



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

A D V E N T 2 0 1 6

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.

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

This issue shares something of the Friend of Nano story in Aotearoa New Zealand (Land of the Long White Cloud). Three groups working collaboratively.

Advent is a time of introspection, preparation, waiting and wondering. Waiting and wondering about what?

Peace, restoration, reunion, a new beginning, growth, more vocations to carry on Nano's work and wondering when she will be raised to the altars of the church and become a saint.

People yearn for this today because as victims of injustice, they have been made poor, hungry, naked, homeless, discriminated against and victims of climate change. All these create societies that are hurting, and in those hurting situations we await the birthing of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Advent is the time that coincides with the coming of the rains in this part of the

world where it is very dry, temperatures are too high and both animals and people are experiencing severe water and food shortages. The coming of the rains brings us all hope of new life, cleansing, rejuvenation of what was about to die, availability and supply of that basic necessity, water and the quenching of our thirst physically and spiritually.

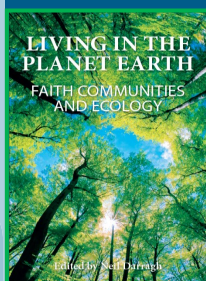
... as victims of injustice, they have been made poor, hungry, naked, homeless, discriminated against and victims of climate change.

Nano Nagle persevered enduring pretty much the same hardships we are going through today. She didn't give up but she passionately

worked and has passed on the baton to us. During Advent we should ask ourselves what is more attractive, the true light of our Saviour or what we do in darkness.

Our hearts and minds yearn to experience a reconnection with God who enables us to be merciful and to persevere. Like Nano, Presentation Sisters and Lay People who have been called to sow the seed of the Gospel in the people's hearts can possess the joy of harvest now by faith. It is our prayer that during Advent we may be like Jesus and Nano who were ready to take sympathetic interest in the needs of those who may have nothing to offer us in return.

Naume Pasipamire and team (Zimbabwe)



PBVM a powerful presence

Since coming to New Zealand in 1951 Presentation Sisters have influenced people to adopt an authentic and sustainable transformation in the way they interact with the planet. The presence of the Sisters has been particularly powerful since 1989 when a formal relationship developed with groups of women and men who were attracted to their values and way of life. The result of this enduring relationship has spawned numerous salt-of-the-earth people who, transformed, can no longer return to their old ways. **Click on the image** above to take you to a chapter in a book released earlier this year that shares something of the Friends of Nano story with a focus on our relationship with creation. (You will need to scroll down to **Sustainable Development Goal 13** and click on the title in blue.)

Friends of Nano 'Down Under' in New Zealand

Supporting children to attend Catholic schools

The **Nano Nagle Charitable Trust** was established in 2009 by the Presentation Sisters and Friends of Nano Nagle, to support children unable to attend a Catholic School because of financial hardship. It has grown quickly over the last few years. In 2014, \$2,877 was paid out in assistance. In 2016 this has jumped to almost \$26,000. In all since its establishment approximately 100 children have been financially supported through the payment of 'attendance dues' or assistance with uniforms.



Click on the image at the right to view a short video clip with two volunteers talking about their involvement in the Trust.

Read a report published earlier this month in a Catholic newspaper by clicking on Nano.



The high tea with the bishops raised \$7000



Designed by an Associate in 1992, the emblem shows the link with PBVM origins and New Zealand. The green oak background symbolises new life and growth. Overlaid on the leaf is the acorn, this is split in half exposing its inner self to the world. There are stylised letters within the acorn - **P**resentation **A**ssociates. The **A** is a stylised kiwi (symbol of a New Zealander). Within the shell of the acorn is **New Zealand**.

\$380,000
raised in
support of
PBVM
mission



For the past 34 years Friends of Nano, parishioners, and supporters from the wider community have organised a Mission Gala and Garage Sale to support the Presentation Sisters' mission work in Papua New Guinea, Chile, Ecuador, and other places, according to needs, such as education, pastoral, health and nutrition and support to women and children in these communities.

The Gala is recognised for the variety and quality of homemade and preloved items available for sale at very reasonable prices. It has been a great way to encourage the reuse and recycling of quality items very generously donated by our parishioners and others in the local community. We estimate that about 200 parishioners are involved in some way with the running of the Gala and about 500 people come to buy.

School for teen mums and their babies

In 1998 a small group of Associates entered into a partnership with a teacher to found a school for teen parents and an early childcare education centre for their babies. When we first started on the adventure there were just six young women and their babies who gathered one afternoon a week. 18 years later we have a fully funded and sustainable full time school for 30 teen mums and their babies in a purpose built facility paid for by the government. In 2016, Associates handed over the management and governance of the foundation to a locally run trust.

In the early days we did not realise the enormity of what we had undertaken. Nano was a significant role model for us. We started small by responding to a need and, like Nano took one step at a time, allowing the dream to unfold. We collaborated with other like minded people, recognising areas we were not competent to deal with and inviting others in. We challenged the government of the day to change policy to enable us to do what needed to be done. We worked out ways to make it sustainable and recognised that education has the power to liberate people.

Click on the image (upper right) to see a short video clip of the facility in 2014 when they won a major award.



IPLMM visit the school in February with Regina Daly PBVM (R) and the head teacher Sarah Sampson (centre)

Nano Nagle Commission

Greetings for this Advent issue of Nano's Echo. The Presentation world is so alive right now in so many ways. And how wonderful that we are all so connected as we pray the beautiful Novena together.

Once again we have children showing us what it means to be human: 6-year-old Alex wrote to President Obama and asked him to bring the young boy from Syria to his home: hear him read his letter and President Obama's response here: www.whitehouse.gov/refugees what a wonderful world we would live in if we all had hearts like Alex's.

Advent is a time of waiting and preparation: and so we continue to wait and prepare to have Nano canonized: please keep up your prayers for a miracle. We know that Nano's life was a miracle and what has happened since her death is an ongoing miracle but the miracle required for her canonization is a medical one: We must make known the devotion to Nano that we all have. If you know of a miracle please let us know: postulator@pbvm.org or nanonaglecommission@pbvm.org. Also I am sure we all have favours that we attribute to Nano: let us know of any of these as we need to keep a record of them: a favour is anything that you pray to Nano for that has been granted:

**May the God who became human in Jesus
shine forth in your humanity.**

**May the God of stories,
give you a new story to tell this coming year.**

Letter writing campaign

The letter writing campaign to Pope Francis is gaining momentum and we ask you to keep it going: I am sure by now the name Nano Nagle is becoming well known in the Vatican. Have you written your letter: keep it short: no more than one page and in addition to telling him of your own strong devotion to Nano, the sort of things that you might include in the letter are:

- ◆ why you believe that Nano is a saint
- ◆ personal stories of devotion to Nano
- ◆ an account of the devotion so many people across the world have to her
- ◆ favours 'big' and 'small' that have been granted
- ◆ her challenges to the Penal Times in Ireland and her legacy
- ◆ her contribution to Catholic education, in particular in Ireland and subsequently to religious education across the world
- ◆ her risk-taking
- ◆ her transformation from lady of great wealth to beggar to support the poor
- ◆ the love the poor of Ireland had for her
- ◆ her amazing faith and her devotion to the Sacred Heart
- ◆ her founding of religious order in Ireland
- ◆ bringing Ursuline Sisters to Ireland
- ◆ her inspiration led to the establishment of a number

of religious orders in Ireland including Presentation

- Brothers, Christian Brothers, Mercy Sisters, Irish Sisters of Charity, The Sisters of St Louis, Blessed Sacrament Sisters and Medical Missionaries of Mary.
- ◆ the miracle of her life
- ◆ her appeal across all boundaries, religions and cultures
- ◆ in spite of there being so few Sisters when Nano died, Presentation Sisters now minister in 24 countries across the world

These letters should be sent directly to Pope Francis at:

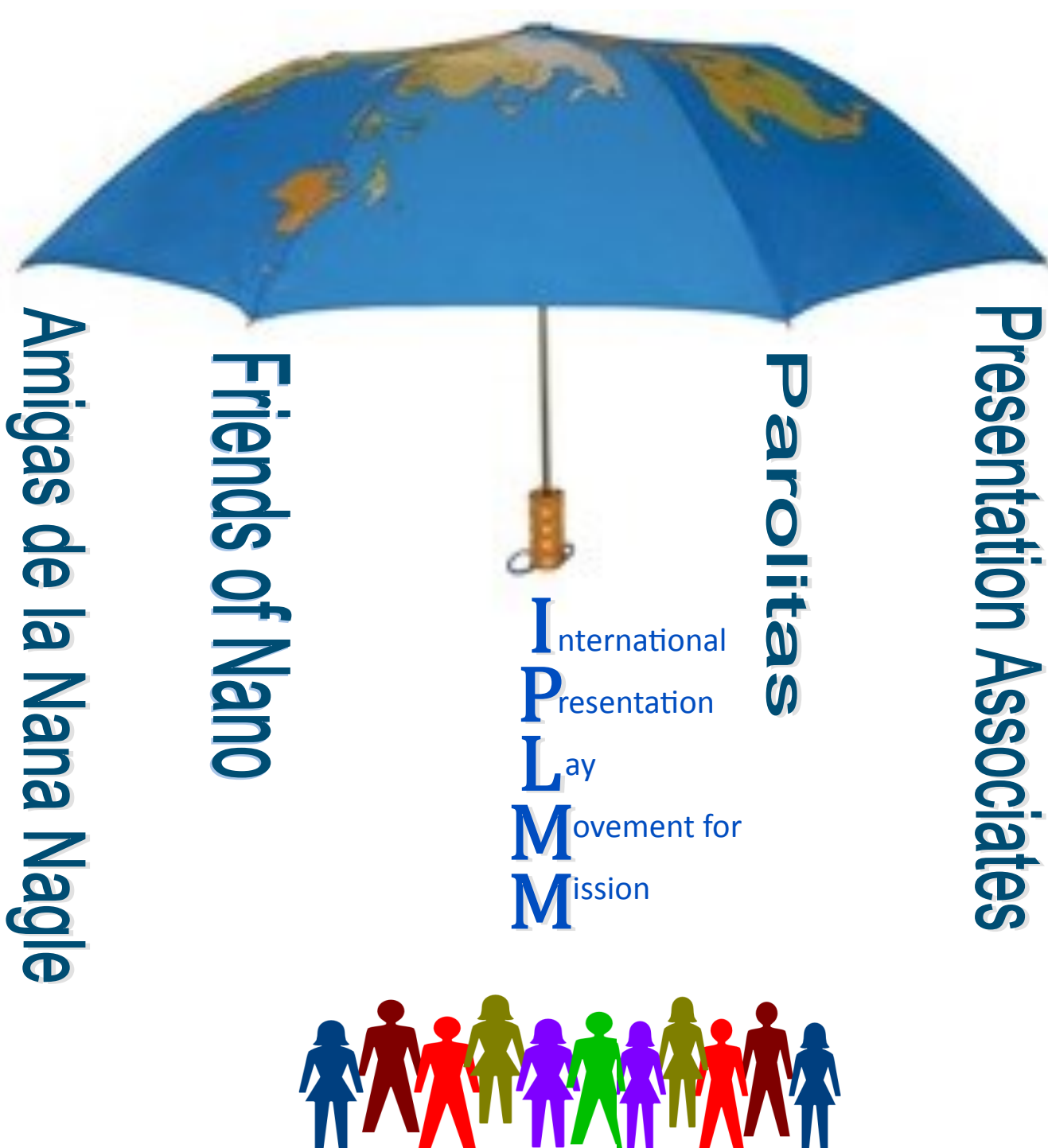
His Holiness Pope Francis
Apostolic Palace
VATICAN CITY, 00120
ITALY

And please send a message to nanonaglecommission@pbvm.org just to let us know that you have sent the letter.



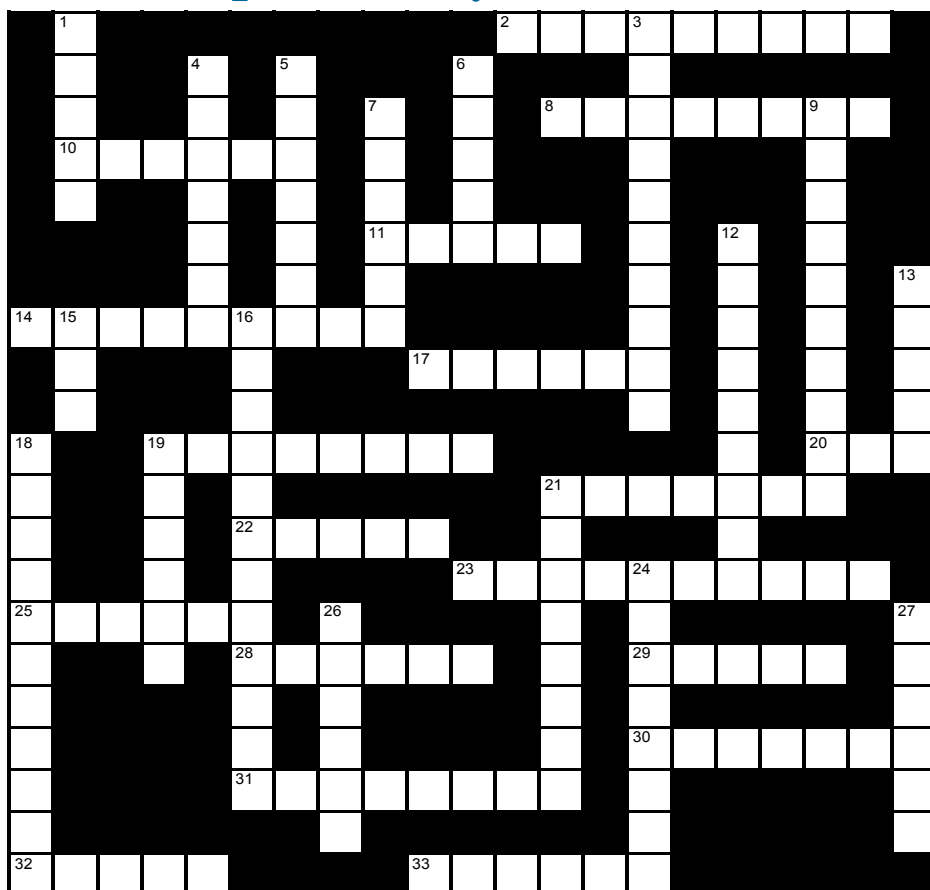
We found a Name for *this* publication

Can we find an 'Umbrella Name' for us ? A name that is more descriptive of who we are? Although we live and follow the **charism of Venerable Nano Nagle** and meet in our **local Groups** under the guidance of a **Unit Leadership Team**, we all **belong** to the **International Presentation Movement** under the vision of our **Congregational Leadership Team**. Can we think global?
Can *you* suggest a name to reflect our movement?



All 'Others' who minister alongside Presentation Sisters of the Blessed Virgin Mary (PBVM)

Spirituality of Nano



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 and it will be sent to you.

Looking for answers? They may all be found in the **Positio Book 1** Pages 678 - 690 at a convent near you.

Completing this crossword as a group would be a wonderful and fun formation activity to do when you come together. With the crossword in one hand and the Positio as a resource you will surely complete it easily.



Across

2. Nano was tough and ... (9)
8. She ... to seven schools but her funds began to dwindle. (8)
10. Nano was animated by a ... that was not of this world. (6)
11. Trust in the heart of Jesus was the driving ... of her zeal. (5)
14. Nano hoped for the realisation of her vision and ... service to the Kingdom. (9)
17. Her little cabin ... met with angry indignation from her brother. (6)
19. She spent quarter of a century ... as a lay person. (8)
20. Nano did ... answer God's call immediately. (3)
22. Nano's roots are deep in ... spirituality. (5)
23. Nano's trust grew out of her ... of former signs of God's care. (10)
25. Nano was and continues to be an eternally ... woman. (6)
28. For over 20 years as a lay-person, she ... the city of Cork in a spiritual way. (6)
29. Nano concluded that ... life was necessary for the continuance of her apostolate. (5)
30. The second ... to bring the Ursulines was uncertain. (7)
31. She took delight and ... in her work. (8)
32. Authentic spiritual life need not withdraw a person

from ... reality. (5)

33. Nano was ... indirectly through the 'uncommon piety' of her sister, Ann. (6)

Down

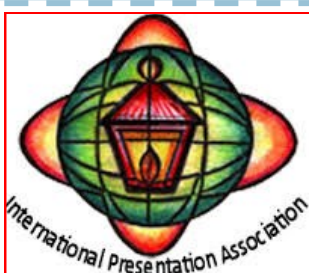
1. Nano's ... attempt to bring the Ursulines failed. (5)
3. Through God the ... was possible. (10)
4. Nano spent her health and ... and had to beg in humiliation and insult. (7)
5. Nano's life's work is chronicled firstly in her ... (7)
6. Nano had the ability to express ... and incisive spiritual norms. (5)
7. Nano lived in ... hope. (6)
9. Nano felt she lacked ... that was necessary. (10)
12. The cry of ... was insistent. (9)
13. Nano's contemplative action was centred in the loving kindness of the ... of Jesus. (5)
15. Nano realised that something ... was needed. (3)
16. Her spirituality consisted of her ... with God. (12)
18. Nano ... the Gospel so thoroughly that her life was a lived response to it. (11)
19. Nano was a ... mother to the poor. (6)
21. Nano did not ... spirituality from service. (8)
24. Nano ... the love of God to the poor and oppressed. (8)
26. ... was the source of all her apostolic energy. (6)
27. Nano's spiritual resources were ... and not found wanting. (6)



Image of Nano and children by local artist Jen Norton, was gifted to the San Francisco Sisters and Associates by the outgoing leadership team during the Installation of New Leaders



And may the God of peace and joy
Settle softly on your life
this Christmas time.



Click on image for a wealth of information and resources

Friends of Nano for youth



Click on image

Try this resource if you are a teenager and want to find out more about Nano.

Discover Nano as a teenager

some games and fun things to do.

Here is an opportunity for you and your friends to send photos and suggestions about what would be useful for you to have on the website.

Pathways to Nano



Click on image

If you receive *Nano's Echo* and are unsure what being a **Friend of Nano** or **Associate** is, check out this website.

If you have wondered if you are being called to **religious life** there is a simple quiz to help in the discernment process. You will find links to Nano's letters and past issues of *Nano's Echo*.

IPA Direction Statement

As Presentation people impelled by the radical gospel of Jesus and on fire with the spirit of Nano, we consciously choose to be drawn more deeply into the mystery of God, the mystery of Oneness and the reality of people and Earth made poor.

Energised by this evolving consciousness we engage in expansive partnerships that move us to personal and systemic transformation.



Mary-Ann

Maria

Mildred

Feedback and suggestions are welcome.

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

Maria Owen

maria.E.owen@gmail.com

Mildred Soldevilla pbvm

mildsol@yahoo.com

Mary-Ann Greaney

m.greaney@wn.catholic.org.nz