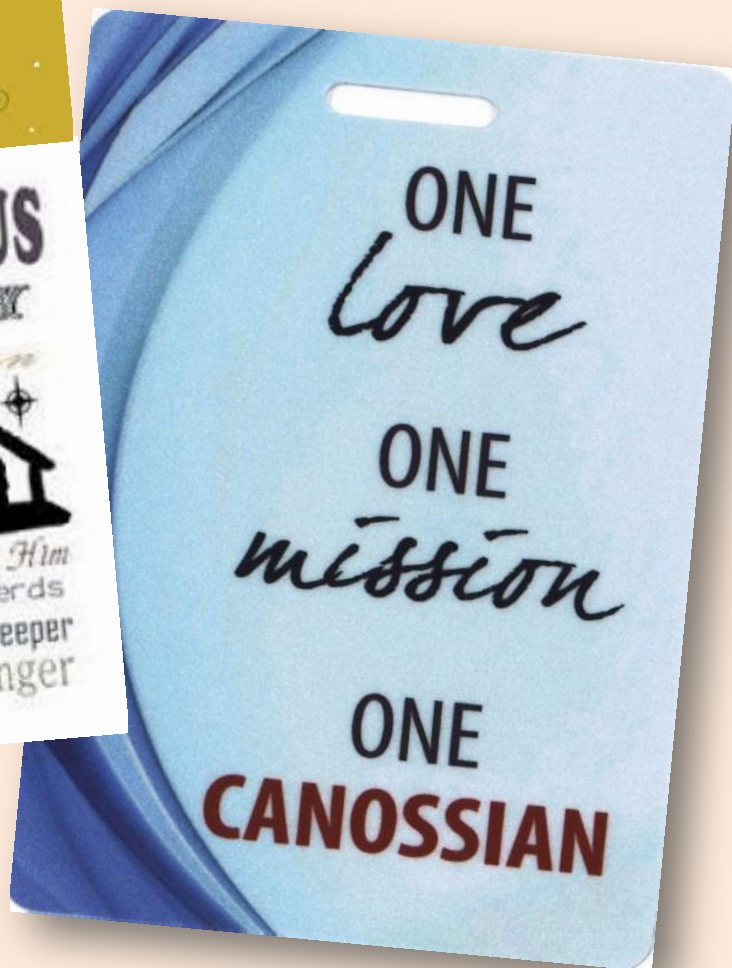


CANORITA



ST ANTHONY'S PROVINCE
SINGAPORE – MYANMAR
DECEMBER 2014

Dear Sisters and Friends

2014 marks a significant milestone in the history of the Canossian Sisters. 1894 was the year when our first missionaries landed in Singapore on 11 Dec. 120 years ago when the Sisters left Macau, did they ever dream of the legacy they would leave behind for the generations of Sisters and the lay people here? Among those who benefitted from the legacy of the Canossians are the alumni who were “schooled in the spirit of Canossa”, and the many people who came in contact with the Sisters. They saw their works and were inspired by their love, compassion and dedication shown to all regardless of status, religion and race. The Canossians recognise each person as a child of God, loved unconditionally by Him and that they have the potential to make a difference in the lives of others.

The souvenir magazine published to commemorate the Jubilee records the history of the Province’s growth, the ministries of the Sisters and the development of the lay Canossian family. The lay groups, though not the brainchild of the Sisters, help to carry out the works in the mission. These lay members are inspired by the Spirit given to St. Magdalene of Canossa and they share the desire to live the charism to *make Jesus known and loved*.

The pages in this issue of the *Canorita*’ express the Sisters’ gratitude for the blessings that God has showered upon us in the past 120 years that we have been in Singapore. The **celebrations** give us an occasion to glorify God for His love and fidelity. The **gatherings** are opportunities to celebrate the bond we hold dear in our hearts. Together we celebrate a common call to live *the spirit of the Greatest Love in Jesus Crucified* and the gift of the ONE charism.



Our service to the less privileged and the poor are God-given moments to touch Him in our brothers and sisters. We are blessed with staff, students, friends and volunteers who also share the same passion with those around them, who reach out to the lonely, destitute, sick, migrant workers and families in need of help. We recognise in the marginalised the God-given dignity of children of God and, we thank the lay partners for their contribution and support of the Ministries.

The story behind each article carries the collective memories of the journeys taken by the Sisters throughout this year and they will become part of the legacy for the future generations. We do not work for glory nor ask to be remembered; we minister to each person so that in the encounter, we will touch and experience God’s presence in our lives. The experiences will be retold again and again by different people and these stories will be woven into a single tapestry of Canossian history for the future, recalling the “marvels that God has continually done for us”.

With the 120th Anniversary of our Canossian presence, the Sisters also celebrated St. Anthony’s Canossian Schools’ 135th Anniversary and the official opening of the newly-upgraded campus in Bedok. The Sisters and staff at the Canossian Eduplex in Sallim Road also have the joy of seeing the completion of Canossa Convent Primary School under PRIME.

The other sectors namely Canossa Convent, Canossian School, Magdalene's Kindergarten and Canossville Children's Home too have their premises upgraded and repainted. Villa Francis Nursing Home moved into a new 9-storey building in Yishun to serve the needs of the sick and elderly. St. Joseph's Home for the Aged has moved to Mandai as it awaits the new development to the Home. Despite the inconveniences, Sisters, staff and the residents are aware that the move is necessary to meet the growing needs of the ageing population in Singapore.

We thank God for Sr. Virginia Crimella who was called home to the Father's house. Her life reminds us that our worth and dignity is not counted in the number of years we have worked but in the countless lives we have touched. Throughout her years in this mission land, Sr. Virginia had never failed to assure us of her prayers for the Sisters and friends who visited her and she affirmed and thanked us for our visits. By her life Sr. Virginia has taught us the true meaning of living and sharing.

Above all, we thank God for the gift of the XVI General Chapter when Sr. Annamaria Babbini was elected as our new Congregational Leader together with her Councillors which included Sr. Anne Tan. As a Province we are deeply grateful for the Spirit at work during the 2nd session of our Provincial Chapter – the Applicative Phase. We move on, in hope, towards the future knowing that we are not alone. *God Alone* is and will be our motivation and only goal. We are called to *Look and Do Likewise "Inspice et Fac"* that we may become joyful and prophetic witnesses of the Gospel so that the world may believe.

I wish to take the occasion to thank Sr. Margaret Peter for her support and the impetus she gave to our works in Myanmar and the many generous donors who have contributed towards the growing mission. Despite our dwindling number, our lay people recognise that the religious cannot be replaced in a society that is becoming more and more secular and consumeristic. However, we are able to carry on our mission and ministries to serve the people here in Singapore and abroad only through the generosity and support of our lay partners, individuals and corporate donors who unflinchingly believe that together ***we are co-partners and co-builders of a Kingdom yet to come where compassion, justice and love prevail.*** How can I forget the many generous lay people who have contributed their time, talent and expertise serving on the different Management Committees and Board of the Canossian Ministries? Your presence has helped us, Sisters, to continue to stay relevant and connected in a fast-moving society and meeting the society's changing needs.

As Singapore celebrates her 50th birthday, we will continue to reach out to God's people in Singapore and Myanmar. We look forward to the continuous support and contribution to our works and mission to serve the people of God. *To God be the glory and honour and praise.*

On behalf of my Councillors, Sr. Geraldine Tan and Sr. Dorothy Lim, we wish you and your family, the gift of Jesus Christ who reflects the amazing and immense love of our Heavenly Father and God. May this Christmas bring you Joy and Peace and may the New Year 2015 be a celebration of Thanksgiving and Hope for the wonders that Christ brings into our lives, our homes, our society and our world. May God bless you every day!

Yours in the Spirit of the Greatest Love in the God Incarnate, Emmanuel!

Sr. Theresa Seow
Provincial Leader



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Easter Fun Fair



On the Second Sunday of Easter, some individuals and organizations had setup a small funfair on the ground of St Joseph's Home (SJH) to bring some cheer to the residents, and to collect funds for the Home in preparation for its move to a temporary place while the present premises are redeveloped to serve the ageing population.

With an opening comment that the sight of an ice-cream cart parked outside the chapel directly facing the altar brought him fond memories, Fr Julian celebrated the Mass. He likened the joy of Mary Magdalene upon recognizing the risen Lord to his own joy when his aged mother who suffered from dementia returned home after having been lost for two days. The joy was great as the family was expecting the worst. With this message of Easter, all who were present attended the carnival.



The carnival was well organized with its own DJ belting out oldies, and numerous food stores - satay, laksa, char kway teow, rojak, prawn mee - and car boot and garage sales. The healthier residents were brought around to this welcome change from the familiar daily routine. The organizers had put in effort to add some sound and colour into the lives of the residents.



The goodness of God was reflected in the intention of the staff and volunteers to bring joy to the residents of the Home. Joy is not an attribute that we urbanites easily possess. The demands and responsibilities we have easily distract us from the little things in life. Yet, it is usually the appreciation of little things that gives us quiet contentment and gratefulness, leading us to joy and inner peace.

The carnival might be one of many well-intended projects for the volunteers, but for somebody, it might be the substance of fond memories in the months and years ahead. May the Lord bless his people abundantly for having served Him in their neighbours.

- Clement Tong

Project Makeover

Canossaville Childrens' Home



It was a delightful experience welcoming Emeritus Senior Minister (ESM) Goh Chok Tong and several invited guests with the rhythmic sound of drums to Canossaville Childrens' Home on the morning of 22 February at Sallim Road. After a brief and animated session of drumming, the group toured the tastefully renovated premises which included the dining room and kitchen, pastel coloured bedrooms, study and play rooms, toilets as well as the Learning Centre. The design was simple but unique. Congratulations to architects, engineers and designers.

Art work of children



ESM was impressed with the overall makeover, because it was simple and functional. He was especially touched by the childrens' spontaneous singing and expression of their gratitude for the upgraded premises.





After having renewed the physical premises, it is hoped that Canossaville Children's Home will continue to promote the intellectual, moral and spiritual development of all the residents and students, so that they too will be able to "pay forward" and help others in future.

We are grateful to God that in this 120th year of our presence in Singapore we are able to continue to serve the children who are disadvantaged with the support of Ministry of Social and Family Development and Volunteers. St Magdalene of Canossa showed us the example by embracing young girls in need so that they would become good women, good wives and good mothers.



Foundress Day Celebration

28 February

As part of the celebration of 120 years presence of the Canossian Sisters in Singapore, the Canossian schools celebrated Foundress Day on Feb 28. The theme this year was "Carità: a life built on love", dedicated to the foundress Saint Magdalene of Canossa.

The Eucharist and student leader investiture were celebrated in the respective schools. Thereafter, each school carried out acts of service for the poor, as charity is the cornerstone of the Canossian mission.

At the **Canossian Eduplex**, the three different sectors - Canossa Convent Primary School, the Canossian School (for children with hearing impairment) and Magdalene's Kindergarten came together for this outreach project.

After a short skit by the Sisters which highlighted the mission of St Magdalene, the Primary 6 students volunteered at the Willing Hearts Soup Kitchen to prepare meals for residents at Circuit Road. While other staff and students served the lunch, the choir from the Canossian School and Canossa Convent Primary School (CCPS) contemporary dancers put on some performances.

The elderly residents also received goody bags prepared by the younger children, including the children from Magdalene's Kindergarten. Member of Parliament Ms Tin Pei Ling, Provincial leader Sr Theresa Seow and Canossian Sisters were also present at the event to mingle with the residents.



A surprise visit from "Mother Foundress"!



Transporting the goody bags

The **St Anthony's Canossian Primary and Secondary Schools** were involved in the packing of hampers with food and daily necessities. The hampers were then distributed to residents in Kampong Chai Chee and Bedok.

Migrant workers at the Church of Our Lady of Lourdes also received goody bags packed by the senior girls from the secondary school. In all, nearly 360 hampers and 180 goody bags were packed and distributed by the two schools.

Blessed
are the
hands
that
reach out
to
serve...



A Visit to Miriam Home (Kluang-Malaysia)

23rd April 2014



This visit was arranged for the Sisters of the 'Bluebirds group' by the Singapore Province.

The night before I couldn't sleep well with the expectant joy of visiting a place I loved so much. I kept thinking of the various corners of the Convent and the people I know there...

At 6.45am, the van from St Joseph's Home came to fetch two of us to St Joseph's Home where we joined the Sisters of the community for breakfast.

In a car and a van, we left for Kluang. We arrived at Miriam Home and were joyfully greeted by the Sisters there, especially the elderly ones. We feasted on a good tea with *makan kecil*, during which time we exchanged a lively conversation.

It was a sunny and warm day as we strolled into the Chapel for the Eucharist celebrated by the parish priest, Fr Deva. After the Mass, we were shepherded to the dining area by the Sisters of the community.

We were treated to a dance performance and were welcomed by Fr. Deva. Lunch was sumptuous and leisurely and everyone was engaged in animated talk and lots of laughter. A beautiful cake was then cut as a celebration for the belated birthday of Sr. Theresa Yong.

The Sisters were so kind and hospitable. They served us, and saw to our various needs. This was truly an experience of love in action!



Fraternal Sharing



It was good to meet all the Sisters after such a long time. They have grown old graciously and were always smiling. We chatted happily for some time. Later in the afternoon, it was time to journey back home. With grateful hearts, we thanked the Sisters and workers for their love and care and bid them *adieu*. The return journey was smooth though we met with showers of blessing. We arrived safely home in Singapore at about 5pm.

How good and wonderful is the love of the Lord to give us such a happy outing and encounter with our Sisters. I felt so happy and thankful to the Province for this gift to the Bluebirds! - Sr Mary Siluvainathan

Food & Entertainment



Joyful reunion of the 'mountain of gems'!



An Encounter of Two Faiths



Easter 2014 was very special for the Canossian Sisters. Mdm Halimah Yacob , the Speaker of Parliament, was the special guest during the Sisters' Easter get-together this year at St. Joseph's Home on Sunday 20 April.

In her welcome address, Sr Theresa said, "The Canossian Sisters are meeting and welcoming a sister from the Abrahamic faith into our community." She recalled an occasion when a group of people expressed their delight to see them with veils walking together albeit from different religious traditions. It is a dialogue of life and witnessing.

Mdm. Halimah is also the Member of Parliament (MP) of the Bukit Batok East constituency to which the Sisters located at Canossian Convent in Jalan Merbok belong. Sr. Theresa commented that Mdm Halimah is one MP who does a lot of visiting of families... She is a leader with a heart.





In commenting on the passion of the Sisters, she said with conviction, “It is something that comes from deep within...” She admires the Christian missionaries.... one of the biggest pillars of society.... She said that the government can do a lot but cannot take care of every nook and corner... It is so important that the civic communities also do their part and indeed they are much appreciated. She also saw how the children are taken care of in the Canossaville Children's Home.

In her concluding remarks, she said, “We all share common values: deep respect and love for humanity.... May you continue to work for humanity and share your love with the needy as you have done”.

After a short tour of St. Joseph’s Home, the Sisters gathered in the convent chapel where Sr. Theresa gave a brief summary of the 120 years of Canossian presence in Singapore.

Solemn Vespers was animated by a group of friends and presided over by Carmelite Fr Edward. It was a prayerful and joyful celebration of God's love for humanity. "The Easter message is summed up in this simple quote – We live and die; Christ died and lived,” said Sr. Theresa.

In her address to the assembly, Mdm. Halimah thanked the Sisters for the privilege of sharing this sacred moment. She referred to Sr Theresa as her favourite nun and respects her deeply for her involvement in inter-religious dialogue. In appreciating the work at St. Joseph’s Home, she remarked, “It is not easy to look after the aged... Our society needs compassion and empathy, especially persons in the last moments of their life”.





Besides celebrating the joy of the Risen Lord, the Sisters were also taking the opportunity to enjoy the spacious Home which had been the residential home for more than 2000 elderly persons over the last 30 years. It has also been the sanctuary for more than 576 terminally ill patients who were given the tender loving care in the hospice section as they spent the last lap of their life with dignity and purpose.

It was the last time Sisters gathered in the Home before it moves out to the holding home in Mandai in the last quarter of this year as the Home prepares for major upgrading to meet the increased demand for aged care in Singapore. Sr. Geraldine Tan, the administrator said that the project will take about two years and the new SJH will house 350 beds with a 20-bedded hospice, a dementia care unit and a pilot project for assisted living.

- Sr Marilyn



CHRIST IS RISEN





SIMPLE JOY



With Fr Otello blessing the children



Staff and volunteers
Toss for Health & Happiness!



Getting ready to walk for Racial Harmony



Befriending the lonely ...



Outing with the Consecrated Lay Canossians



" Let go and let God..."
Annual Retreat
10-19 June 2014



God has His way of providing for all our needs. This retreat has been very timely for me... to be re-immersed once more in the Ignatian way of listening to the Lord.

Above all, I received a deeper insight on the meaning and practice of "indifference" in the spiritual life. In the novitiate, I had been initiated into "holy indifference" thinking that it is really for those who are very holy and therefore quite beyond my reach. But Fr. Colin Tan, our Jesuit retreat director, shared with us an article which gave down to earth examples of living this "indifference" in our daily life. In fact, his own experiences and stories shared in simplicity punctuated with humour, brought home to me what God is telling me at this stage of my life.

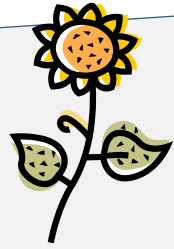
What matters is to focus on the will of God who loves me unconditionally. It doesn't matter whatever service or assignment I am given, in this place or that, whether it is to my liking or not, in sickness or in health. What matters is to be where God wants me to be at this point of my life and know that it's best for me.

I recalled the experience I had years ago in the Garden of Gethsemane, when I had the grace of accompanying a group of Sisters of the Hong Kong Province to the Holy Land for the purpose of strengthening their faith before the return of the British colony to Mainland China: looking once more at Jesus, and having the courage to say with Jesus: "Father, not my will, but Your will be done!" Jesus is once more inviting me to let go and let God take control. Just live the present moment well! Thank you Lord!

- Sr Janet

Retreat ends with delightful breakfast

Wow! What a gift!



...What do I take away?

Clearly many things, but just a few significant ones:

- That I am on the “right” direction, something which I had been discerning for a while now, but that I have to “let go more and let God”.
- To go out to the “market place” and witness. Fr. Colin talked about “Build, Walk, Confess”.
- On Day 7, Fr Colin asked us to pray and contemplate on Christ’s Passion vis-a-vis our own struggles, pains and hurts. For the first time, I was able to meditate on the Passion and Death of Christ in a different perspective and which gave new insights into my own struggles and I can draw on Christ’s Passion and Death in my own journey.
- On Day 8, focusing on the 3M (Motivation, Model, Mission) was another very good day for me. I went out into the garden and sat at the statue of St Magdalene to recite the rosary and meditate on the 3M and interiorly speaking to Magdalene and reflecting on her own journey (which I had read in a book that Sr. Rosalia gave me some time ago).
- Andrew SNG



Sharing of Joy



ON GOING FORMATION

Lilac / Yellow Groups – 15 July 2014

A formative session presented by Sr Linda Lizada (Cenacle Sister) to the Sisters of the Lilac /yellow groups (age 61-80) was highlighted by **ACED** . It was helpful for Lilacs to move from post midlife to a happy generative 'young old age ' :

- A - Awareness as against Assumption**
- C - Caution as against Conclusions**
- E - Empathy as against Expectations**
- D - Delight as against Disappointment**



The soup is yummy!



Enjoying togetherness time...



The Lilac day was a **GIFT** in the midst of much ado! Thanks for delightful company! (Sr Marilyn)



ON GOING FORMATION

Pinkies Group – 24-27 July 2014



Venue : Majodi Retreat House (Johor, Malaysia)
Facilitator : Fr Ignatius Huan
Participants : Singapore- 15 Sisters
Malaysia - 5 Sisters



- HINDSIGHT - Connect with God in all things.
 - INSIGHT - to deal with the present.
 - FORESIGHT - to realise our vision, sense of direction.
- Apply this in our lives...**
 Where am I at this stage of my life?
 What was my original vision?

Identity Confusion
 when we see ourselves in terms of

- what people say or think about us
- what we have & own
- our accomplishments & successes
- our influence & impact on others
- our status & popularity
- our experiences of failures & rejection
- our low self-esteem & self-rejection
- our feelings of worthlessness & sinfulness
- negative comments about us from others



ST ANTHONY'S CANOSSIAN SCHOOLS RE-OPENING AFTER UPGRADING (15 Aug 2014)

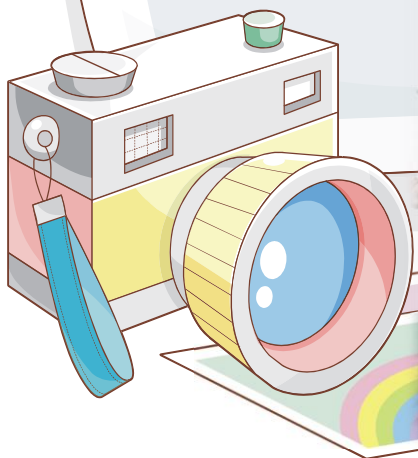


Unveiling of the schools' plaque by Ms Indraneel Rajah, Senior Minister of State for Law and Education (third from right). Looking on are (from left), Primary School Principal Mrs Eugenie Tan, Ms Chua Bee Choo (acting Chairperson, Canossian Schools Board of Management), Sr Cecily Pavri (Supervisor of Schools), Sr Theresa Seow (Provincial Leader of the Canossian Sisters) and Secondary School Principal Mdm Mak Lai Ying.



August 15 was a long-awaited day for staff, students, alumni and stakeholders of St Anthony's Canossian Primary and Secondary Schools. Their 135th Anniversary cum Opening Ceremony marked the official opening of the two institutions, in Bedok North, after they underwent PRIME, the Education Ministry's Programme for Rebuilding and Improving Existing Schools. The celebration also marked the 120th year of the presence of the Canossian Sisters in Singapore.

During the Mass at the schools' St Anthony's Chapel, Archbishop William Goh emphasized that Catholic education must equip students with the capacity to make solid moral choices and decisions in faith, amidst growing secularism and relativism. The schools' motto, VIA, VERITAS, VITA – Jesus as the Way, Truth and Life – should give purpose, direction and hope to students, inspiring them to become people of integrity and compassion, ready to serve all in society, especially the poor and underprivileged, he said.



**20th November @ Canossa
Convent Primary School worksite**

Giving out tokens of appreciation to our migrant worker brothers for toiling day after day and working hard to make sure that CCPS is ready for the new academic year 2015.

Goody bags packed by CCPS pupils & teachers



NANDRI! Thank You! God bless you & your family! 朋友们，辛苦您们了！谢谢！

**Thank You
for all your hard work!**





**FUN in
Community
Living**



Right way to exercise your legs!



Happy Birthday!



Life long learning - playing the Ukulele



ONE LOVE, ONE MISSION ONE CANOSSIAN

CELEBRATING 120 YEARS IN SINGAPORE

27 September 2014

The action started from as early as 8.30am when the little children from the combined choir of the schools - Canossian School, Canossa Convent and St Anthony's Canossian Primary, began streaming in, ready to lend their angelic voices for the 120th Anniversary Eucharist Celebrated by Archbishop William Goh.

The crowd of almost 1000 people came from the various branches of the Canossian family – Alumni members, former teachers, lay Canossians, volunteers, benefactors and family members of the Sisters. Special guests included the Apostolic Nuncio to Singapore, Archbishop Leopoldo Girelli and a few key members of the Inter-Religious Organisation (IRO).

This celebration marks a milestone of 12 decades since four pioneer Canossian Sisters set foot in Singapore from Macau on 11 December 1894. Mother Teresa Rossi, M Giustina Sequeira, M Marietta Porroni and M Matilda Rodrigues. Three days later, they opened St Anthony's Convent (SAC) with M Teresa Rossi as the first Superior and subsequently took over the parish school of St Anna.

In the early years in Singapore, the Canossian Mission pioneered a few original initiatives such as setting up mobile clinics in the post war years, starting a home for the care of the aged sick; as well as the integration of hearing impaired students into mainstream schools .



In his Homily, the Archbishop acknowledged that the Foundress, St Magdalene was gifted with foresight and vision . He congratulated and thanked the Sisters for their love for the people especially the poor.





In the afternoon, a seminar entitled “One Love, One Mission, One Canossian” was held in the auditorium of the National Design Centre, which was the former Chapel of St Anthony’s Convent, at 111 Middle Road.

Sr Anne Tan, Vicar General, highlighted the need for Lay Canossians to always reflect on “Why we do what we do, and if what we do is helping us to be a better person”. She encouraged every Canossian “to be a soul on Fire because the world today is in great need, not so much of teachers, but of witnesses.”

A panel of 4 lay Canossians was also on stage to share how the Canossian Spirit has impacted their lives.

Greetings from the Archbishop...

It was my pleasure to celebrate with you all.
 You have a great responsibility to uphold the Catholic values and the Canossian ethos. Be assured of my prayers and support.
 I am so proud of you all and I have confidence that you will continue to provide holistic formation to our young people.
 God bless you all.
 +William

Some comments from the participants...

...One of the panel speakers shared with us her experience of the unconditional giving of the Sisters in Myanmar even when the recipient eventually disappointed them in his subsequent action. As a student then and teacher now in SAC, I too have experienced this all-giving love. It is something that I try to emulate in my life.

Frances Chua Lee Beng

I returned home to our Canossian family for the first time in 30 years. Saturday's celebrations crystallized for me the amazing and positive impact of the 10 years spent under the Sisters' care and guidance. Regardless of where we are in the world, we never lose that Canossian spirit of goodness and resilience. Thank you Sisters for including me in the family.

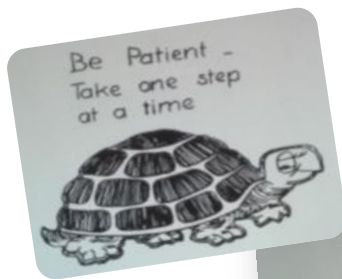
Chiou See Anderson - who came back from overseas specially for the occasion...



Provincial Chapter – 2nd Phase 24-28 October 2014

How time flies...

It seems that the first phase of St Anthony's Province Chapter was just yesterday. Actually it was in October 2013... It then ended on a high note of 8 proposals for the General Chapter. Then October 2014 came with proposals that excited our spirits, giving new hope and impetus to our religious life and its mission. The experience was encouraging and life giving!

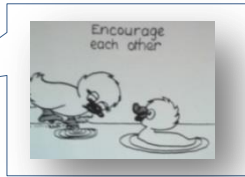


Clarify please...



*Voting
with
colours!*





Our Facilitator,
Ms Jill McCorquodale

Group discussion



What the participants say...

Sr Christina Yeo:

"I am so grateful for the on-going learning process facilitated by Jill. I feel that we have all grown deeper and more connected especially by the daily process questions:

- *What's stirring in your heart?*
- *Listen to one another. What have you heard?"*

Sr Cecily Pavri:

"It was a peak time for the Province, an experience of collective commitment... I enjoyed the spirit of collegiality and union of hearts."

Sr Liz Tham:

"I have been very touched by the fidelity of the Sisters, Novices and helpers who worked in the background to allow us to participate smoothly in the Chapter process without any anxiety. "

Sr Geraldine Lim shared her dream of the Sisters witnessing to One Canossian Heartbeat...

Sr Marion Liong experienced the Spirit working powerfully when the Sisters shared what was deepest in their hearts without fear, free to speak the truth with Love.

Sr Marilyn Lim felt in sync with One Canossian heartbeat and was looking forward to the possibility of exploring new expressions of religious life.

Sr Priscilla Ahin was awed by the Chapter process and the sharing. She felt immensely graced by the Spirit who was present in a special way in the Chapel where the proceedings were held.

Thank You Srs Theresa, Geraldine and Dorothy for your leadership and for putting in so much work for the success of the Chapter. May God bless, guide and comfort you!

- Sr Margaret Goh

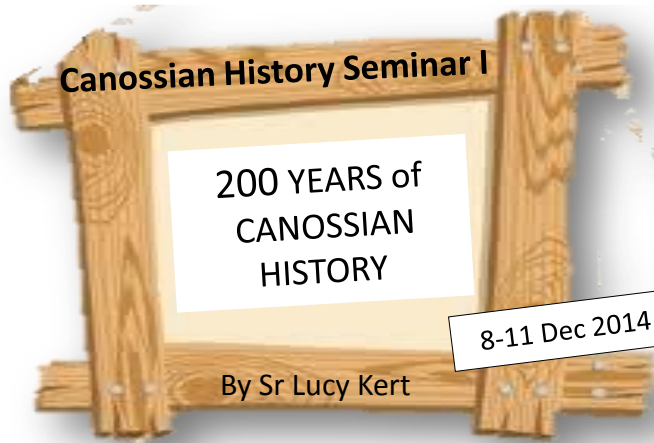
Break time!



CLOSING: Sent to be a joyful & prophetic witness



Re-living our Canossian Presence in Singapore



Canossian History Seminar I

200 YEARS of
CANOSSIAN
HISTORY

8-11 Dec 2014

By Sr Lucy Kert



"...my attitudes and actions will affect the future Canossian story. The group sharing was very enriching!"
-Sr Dorothy Lim



"...it was refreshing to learn of the past so as to know of the present. The heroic sufferings of our Sisters are admirable and we can emulate their example – they laid the foundation of our Institute today."
- Sr Florence Teo

"I have learnt to listen to others and read history in a formative way so that I can reflect and apply to myself. I also learnt of the rich heritage, especially the love, zeal, and toil of the Sisters that have been passed on to us, which is breath-taking and inspiring!"
- Sr Doreen Soh

"I was very appreciative of the two sessions which deepened my gratitude especially to our missionary Sisters who gave their lives and made so many sacrifices for the love of the kingdom. They lived the charism and were true to the spirit of our Foundress."
- Sr Geraldine Lim



Sr Maria Riva sharing her story

Canossian History Seminar II

120 YEARS of
CANOSSIAN'S
PRESENCE in
SINGAPORE

12 Dec 2014

by Sr Magdalen Ee



The first 4 Canossian missionaries arrived in Singapore on 11 Dec 1894...



"It has given me a greater understanding and appreciation of our Canossian history, a sense of gratitude for the heroic sacrifices of our Founding Mothers, inspiring me to continue this great legacy left by our Sisters." - Sr Elizabeth Sim

Group activity – finding our roots!

"I was inspired by the profound faith of our early Sisters. I wish to keep alive their spirit of sacrifice and hope to be continuously motivated by their love of God and neighbour."
- Sr Jane Chong



SNIPPETS of LIFE in MYANMAR – 2014

2014 has been a very eventful year for our little community as well as for the Catholic Church in Myanmar which celebrated 500th Jubilee Year of the Presence of the Catholic Church in Myanmar from 21-24 November.

FORMATION OF EDUCATORS

Sr. Angela & Sr. Joana are in a big community in Canossa Home with 20 educators, 8 leaders & assistants and 18 children.

The **6th batch of 21 Educators** graduated on 30 April and were posted to boarding houses to take care of children.

In May, a team of 4 **Lay Canossians** from Singapore: Louise Lee, Magdalene Tan, Cecilia V. and Mary Mercy conducted formation sessions for the educators. On 3 May 2 new members Esther and Clement made their promises. This was followed by an **Intermediate Course** for the 5th batch.

The **Advanced Level intensive course** on Pre-school Education & Leadership was held in June.



On 21 July, the **7th batch of 20 educators** started their **Basic Course**. After 5 months of formation they had a sending-off Mass & ceremony on 12 Dec. after which they left for a short break & would be posted to serve in boarding houses all over Myanmar for their practicum till mid Feb. 2015.

VOLUNTEERS

Many groups of volunteers came to give courses to the educators on various topics. The Papango Educational & Medical Team served in Thanlyin, Loikaw & Donokhu, teaching the educators how to make handicraft for sale as part of the livelihood project. Eugene & friends visited the Hopon Boarding House. Project Micah Team visited the boarding houses in Taunggyi & Thanlyin. Theresa Goh & M3 friends joined the educators in Thanlyin for the sending-off Mass and then went up to conduct activities for the children in Bro. Felice's Orphanage in Naung Shwe.

CHRISTMAS CHEER

Sr. Jacqueline went with Joseph and 4 team members to bring Christmas Cheer to the children in 10 Boarding houses in Pekhon and other villages.



CANOSSIAN FORMATION HOUSE

Sr. Jacqueline & Sr. Marion are in the rented formation house with 4 searchers. They are involved with the formation of the searchers as well as groups of youth and Lay Canossians. They conduct regular vocation animation sessions for the educators and youth at large. Periodically they run camps for children and youth.

Sr. Jacqueline had a simple celebration of her Silver Jubilee of religious life with the Myanmar community of Sisters & searchers on 5 Dec.



PROJECTS IN THE PIPELINE

To date we have trained a total of 140 educators who have reached out to nearly 4,000 children in over 70 boarding houses all over Myanmar.

We are presently raising funds to build our own Formation House & a small kindergarten.

We are very thankful to God for:

* Our 3 novices from Myanmar – Maria, Antonia and Heza, who are undergoing religious formation in Singapore.

* All our volunteers and supporters, especially our M3 friends who are tirelessly raising funds to support our mission work.

Pre-Christmas Gathering
@ Canossian Formation House
13 December 2014



The Pre-Christmas Gathering marks the conclusion of the 120th Anniversary Celebrations



'O Come All Ye Faithful'

Happy Feastday Sr Lucy!



We wish you
a very Blessed & Spirit-filled
NEW YEAR 2015



ST ANTHONY'S PROVINCE
SINGAPORE - MYANMAR