



June 2019

Presentation Associate Newsletter

Newfoundland & Labrador



Message from Provincial Leader Sister Betty Rae Lee



Greetings from the heart of Africa!

I am privileged to be engaged in contemplative listening and dialogue with sixteen other Sisters from around the world in the Garden of Oneness, a 30-acre spiritual and ecological oasis in Kaoma, rural Zambia. My friend, Terry Abraham, whom many of you have met, dreamed this initiative yet, it is obvious from the moment of arrival, that this is not merely Terry's dream.

The whole African Unit has taken the vision of this sacred space to heart and the new all-African Leadership Team participated in the whole week. My greatest delight, though, was to witness the ownership of the Garden by the Friends of Nano and the local villagers – a proud example of joyful collaboration for the sake of mission.

Our group comprised participants from Australia, Canada, England, India, Ireland, New Zealand, Pakistan, USA, Zambia and Zimbabwe. We had two junior professed sisters from Pakistan and elders like me. So, it was truly an intercultural and intergenerational gathering in the spirit of our 2018 Congregational Gathering.

Nano's proclamation that *'there is no greater joy than to be in union'* took on a special meaning in this place of cosmic communion and I was grateful for our own Garden of Oneness, our Virginia Water ministry, another vibrant expression of living a spirituality of being in communion.

*'I bow to this Garden before me
I bow to this Garden in space
I bow to this Garden so beautiful
The Garden of blessing and grace.'*

Jan Navotka

Submitted By: Sr Betty Rae Lee

Nano Nagle

Since this is the 300th anniversary of Nano Nagle's birth, I acknowledge and give thanks for how she was immersed in the lives of the poor/marginalized. I pray also for all who follow in her footsteps. So I reflected on what I could do here in Sacred Heart parish, Bishop falls. The following ideas came to mind, continue to live our charism with enthusiasm and passion, be a compassionate presence with hope/simplicity, and daily prayer, so I can carry the Lantern light to others. Then I spoke to a group of people before Mass about Nano Nagle. That morning our parish priest from Nigeria also prayed for Nano and all Presentation Sisters and Associates throughout the world. Later, I distributed simple brochures of Nano's life to some of the parishioners. In closing, Nano's love for God kept her going and she would have given more if she could, for her love was universal for the sake of the mission of Jesus.

Submitted by: Sr Mary Ryan



**NANO
AFLAME**

STOKING OUR PASSION
BECOMING FIRE
RADIATING LOVE

Making Nano Nagle Known

... IN GRAND FALLS-WINDSOR

The Associates of Grand Falls Windsor hosted an afternoon tea on November 28, 2018 and each associate invited two guests from the area. We welcomed those present, gave an introduction to Nano's life and had a celebration of the 300th anniversary of her birth. A viewing of the DVD "Future Full of Hope"—the story of the Presentation Sisters in Newfoundland and Labrador followed. The video related how the four Irish Sisters came to Newfoundland in 1833 and told the story of the many changes that have occurred and how the Sisters are facing the challenges that lie ahead. A lively discussion followed and we all left the gathering full of Hope, a deeper relationship with Nano and gratitude to God for such a remarkable and inspirational lady. It gave everyone a renewed energy for mission.

Submitted by: Kay McDermott, Associate



... IN GANDER

The Associates and Sisters of Gander hosted an afternoon tea at the Convent and invited people from the area and included in the group were the new persons journeying with us in the Orientation Process. "Future Full of Hope" – the story of Presentation in Newfoundland Labrador was viewed. Sharing followed on Nano and the involvement of our Sisters in Gander over the years. "Future Full of Hope" gave a real flavor to the reality of the presence of the Sisters in Newfoundland Labrador. A continuation of the celebration of the 300th anniversary of Nano's birth followed with Presentation hospitality, delicious food, and lovely conversation around Nano and Presentation.

Submitted by: Sr. Laurane Pittman



... IN DEER LAKE

The associates of Deer Lake, the Catholic Women's League and the children of the Catechetical programs are excited about making Nano known during this 300 anniversary celebration.

1. The Associates are wearing the "Nano Aflame" pin. Many people ask what the pin means. This is our opportunity to share about Nano.
2. The 300th anniversary calendar of Nano is being circulated among the women of the Catholic Women's League who number about forty people. They are deeply inspired by Nano
3. The children are consciously aware of Nano's heart for the poor and the needy. They love her. The children each have a large mug and they drop coins in it during the year. They count the money during Lent and roll it themselves. The money at present is for the need in the Dominica, where our PBVM's work.

All thanks to Nano Nagle!!

*Submitted by: Sr. Carmelita MacNeil
Sister Coordinator*

MARY'S KITCHEN

Our Friends of Nano from Corner Brook volunteered their services at Mary's Kitchen for 5 Fridays in April. This is a heart warming experience filled with love and service to the poor of the city.

The project is headed up by the St. Vincent de Paul Society which treats the poor like guests, serving their soups and chilli in bowls on plates, as if they were in a fancy restaurant. The volunteer group of the month has to bring in 3 homemade desserts weekly, enough to feed 35 or more guests.

The atmosphere is friendly and warm as the servers chat with the guests, calling many by name. Again, it's another example of collaboration with other groups reaching out to the poor. Nano's work is being done here!

Submitted by: Sr. Kay Rex





Some of the games and puzzles were also sent across the island to the Women's Correctional Centre in Clarendville, the Bishop's Falls Correctional Centre and the West Coast Correctional Centre in Stephenville.

The donation was gratefully received and Gerry saw evidence of that on several occasions. When Gerry entered one prison range and asked who was making the puzzle, they answered, "We all are!" That's not often the case on a Unit that houses 21 offenders.

One offender kept a puzzle in his cell, spent every minute he could working in it and refused to disassemble it when he was finished. He very carefully applied several coats of floor wax over the puzzle until the pieces were fused together and the image had a nice sheen (image attached).



That puzzle is hanging in the program room and is enjoyed (both the attractive picture and the technique of wax application) by many.

Something as simple as a deck of cards is worth a lot to people with nothing but time on their hands. The offenders were delighted with our offering; the spirit of Nano lives on.



Sr. Carmelita and children of the Catechetical Program in Pasadena, Newfoundland and Labrador, blessing the gifts they have for the needy. Deer Lake, Newfoundland and Labrador, did this same outreach. The children do this each year.

Nurturing the Call in Avondale

The seed sown by the Presentation Sisters at Avondale is being carefully nourished by the five Associate members, with the very kind assistance of Sr. Ruth and Pauline. We met in Oct and Nov 2018 to have a look at the year ahead and it was the consensus of the group that what we needed most was to be nourished mentally and spiritually as we continue to minister in four of the five parishes in our area. In the following months associates met together at the House of Prayer at Conception Hr for prayer and reflection on topics such as God in Creation, Charism, the Day of Prayer for Victims of Human Trafficking, to name a few. Naturally, we also nourished ourselves with our "cup of tea", friendship, sharing and caring. Our time together is very rich in our sharing as we have found that we share a common charism with each other and Nano. Associates attended the fall retreat in St. John's and hope to attend the Spring Retreat. Sr. Ruth and Pauline met with us again in May 2019 and shared some helpful material for future meetings. We hope to meet with them again in October and possibly host a "come and see" for a few of our friends to come pray and view a video of Nano, with the hope of inspiring others to come join us on the journey. Associates minister in their parishes as ministers at mass, reaching out to those in need in our communities, in Religious Education, in Sacramental Preparation, etc. We pray that God will continue to bless us and keep us connected as we journey.

Just to be is a blessing, Just to Live is Holy.

*Submitted By: Barbara Murphy
Associate Coordinator, Avondale*

A Sincere Thank You

*A very special
"Thank You" to Sisters
Margaret Mary Gosse
and Laurane Pittman
for your love, time, and
support when needed,
your presence to the
Gander Associates and the
Unit Coordinators, your
generous preparation of
space for our gatherings,
the sharing of experiences
and the knowledge gleaned
from our being together, the
delicious lunches, and the
hospitality that followed, were
greatly appreciated by all.
Blessings on both of you as
you continue your journey
and ministry elsewhere.*

*Submitted by: Stella Galv
Unit Co-ordinator*



thank you

**Presentation
Associate
Relationship**

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Update From Unit Co-ordinators

At our meeting in St. John's on April 23- 25, 2019, we decided to give you a brief update re-the associate relationship. We now have a total of 69 Associates and 12 new persons beginning the Orientation Process – six in Corner Brook and six in St. John's.

New Titles:

in keeping with our International Family, we are now known as:
Pauline Lake Divine: Unit Co-ordinator for East.
Stella Galway: Unit Co-ordinator for Central.
Bride Doyle: Unit Co-ordinator for West.
Sister Ruth O'Reilly: Link Sister for the Associate Relationship.

In-Service Schedule:

September 14, 2019: West coast – Port au Port, Deer Lake, & Grand Falls-Windsor, Corner Brook, all in Corner Brook.

September 21, 2019: East
10:00 am -2:00 pm.

Workshops: two Workshops are being planned for 2020 and 2021. Times and dates to be announced.

Succession Planning – We are in the process of looking at Succession Planning for the Associate Relationship. We met with Sisters Betty Rae and Bernadette on April 25, 2019 and had a conversation re- Direction for the Future. More conversations will happen. Our Workshops in 2020 and 2021, will lead us through a direction for the future. More info will follow re- Succession Planning and the Future direction of our Associate Relationship. Our meeting with Sisters Betty Rae and Bernadette gave clear direction for the future of our associate relationship. All of us, Sisters and Associates, will be involved in the process. We ask for God's blessing and guidance as we move into the future.

Submitted by: Pauline Lake- Devine, Bride Doyle, Stella Galway, Sister Ruth O'Reilly. (Unit Co-ordinators)

Nano Nagle:

Her Story Then - Our Story Now

Congratulations to Germaine White and our Associates of Port au Port on your beautiful and wonderful production of **Her Story Then - Our Story Now**, the story of Nano Nagle and how her legacy is being lived out today, in the lives of our Presentation Associates.



**Sister Betty Rae Lee named
St. John's Senior of the Year!**



*Congratulations Sister Betty Rae
in receiving this honour.
We are all so happy for you
and proud of you!*