



# Nano's Echo

Newsletter of the International Presentation Lay Movement for Mission

A Spirit-led initiative of the International Congregation of Presentation Sisters (Union) which celebrates and promotes the charism of Nano Nagle in new and creative ways

BEHEADING OF JOHN THE BAPTIST 2016

**At the heart of our movement lies:**

*A partnership with the Divine*

we attend to God each day and our actions are informed by that commitment.

*A passion for the poorest*

we stand with the poorest in society.

*A covenant with creation*

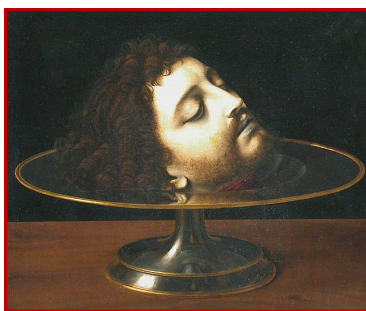
honouring all of creation, we live and promote sustainable lives.

*As* we reflected on the beheading of John the Baptist and compared his life with that of Venerable Nano Nagle, we noted many similarities. These two remarkable people said 'yes' to their calling to follow Jesus.

From a life of contemplation, prayer, relationship with God, fidelity, self emptying, preparing the way of freedom for all, love of Christ and the Word, they spoke their truth boldly, fearlessly, despite much opposition. They always kept Jesus front and center spending their lives revealing him to others.

Nano and John the Baptist

are people to be imitated in life and death. We learned their utter dependence on God as Nano often said 'God is all sufficient' and John, in his humility, knew his mission was not about himself.



Freedom, love and faithfulness were the trademarks of both of them – giving themselves in love to their death.

Pope Francis remarks that

John the Baptist (like Nano) models truth, love, justice and peace for us today. We, like them, must discern the truth and diminish so Jesus can grow in our hearts and the hearts of others. As 'truthtellers' we too, must seek to do 'nothing but to serve'.

As Nano would say, we 'go one pace beyond'.



How is Nano's life reflected in me?



Am I prepared to speak truth to power?



How do I discern truth?

Bride Doyle, Pauline Lake, Stella Galway, and Sr. Ruth O'Reilly (Newfoundland and Labrador, Canada).

*Nano's Echo is for everyone. Please share it far and wide.*

Thank you to all those who have sent photos and stories. **We have been overwhelmed.** We will try to feature a different country in each edition. In this edition we discover England.

## North Presentation Associates, Cork

### Reflection on a day spent in Nano Nagle's Birthplace.

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> June was an inspiring day for all of our group. From the moment we arrived in Ballygriffin we felt part of a movement that was very committed to the core principles of Nano herself. Partnership with the Divine, Passion for the poorest, Covenant with Creation. The video on her life reminded us of the extraordinary love and dedication that Nano had for the poor.

The meeting and chatting with others, the

Tai Chi, Meditation and above all the emotional sharing from Chris and Sr. Imelda gave us all a sense of purpose. It was amazing also to listen to Mary-Ann on Skype all the way from New Zealand. It made us feel part of a world-wide group sharing the vision of Nano.

We left at the end of the day with a sense of fulfilment and determination to continue in whatever way we could in the work which Nano began in Cork in 1754.

*Maeve Higgins and Bernie O'Neill, Cork*



# Snapshot of Friends of Nano from England

The first **Presentation Sisters** came to **Manchester, England in 1836** (from Clonmel) and over the years men and women have worked alongside them. In **1989** the first **Presentation Associates** were enrolled. There are currently about 22 Groups - several without a nearby Convent. Some Groups meet in the local convent, some in parish rooms and some in each other's houses.

Associate Groups finance their Group meetings and pay a subscription towards the cost of publications and Annual gatherings. Most groups meet monthly for prayer, reflection and discussion. Justice and Peace initiatives feature in most groups: 'We are currently reflecting on the SDGs and there is often fundraising for one charity or another. We have an excellent Treasurer in Ann Fenton, **Coventry Associate**'.

**How did I get involved?** I was asked some years ago by the late Sr Nuala if I would be interested in joining the Core Group of the Justice, Peace & Integrity of Creation Group. That is how I came to be involved. Some two years later I was enrolled as an Associate. There are no Sisters in my area and no other associates in my group. *Phil Barrett, Associate & contributor to SEEDS*



Kaoma Orphanage, Zambia, is supported by English Associates and since March 2003 over £87,000 has been raised. Some Associates have visited Kaoma and seen first-hand the work carried out there. As they have links with Sr Stella, **Corsham** Associates fund-raise for Mongu (Cheshire Home): a Tea Party, Lent Supper & Open Garden help pay school fees,

transport costs for children having treatment, medicines...



Donations from supermarket

Well Dressing in **Derbyshire** dates from pre-Christian times. Today the custom has assumed a wider spiritual meaning - thanking God for water - many wells are dedicated to Saints. "The process can take five days!! Every year I design and make a well dressing at Cross Well in Bonsall village and this year's image is adapted from a Presentation theme, with 'Year of Mercy' on the base. It is my little way each year of revealing our Catholic faith". Krystina Johnson, **Matlock**. (Nano has been portrayed twice on the Well in previous years)



'We are a group of thirteen (11 associates and 2 sisters) formed of diverse nationalities: Filipino, Italian, German, Irish, English ....'

The group work with Age UK visiting the housebound and lonely; with prostitutes; people who have learning difficulties; refugees and asylum seekers. The group meets in each other's houses.

*Associates in Nottingham*



The Presentation heart picture (on page 4) was the inspiration for the well dressing. Thank you Maria Owen for gathering news from around England to give us a 'taste' of Nano's flame alive and well.

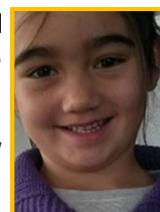


Many Groups support Refugees and Asylum seekers. An Associate from **Nechells**, Birmingham, is currently teaching English to refugees from Iran, Syria, Guinea, Poland, Nigeria and Vietnam. Another project supported by Caritas is the Lalley Centre: a food bank and advice centre in a very deprived area of **Manchester**. Sr Rita, who runs the 'Lalley', does not shirk from urging government support for the poverty-stricken people she helps. She relies on Volunteers to run the Centre: many are Associates by Commitment and Enrolment and others are 'associates' by involvement.

# Nano Nagle Commission

Do you like us wonder where time goes? It comes and it goes and the only piece of it we can own is the present moment. As some parts of the world move into spring and others to autumn we see the effects of time on our gardens and our daylight. Some parts of the world are even enjoying summer holidays rights now. Whatever season it is and whatever part of the world we are reading this in, the miracle is that a small woman born nearly 300 years ago in Ireland is known to us all. And the Nano's of this world are needed just as much as she was in her time. Her passion for justice continues to live on in us.

We see works such as Nano's happening before our eyes like the little 5-year-old girl who had accompanied her dad to provide food for the homeless people living in cars. The next morning the dad found a letter on the fridge that the little girl had written to the Prime Minister:



**"My name is Peyton and I'm going to be the Prime Minister one day. But right now can you please make the people that have to live in a car have a house. Thanks."**

Click on picture for full story.



Or the 14-year-old boy who won a poetry competition for his poem on white boy privilege (Click on picture of boy).

We hear so much bad news these days about war and oppression but these two stories remind us of the good that is happening in our midst.

We trust you are now familiar with the [www.nanonagle.org](http://www.nanonagle.org) and [www.pbvmunion.org](http://www.pbvmunion.org) websites. In an earlier edition of *Nano's Echo* we asked you to send us resources you find helpful in making Nano known or for prayer, retreats or school resources. We want to receive these to build the websites with information to share across the globe. You may send them to [nanonaglecommission@gmail.com](mailto:nanonaglecommission@gmail.com) We will share them on the new Nano Nagle Website: [www.nanonagle.org](http://www.nanonagle.org) We hope you will enjoy the poem (below) which was one contribution:

## Nano Nagle by Fay Clayton a New Zealand Author.

Nano, the young girl early knew  
of the river flowing and the swallow flying free;  
as a bright diamond she, reflecting beauty:  
her mother saw the sparkle and she feared  
but her father guessed the strength.

.....out in the boglands  
the bitterns were crying.....

for the back drop of Penal Ireland  
children trapped in ignorance, and want,  
and the head of a teacher, priest or wolf  
each worth five pound – no mass but in hiding  
caves hollowed ground .....

.....oh so sad was the cry of the bittern .....

Nano, her father's treasure  
smuggled off to France for education  
turned polished gem and spent  
glittering years  
sheening her silken way in high court circles  
as suited one of Nagle family.

But Paris children seen through the moon mist  
Waiting with their parents for a work a day mass  
that glimpse, from her passing carriage window  
would not stop revolving in her mind....

.....For home in the boglands  
the bitterns were crying

In life's work she became even as the bittern  
adept, if need arise, at camouflage:  
her schools must flourish yet seen to be  
as part of the slum.

Nano, the old woman, cloaked and hooded, tramped  
impervious to damp  
lady of the lantern, she  
known in poorest lane and alley  
until finally spent.

But her spirit , true diamond light to light, splintering  
shines now,  
no longer one bright jewel  
but many.



# What is your name?

**Names matter.** In the Bible names were given very consciously because they had significance ... they had genuine meaning.

Names are a **way of** honouring a family or group's **heritage and traditions**. They are symbolic of the purpose of the group.

"I have called you by your name ... you are mine."  
Isaiah 43:1

Abram was changed to **Abraham** (meaning "father of many nations," (Genesis 17:1 - 5) then the God changed his wife's from Sarai to **Sarah** ("mother of many nations" verses 15 - 16). **Jacob**, his grandson, was renamed Israel (meaning "one who prevails with God" Gen 32:24 - 28)

**Jesus had many titles: son, friend, master, rabbi, teacher, saviour, God, counsellor, fisherman, shepherd.**

**Paul** didn't need to have his name changed because the custom of dual names was common in those days. Growing up in a strict Pharisee environment, Saul was the name by which he was known. But after his conversion Saul was determined to bring the gospel to the Gentiles, so he dusted off his Roman name and became known as Paul, a name to which Gentiles were accustomed. This was typical of Paul's missionary style. His method was to put people at their ease and approach them with his message in a way to which they could relate.



In 2009 (225<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Nano's death) the Leadership team reflected on what it means to be associated with the Congregation. They wished to encourage the development of a framework linking Friends of Nano across the globe, a network which could enable all who are inspired by the Charism of Nano to strengthen and expand their experiences of being in communion. The Friends of Nano Movement has been strengthened by the 2011 Ballygriffin International Gathering and subsequent International Commissions.



Click on the photo of Sr Betty Rae Lee, from Newfoundland. She tells the story of the earliest Presentation Associates – in 1770!

## Honora Nagle - Nano - Sr Mary St John of God

Nano was non-vowed when she began her mission to educate the children of Cork. She collaborated with Teresa Mulally, Angela Collins, Elizabeth Burke, Mary Fouhy and with many others for the sake of her beloved children.

The Presentation Sisters worked with non-vowed as their mission spread across the world to Newfoundland, England, India, San Francisco, Australia .....

The recognition grew that people experienced a call, a vocation to share the mission of Christ in today's world, following the example of Nano Nagle. Groups have developed in different ways in different Units.

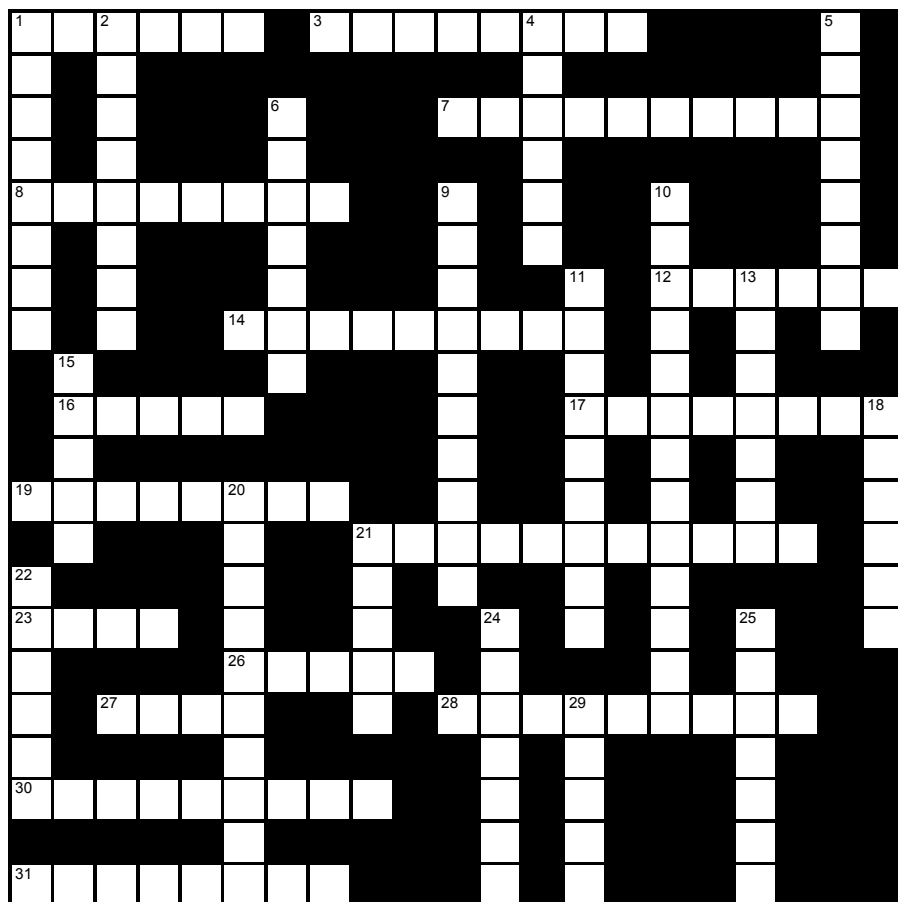
**Each Unit has the freedom to decide on a name for those who are partners in Charism and Mission.**  
*Associate Guidelines 2004*

In 2015 the International Presentation Lay Movement for Mission (IPLMM) coordinating Team was appointed and this temporary name became the 'umbrella' for all who are associated with Presentation or are friends of Nano. One of our tasks is to try to discern a name that is acceptable to all. An umbrella name that can be affixed to our existing names.

By what Names are we known?

**Presentation Associates; Friends of Nano; Parolitas; La Familia de Nana Nagle; ?????**

# Nano's Echo



Have a go at the crossword puzzle. You may like to try it either in a group or on your own. If you want the solution e-mail [m.greaney@wn.catholic.org.nz](mailto:m.greaney@wn.catholic.org.nz) and it will be sent to you.

The answers to the crossword are hidden in past editions of *Nano's Echo*.

They may all be easily found by clicking on the Logo



## Across

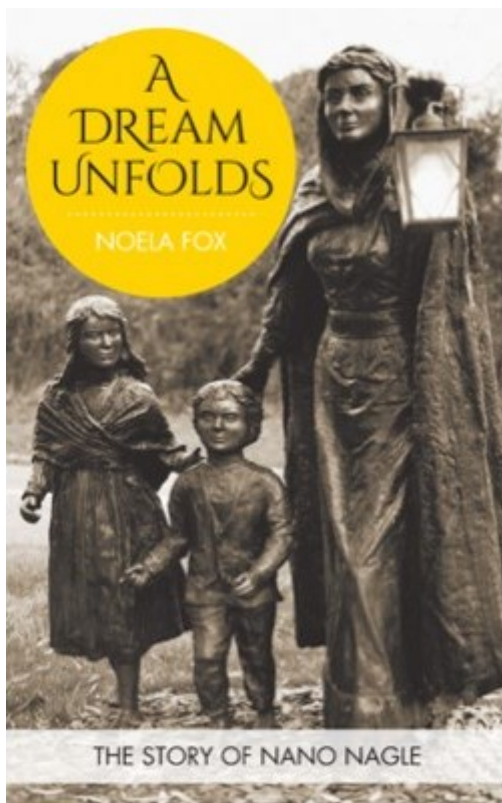
1. We ... to God each day. (6)
3. There was never so much good done since St ... time. (8)
7. Every action of this great woman was to be ... a hundredfold. (10)
8. No information ... will be lost. (8)
12. The holiness of Nano is a reflection and ... of the holiness of God. (6)
14. It was as a lay woman that Nano ... her vision and passion for the poorest. (9)
16. It is his work and has not been affected by ... means. (5)
17. If the song is to ... we must do the singing. (8)
19. Miss Nagle who had been driven in a ... to the ball in Paris hid her light well. (8)
21. We are called to live ... and use our resources creatively. (11)
23. There was not a garret in ... that Nano did not know. (4)
26. We ... with the poorest in society. (5)
27. Nano was a ... to the Church at a time of great need. (4)
28. If I could be of service in any part of the globe I would ... do all in my power. (9)
30. Keep telling us what you want – we are ... (9)
31. We are part of the Nano ... (8)

## Down

1. The ... makes use of the weakest means to bring about His works. (8)
2. ... we can blaze a trail. (8)
4. We consciously ... to be drawn more deeply into the mystery of God. (6)
5. Honouring all of ... we live and promote sustainable lives. (8)
6. Nano spent hours in prayer before the ... Sacrament. (7)
9. It is amazing what you can ... if you do not care who gets the credit. (10)
10. The most frequent request is for better ... (13)
11. She is truly the mother of Catholic ... (9)
13. We are impelled by the ... gospel of Jesus. (7)
15. Nano is already there ... of us beckoning us on. (5)
18. We ... in expansive partnerships. (6)
20. By degrees with the ... of God we may do a great deal. (10)
21. Our Nano will be a ... yet! (5)
22. When the work of ... was over Nano turned her steps to the lanes and alleys. (6)
24. Faced with ... Nano held fast to hope. (7)
25. Nano ... life to speak to her. (7)
29. We are called to be immersed in the ... of the poor. (5)

The **Congregational Gathering 2012** calls us to nurture our awareness of being the beloved of God and **recognize the other as beloved**

The **Congregational Gathering 2012** calls us to be like Mary and Nano, heart-centred women, **developing caring and meaningful relationships**, especially in community



Columba Press describes *A Dream Unfolds* as: "a moving testimony to Nano Nagle's life's work. Not only does it pay tribute to her many achievements, it also creates a portrait of her that is immensely relatable. Nano is depicted as warm and loving, someone with great wit and a wry sense of humour who is capable of being obstinate and forceful when the occasion calls for it. Alongside this humanity, however, are the qualities that make her such a remarkable and trailblazing figure in Irish history: her strength, audaciousness, prudence, compassion, persistence and, above all, her unshakeable conviction that God would bring her dream to fruition".



To order *A Dream Unfolds* and for details of other Presentation books and resources click on the PBVM emblem.



Click on the photo of Maria to hear about a collaboration between sisters and Friends of Nano (recorded in New Zealand).  
**Turn up the sound.**

## More from England

One Group, in **Leicester**, supports children in North India (for a recent fundraising activity Rita Hankey, an Associate, knitted a doll which was then raffled). Like many Associate Groups, they support refugees and asylum seekers arriving in England. Large supermarkets donate food for distribution to the needy - by volunteers many of whom are Associates. *Srs Justine & Margaret pbvm*



### Nano is alive and inspiring anew!

In Derby a new Group recently formed where there has never been a Convent. At the annual Assembly Day, where they were enrolled, they meet the wider Presentation family. They have come together, from varying walks of life, after encountering the charism of Nano after a Sister Teresa moved into their parish.



## Nano Nagle Podcast

Louise Guiney (Ireland) edited and produced this six minute podcast capturing the stories of people talking about Nano Nagle. In Cork City, communities are still bound together by Nano and this podcast helps give an insight to who she really was and some of the great work she achieved in her lifetime. (Click on image to hear)



Mary-Ann

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Feedback and suggestions are welcome.

The Co-ordinating Team are easy to contact via e-mail.

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