



NEWSLETTER JUNE 2012

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world: indeed it's the only thing that ever does.
(Margaret Mead)



When we finally allow life to take us through the Paschal Mystery of passion, death, and resurrection, we will be transformed. At this stage we'll have found the capacity to hold the pain, not to fear it or hate it or project it onto other people. Actually, it's really God holding the pain in us, because our little self can't do it. But the Big Self, God in us, can absorb it, forgive it, and resolve it. We know it is grace when we no longer need to hate or punish others, even in our mind. We know someone else is working through us, in us, and for us. Our little life is not our own henceforward, nor do we need it so much. We are now a part of the Big and One Life.



PRAYING IN SOLIDARITY WITH THE LCWR SISTERS IN THE USA

In this time of pain and promise, we call on God's Spirit to bless the leadership of LCWR, and all women religious who strive to live the Gospel in these uncertain times. We call on the Spirit of God to reveal the way forward that is faithful to God's dream for us and our lives together. May all who are called to engage in prayer and conversation come to the table with hearts that are open, transparent and faith-filled. May their reflection be marked by a deep listening to the voice of the Spirit at work in our world. May the holy ones who have gone before us inspire us by their courage and wisdom and affirm that we are not alone. May we continue faithfully to live the questions of our time and witness to the people of God that we are women at home with mystery and filled with fierce hope for our shared future.
(Sister Chris Koellhoffer, IHM) see our Website <http://www.canonesses.co.uk/pray-with-us/>



BOOK LAUNCH - "WHO WERE THE NUNS?"

S. Mary Magdalene has been able to provide access to documents from our Archives to help with an historical project at Queen Mary College London. This has resulted in a comprehensive study of the membership of the English Convents in exile during the 17th - 18th centuries. (Our Community was in exile from its foundation in 1642 until our return to England in 1794). S. Mary Magdalene was delighted to be able to attend the launch of the resulting book - "Who Were The Nuns?" - which includes a significant section about our Community.

St AUGUSTINE

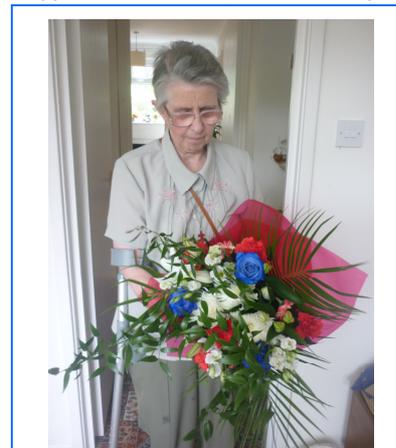


"To fall in love with God is the greatest romance; to seek him the greatest adventure; to find him, the greatest human achievement."

Note: As Canonical Communities, all the Pories of the Association follow the Rule of St Augustine as do all the Norbertine Canons (and many other Communities).



The Queen and S. Catherine have both recently celebrated sixty years of commitment and service.



S. Catherine celebrated her Diamond Jubilee of Profession with the Community, family and parish. There was Mass in Howe Close, followed by a celebration meal (menu chosen by Catherine) and then Mass on the day itself in St Anne's Custom House with her Parish and the local Catholic Primary School.



The Community joined in many local celebrations in Chelmsford, Colchester and East London to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and ten of us braved the crowds to line the procession route on the Tuesday and to join the crowds in Trafalgar Square.



OUR SISTERS FROM AFRICA



S. Agnès, S. Thérèse, and S. Véronique (our three Sisters from D.R. Congo and Rwanda who are with us for an extended period of time) are making good progress with their English and are enjoying a wide variety of new experiences. S. Agnès goes to a weekly Art Class and has had some of her pictures in a local exhibition. They regularly join group activities in Melbourne, Colchester and Essex University. They came with us to London for the Jubilee Celebrations and have visited Male, Turnhout and Herkenrode. As this picture of S. Véronique shows, it's a tiring experience!



S. Thérèse (left) having her nails painted at the Tuesday Evening Shaftesbury Group. S. Agnès (right) at a fundraising event for Rwanda at New Hall.



FOLLOW UP TO GENERAL CHAPTER X



We were fortunate to have the Belgian Theologian Lea Verstricht, one of our General Chapter speakers, with us for a long weekend. She gave some input in London to a group of Women Religious on her views on the role of Religious in the Church.

She then gave a full day of input to the Community, Companions and others on "Our role as co-creators with God", and the concept of the non-lieu.

For further pictures and a full report please visit our Website

<http://www.canonesses.co.uk/being-church/opportunities-to-reflect-on-church/>

COMPANIONS

On 23rd March most of our Companions were able to join us at Howe Close, for a service of recommitment.

At the same time, we were able to welcome two new Companions to the Group. To find out more about the Companions please see our Website:

www.canonesses.co.uk/who-we-are/our-companions/



Our Community in East London are feeling the building excitement at the nearby Olympic Stadium.

S. Patricia has collected her uniform and kit for her role as an Olympic volunteer. (See picture left).

SNIPPETS



The Toddler Group in Melbourne enjoyed an outing to Marsh Farm where they were able to hold piglets, watch cows being milked and stroke lamas.



PREPARING TO CELEBRATE 370 YEARS

Plans are hotting up for celebrating the 370th Anniversary of the Foundation of the Community.

The full programme is posted on our Website:

<http://www.canonesses.co.uk/our-370th-anniversary/calendar-of-events/>

For the major events pre-booking is advised, either via the Website or by phoning 01206 867296.

The celebration year begins with a launch on the 7th October 2012 at New Hall 4:00pm to 7:00pm.



AFTERNOON WITH SUSY BROUARD OF CAFOD

1st September 2.00pm to 5.15pm at New Hall Prep School.

"BEFORE GOD CREATED US HE CREATED THE EARTH. HE LEFT IT WITH US TO CARE FOR IT".

Susy will continue our reflections on the General Chapter

theme "Weaving threads of solidarity" and will look especially at what this means in terms of our responsibilities towards the planet.

To book your place please contact us on: 01206 867296 or email crssuk@canonesses.co.uk



DO YOU SHOP ON THE INTERNET?

If you do any shopping on the internet, please consider accessing your shop via the Giving Machine which then gives a percentage of your purchase to your chosen Charity. We have nominated a Nutritional Centre in our Priory in D.R. Congo as our recipient. This involves no extra work or charge to you, please see full details at http://www.canonesses.co.uk/media/13103/the_giving_machine_-_easy_instructions.pdf

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Fundraising Concert for Congo: 23rd June 8:00pm All Saints Church, Stock.

Evening Prayer at St Peter's Bradwell: 8th July 6:30pm.

Quiet Day: 13th July 10:00am to 3:00pm at 74 Howe Close, CO4 3XD.

Fundraising Garden Party: 22nd July 12:30pm for 1:00pm Roseberry Cottage, Furze Lane, Stock, CM4 9RP.

Susy Brouard of CAFOD: 1st September 2.00pm to 5.15pm at New Hall Prep School (booking essential).

Fundraising Quiz Night: 21st September 7:00 for 7:30pm at New Hall Prep School.

370th Anniversary Year Launch: 7th October 4:00pm to 7:00pm at New Hall (booking essential).

All welcome to any of the above - for details and booking please contact crssuk@canonesses.co.uk or phone 01206 867296.

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