



December 2013 - Issue 2

Presentation Associate Newsletter

Newfoundland & Labrador



Message from Congregational Leader, Sister Sharon Fagan



Dear Associates
and Sisters,

As we come to
the end of the
year 2013 we
look back with
gratitude for
the blessings
we have shared.
In particular, we
give thanks for

the new associates who were welcomed
from across the island during the Fall.
It is a new moment of widening our tents
and deepening our relationships with one
another for the sake of the whole earth
community.

We are also grateful that Nano Nagle has
been declared venerable by Pope Francis.
We rejoice that the Universal Church
recognizes Nano as a woman of courage,
faith and service – an acknowledgment
of what many have known for a long time.

As we celebrate the feast of Christmas...

*May we, in the Spirit of Nano, be bearers
of light and peace, always seeking to
follow the Star, the Holy One who dwells
within, above and below, and all around
us.*

May we celebrate this lovely feast of
Christmas in a spirit of joy and gratitude
for our Presentation Sisters and Associates
and friends of Nano throughout the
world.

I wish you and your families a very Happy
Christmas and many blessings in the New
Year.

Sister Sharon Fagan
Congregational Leader



Associate Commitment Ceremony - Presentation Motherhouse Chapel

November 3, 2013

*"May we embrace the energy of
passion, strength and courage shown
to us by Nano Nagle and become...
sparks of Love....." (IPA 2012)*

Our Associate Commitment Ceremony
was alive with Nano's Spirit guiding
us every step of the way. We were
ready and a little in awe of what our
commitment really meant... were
we up to the challenge? Our doubts
and fears were lifted as we entered the chapel, being warmly welcomed by Sister Emma,
Sister Lois, Sister Miriam, the Choir, the sisters, family and friends all singing "Fire of Love,
source of all life, sacred the places we gather.." In an instant we became one in this sacred
place with those sharing in our celebration.



Our ceremony had three themes: the lighting of our candles, our presentation to Sister Sharon and the congregation and the presentation of our Associates Pins. At the lighting of our candles from the lantern, Nano's flame of love blessed us and strengthened our resolve to put our deeds into action in the ordinary activities of everyday life.

We were presented to Sister Sharon and the Congregation by our Co-Directors Sister Ruth O'Reilly and Carmelita Pittman. With hearts filled with the power of Divine Love, with our candles glowing reminding us we are one in this circle of light and with prayerful voices singing "Give us light for the journey, give us light for our way, the path is winding and dim, turn us to fire within, give us light..." We humbly said "Yes"... We will live the charism and mission of the Sisters of the Presentation... We will share our gifts and talents... We will journey with you in faith and hope and will proudly wear our Associate Pin to honour and bring glory and praise to God, support one another and be a sign of renewed hope to all of God's people.



Thank you and sincere appreciation to
Sister Ruth and Carmelita for showing
us the most important part of the
discernment process is that which
takes place in our hearts as we grow
together in faith and understanding of
charism and mission.

A very special thank you to the Sisters
at the Motherhouse for a beautiful
afternoon tea in our honour.

Joanne Hogan, Associate

A Celebration of our Oneness

On October 20, the Corner Brook Sisters and Associates hosted a gathering at Xavier House to celebrate eight wonderful women from Deer Lake and Corner Brook and to witness their commitment. In the company of Carmelita Pittman and Sister Ruth O'Reilly they engaged in an orientation process which led them to the decision to request becoming Associates of the Presentation Sisters. As the commitment ceremony began, the community joined in singing "Fire of Love," giving voice to our sacred connection to the universe



and our awesome call to partner all of creation. After the lighting of the candle by one of the associates, Sr. Frances Molloy from our leadership team prayed that the rays from the light of the candle "encircle us as we welcome and celebrate those who today will make a commitment to continue to live the mission of the gospel and walk as Associates of the Presentation Sisters in following the charism of Nano Nagle." Following this, Carmelita Pittman shared a reflection on the readings and spoke of her experience as an associate.



After this reflection, Sister Ruth O'Reilly presented to Sister Sharon Fagan, our Congregational Leader, the eight women desiring to become associates. After responding affirmatively to the questions asked by Sister Sharon and after receiving a promise of support from the sisters and associates present, Sister Sharon prayed, "In the name of our Creator God, Mary our patron and Nano Nagle, our Foundress, we are happy to call you our Associates." A Presentation Pin was then presented to each associate as a symbol of our oneness.

As you read this, I hope you feel as I did, blessed and grateful for the gift of life that continues to evolve in each of us.

Sister Regina Quigley

Mutual Relationship, Understanding and Commitment



Those of us who have cast a stone into a still pool have watched and marveled at the spreading ripples. If we have ever lit a fire, we see the ring of flame slowly engulf the wood and spread light and heat. Those were some of the images that came to my mind as we prayed with Marie Power, Ursula Brophy, Kay McDermott and Malinda Byrne at their commitment ceremony to the Presentation Associate Relationship at St. Catherine's Renewal Center on October 22, 2013. The theme for the ceremony was

fire and light; appropriately chosen since our foundress, Nano Nagle courageously took her light to dispel the darkness of poverty and oppression. Thus began the ripple of love, compassion and dedication that was to spread throughout the world.

This was symbolized in the ceremony with the lighting of the candles and raising of the earth ball signifying that the sisters and associates are called to continue the mission of Nano today. It is with joy we welcome these four women to the Presentation Associate Relationship. We extend our sincere thanks to Sister Sharon and the Leadership Team and all the sisters, associates and friends who came to celebrate and welcome our new associates.

Miriam Gill, Associate



Sister Sharon enjoys a social at St. Catherine's Renewal Centre with Malinda Byrne, Miriam Gill, Ursula Brophy, on the occasion of the Associate Commitment Ceremony.



Sisters Lois Greene, Margaret Mary Gosse, Frances Molloy and Laurane Pittman, enjoying a social in honor of the Associates at St. Catherine's Renewal Centre.

Comments of Blessings on a Wonderful Experience

The beauty of the colourful leaves of Autumn was a fitting backdrop for the peace and beauty in the Motherhouse Chapel as twelve women and one man gathered to express their desire to become Presentation Associates. A highlight was the associates lighting their candle from the lantern. Our venerable Nano Nagle must have looked down with love for them. For me, the ceremony and the social afterwards was like a homecoming since I had met these associates at the door as they came together each month for their meetings.

Mary Theresa Doyle, PBVM

On October 20, 2013, in a very moving and beautiful ritual we welcomed four new members to our Corner Brook associate group and four new presentation associates for Deer Lake. The event was one of joy and blessing as we gathered with many of the presentation sisters, family and friends of the eight persons who were received by Sister Sharon as our new Presentation Associates. In friendship and support we welcome

Eileen, Patricia, Mary and Philomena to our Corner Brook group and we send congratulations and blessings to all newly received Presentation Associates throughout the province.

Rosalie Quigley, Associate



In an atmosphere of excitement, celebration and thanksgiving, we entered Xavier House for the celebration of the commitment of eight candidates from Deer Lake and Corner Brook. It was with great joy that all present welcomed Philomena Carroll, Mary Hogan, Eileen Coombs, Patricia Payne, Sharon Evans, Carmelita Morgan, Anne Harvey, and Elizabeth Bennett as associates and invited them to experience a closer partnership with the Presentation Congregation. We feel, the presence of our new associates will enrich our gatherings as we support each other on our faith journey.

Tom and Jo Griffin, Associate

We are one in this circle of light, may we always be one with you in the circle of your loving presence.

Sharon Evans, Associate



Sister Sharon Fagan witnesses the signing of Carolyn O'Donnel's mutual agreement.



My nearly life - long friend, Deirdre Greene-Lono became an associate in the commitment ceremony on November 3, 2013 at the Presentation Motherhouse. During the time of our friendship over many years I have been cheered and strengthened by the ministry of learning and devotion which have shaped her life through difficult and joyous times. Similarly, I believe the community of faith will be the birthing ground for new vision on ancient foundations as this faithful formula of Presentation charism is nurtured in expanding community and deepening conversation for service.

Susan Cummings, Associate



PRESENTATION OF PINS
BY SISTER SHARON FAGAN;

As a symbol of your oneness with us, we now offer you a Presentation Associate pin. May it remind you of your association with us and your commitment to walk with us.



I had the privilege of attending my first Associate Commitment Ceremony on Tuesday evening, October 22, 2013 at the Renewal Centre in Grand Falls-Windsor. From the gathering song, "Fire of Love," to the gathering prayer, the lighting of the candle and the readings, I became deeply aware of the simplicity yet profound beauty, joy and flow of this sacred service with its main theme of Light. As Ursula, Malinda, Kay and Marie made their commitment to become Presentation Associates, I was touched by the peace that radiated from them. The closing prayer, while giving thanks to Nano Nagle, was also a divine call to all of us, "to scatter the darkness, to welcome the stranger, to dream with peacemakers, to dance with prophets and to celebrate the hospitality of God." After the celebration we were all invited to a social in honour of the associates. I felt at one with all these people and as I drove home that evening I gave enormous thanks to God for the blessings of this wonderful experience in my life as I felt the fire of Love within me burning a little more brightly.

Maureen Hennessex, Friend of Presentation

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Advent Call

Let us this Advent time
Hear the call of the Christmas chime
Be still, be silent, repeat a rhyme
This simple phrase may ease your mind
As we awaken ourselves to become alert
Daring to really listen to the call
Venturing into the challenge of the unknown
Entering into the drama of the now
Noting God's presence as each day unfolds
Tending all God's people and our earthly home.
In the quiet of the evening or the calm morning rising
May God's Peace find a dwelling place in your Soul.

Sister Laurane Pittman

A Message of Appreciation

It is an honour and a privilege for us to extend congratulations to our thirty six new Associates and our sincere gratitude and appreciation to Sister Sharon and our Leadership Team, Associates, Sisters, family and friends of our new Associates. Reflecting on the beautiful and awe-inspiring Associate Commitment Ceremony, we believe we will continue our journey into tomorrow sharing a common faith, hope and love and an oneness in our God, our Venerable Nano and in all Creation. We are proud to call you our associates. We look forward to Arelene Janes, Stella Galway, Angela Duke, and Maria Keane joining us as presentation associates in the New Year.

A Blessed Christmas to one and all...
Carmelita and Sister Ruth



*Lead us, Guide us in your ways,
Your cosmic ways,
Holy One.*



A celebration was held for Sister Patricia King in appreciation for her dedication and commitment for the Associates in Conception Bay Center. On behalf of the Sisters and Associates, Barbara Murphy presented Sister with a gift.



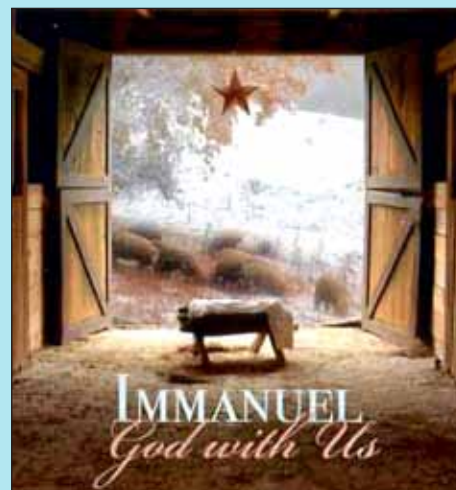
Praying A New Story

Our Christmas prayer is that we may recognize and actively acknowledge the presence of the sacred in places we are reluctant to look:

- in the stables of our own lives
- among the downrodden in our society
- in refugees
- in people who are different from us

May we recognize God-in-us and give generous expression to this wonderful gift we all share.

Michael Morwood - Praying A New Story



School For Girls In Africa

On the weekend of November 23-24, 2013, the Presentation Sisters and Associates of the central region of the province donated \$260.00 to a funding-raising drive promoted by the Catholic Women's League of Canada. The donation is in support of a national campaign designed to raise funds to complete a school for girls in Africa.