



SSpS

Missionary Sisters
Servants of the Holy Spirit

WORLDWIDE E-NEWSLETTER

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WW



The Spirit is Alive

The Spirit is the very breath of aliveness—right now, in this moment. Jesus' good news is that God's Spirit is on the move everywhere. So the question is no longer *if* the Spirit moves—but *will we move with it?* Will we keep clinging to comfort, clutching control, hiding behind our safe little plans? Or will we finally let go—throw our hands open, surrender our agendas, and dive headfirst into the Spirit's raging river of mission? Because when Sisters and communities dare to open that space inside, they don't just change. They become wildfire. They become a global movement of communion, justice, peace, and joy. The mission stories from around the globe will prove it.

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In this issue, readers witness that living Spirit across the SSpS family—celebrating milestones in Rome, to the Philippines' chapel pharmacy to Flores, and Indonesia's communion with Muslims; from Japan's Serei Café to Argentina's anti-trafficking work; from Taiwan to PNG, Brazil to South Sudan where Sr. Veronika Rackova was remembered on her 10th death anniversary. *The Spirit is alive....*

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Casa Generalizia in Via Cassia : 40 Years

Sr. Krystyna Szweda, SSpS – Rome, Italy

A very special commemoration has come with the year 2026— the 40th anniversary of the Missionary Sisters Servants of the Holy Spirit moving to their Generalate at Via Cassia 645 in Rome. The transition began on May 7, 1986, with the community outgrowing its previous residence on Via della Camilluccia.

For four decades now, this house has functioned as the administrative and spiritual heart of the SSpS, hosting international meetings and assemblies and serving as residence for over 130 student sisters from around the world.

Under the stewardship of successive Congregational Leaders— from Sr. Annemarie Reisch, who oversaw the purchase, to the current leader, Sr. Miriam Altenhofen— the Generalate Community has served as a vital bridge between local missions and the global Church. Beyond administration, Via Cassia has been a sanctuary of hospitality and apostolate as well.

The community has welcomed thousands of visitors, including bishops, ambassadors, SVD and SSpS international tertiary program participants, families and friends. Deeply committed to the marginalized, the Sisters have collaborated with Sant'Egidio and Centro Astalli to support refugees and migrants— starting with the first family that arrived from Eritrea in July 2010, to the most recent one from Syria, who departed in March 2026.

Forty years ago, the Generalate Community moved into a house on Via Cassia 645— and what grew within those walls has quietly touched the lives of thousands across the world.

The SSpS Generalate is a virtual "laboratory of the Holy Spirit," where different cultures and provinces come together toward a shared goal. This anniversary celebrates a legacy of being "immersed in the life of the Trinity," which demonstrates that embracing one another's differences enables us to impact the world through compassion.



40 years of life, prayer, and mission came to pass within these walls of Via Cassia 645.



Four Decades: Fellowship with Filipino Migrants

Sr. Elaine Faith Taneo, SSps – Rome, Italy

For 40 years, the Holy Spirit Filipino Community in Rome has offered migrant workers something beyond support — a place to belong, a community of mutual reliance, and a life of certitude.

On Pentecost Sunday, May 24, 2026, the Holy Spirit Filipino Community celebrated four decades of mission with the Missionary Sisters Servants of the Holy Spirit at the Casa Generalizia, Rome.

Leaving home is never easy. For the thousands of Filipino migrant workers who have passed through Rome over the decades, the Holy Spirit Filipino Community has been something rare and precious — a place where they are recognized, welcomed, and never alone.

It was June 1986 when Sr. Orosia Piguin, SSps, was appointed to coordinate the new apostolate. The SSps Generalate offered a small room for migrants at the time. Slowly, she gained their trust. In 2007, the community was integrated into Sant'Andrea Parish, launching the celebration of a monthly Filipino Sunday

Mass. The Legion of Mary was also formed, for Marian devotion and support of Filipino migrants.

What began as a small gathering of faith has grown into a living network of friendship, prayer, and practical support. At its heart is a simple but profound mission: to walk alongside Filipino migrants as they deepen their faith — and to help them live it boldly, becoming bearers of the Good News to the employers, neighbors, and strangers they encounter every day in Rome.

Community life unfolds through Sunday Eucharist, recollection days, home visitations, and the Legion of Mary. For those facing the pressures of life abroad, job assistance, counseling, and leadership formation are also available — because faith and dignity go hand in hand.



(Left photo) After the mass, the joyful occasion continued into the spacious garden for lunch and a program. **(Right photo)** Ms. Rita Hernando, President of HSFC, presents a Plaque of Appreciation to Sr. Miriam Altenhofen, SSps. With (right to left) Fr. Gregory Gaston, Fr. Ottorino (Parish Priest of Sant'Andrea Parish), and Fr. Rex Sungcad.





A New Generalate Home at Via Iberia

Sr. Elaine Faith Taneo, SSsP – Rome, Italy

The year 2026 marks a significant milestone. As the congregation celebrates 40 years at the Generalate House on Via Cassia, Rome, a new chapter quietly begins as well — with the acquisition of a new Casa Generalizia on Via Iberia.

The SSsP Generalate Community is stepping into a new home — the Casa Generalizia at 8 Via Iberia — a place that carries with it its own years of prayer and community life, having been formerly home to the Mercedarias de la Caridad (MC).

The move is already underway. On June 8, the first four SSsP Sisters crossed the threshold of Via Iberia and began building community life in the new house. The MC Sisters, who have walked this transition alongside the incoming community with gracious hospitality, will say a final goodbye. Once the legal documentations are complete, the SSsP will be the official owner of the new property and then the building renovations will begin — a practical step toward making the house more suited for the needs of the Generalate Community. The work ahead is

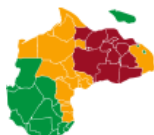
not just about walls and rooms, but about shaping a space where mission, prayer, and community can take root and flourish.

Behind the scenes, the processing of documents with the local government and the Vatican continues steadily, moving forward one careful step at a time.

Perhaps the most beautiful moment of this transition so far is one that came on May 15, when Sr. Miriam and a few Sisters were welcomed into the local parish during a Eucharistic celebration — a Holy Mass that was also a warm greeting for the SSsP as the new owners of 8 Via Iberia, and a loving send-off for the departing MC Sisters. Afterward, everyone gathered at the Via Iberia house for fellowship — a simple and heartfelt moment shared between two communities, grateful for the past and hopeful for what lies ahead.



Three congregational leaders during the Eucharistic Celebration at the parish near Via Iberia. (Left) Sr. Miriam Altenhofen, SSsP with Sr. Gorostola Arrieta Lourdes, MMB (Mercedarian Missionaries of Berriz) and Sr. Aurora Calvo, MC (Mercedarias de la Caridad). **Right photo** - A welcoming threshold — the view from the main entrance invites all who enter into a space of prayer and community.



Choosing to Stay and Serve in The Hague

Sr. Veronia Lilli Megaputri, SSpS – Netherlands, Province of Europe

After contemplating closure, the SSpS in The Hague pivoted and had a new chapel blessed, reaffirming its commitment to those enduring loneliness and spiritual poverty.

Bishop Johannes van den Hende blessed the new private chapel of the Missionary Sisters Servants of the Holy Spirit (SSpS) in The Hague on May 6. During the Eucharistic celebration, the altar, the chapel, and the tabernacle were consecrated, giving the community both a new space for prayer and a visible sign of the congregation's renewed presence in the city.

On the ground floor, the chapel is open for meeting, prayer, and reflection with residents and parishioners. The sisters say their mission is to be present for those struggling with loneliness and spiritual poverty in the Netherlands.

The occasion drew meaningful support from the wider religious family. Prayers, presence, and cards from sisters in Uden, Steyl, and Tilburg, plus the involvement of the SVD Fathers, were received as great encouragement and a sign of solidarity.

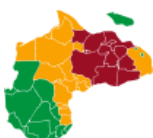
It was a turning point after previous talks about closing the community. "We realized that our calling is here, in The Hague," the Sisters said. In his homily, Bishop Van den Hende underscored the importance of prayer: "It is the Lord who sends and receives. Through Him, we may be community together."



(Top Photo) Bishop Johannes van den Hende consecrates the new private chapel, marking a renewed commitment to mission in the heart of the city.

(Left photo) The chapel invites residents and parishioners to meet, pray, reflect together.

(Right photo) Sisters from Uden, Tilburg, and Steyl gather in solidarity to witness the blessing of a new place of prayer in The Hague.



Where the Rosary Encounters Everyday Life

Sr. Dolores, Dorota Zok, SSpS – Province of Poland

Rooted in the message of Fatima, the Missionary Community of the Holy Spirit – Annuntiata in Southern Poland proves that daily prayer is the heart of community life and its most powerful witness.

Not merely a story from the past, the message of the Fatima apparitions has become an integral part of congregation life here in Racibórz, along the Czech and Slovak borders. This trajectory gave rise to the Annuntiata community, later renamed Missionary Community of the Holy Spirit – Annuntiata, invoking a call not only to prayer but also to missionary witness.

At the heart of the community is daily praying of the Holy Rosary, as Our Lady entreated the world through three shepherd children at Fatima. Each day, one decade is recited for community members. Every Monday, one mystery is offered for the intentions of the Missionary Congregation of the Sisters Servants of the Holy Spirit, along with a prayer for new vocations. Prayer does build bonds and moves

members to care for one another.

The congregation now consists of nearly 80 people. Monday gatherings—shared prayer and a shared meal—are a source of deep joy and closeness. Twice yearly, weekend retreats are held; once a year, a pilgrimage to holy sites within Poland or elsewhere.

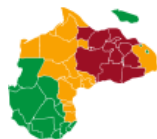
Prayer is considered the greatest instrument of evangelization in the 21st century. The same Mary of Fatima, who spoke to the three children more than a century ago, still speaks to every one today: Offer sacrifice in reparation for sins, pray the Rosary daily for peace, and entrust all of life to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. When lives, families, and the whole world are so entrusted, peace is found that nothing else can give.



(Top photo) Members of the Missionary Community of the Holy Spirit on one of their pilgrimages.

(Left photo) Sr. Dolores, Dorota Zok, SSpS is the leader of the community.

(Right photo) The statue of the Bl. Virgin Mary: "With a song of joy we welcome you, O Mary."



A Heart of Service for 25 years in Austria

Sr. Christa Petra Ahrer, SSpS – Austria, Province of Europe

Marking a milestone anniversary, the Feast of Blessed Josepha Hendrina Stenmanns brings together Sisters, benefactors, and guests in Stockerau, Austria .

“From the Heart” was the theme of Hendrina Feast 2026, commemorating the life of Blessed Josepha Hendrina Stenmanns and held for the 20th time on May 21 in St. Koloman monastery, Stockerau, Austria.

Members of the Holy Spirit Association (MHGG) and guests joined the Sisters for the special occasion. Recalling Blessed Josepha’s words that inspired the theme, the event’s centerpiece was the planting of a tree with heart-shaped leaves in the convent garden.

Sr. Christa Petra Ahrer, mission procurator and leader of the MHGG in Austria and South Tyrol, Italy, led her team in a grateful reflection on 25 years of watershed milestones. These include the mission office’s official recognition as a non-profit organization, "Missionsprokur SSpS," by the Austrian state at the end of 2025.

The gathering signaled a shift in mission focus— from supporting individual Sisters known

personally by benefactors, to building partnerships with SSpS communities of various nations serving in challenging situations. The death of Sr. Veronika Theresia Racková 10 years ago in South Sudan was remembered in this light.

Fr. Nixon Jose Kappalumakkal, SVD, spoke about his mission in Vienna — to hold social funerals for those without families, build community through sports, and reach people through motivational videos on social media. Fr. Stephan Dähler, SVD, delivered a memorable homily comparing Blessed Josepha’s gift for sensing the right moment to the perfect steeping of tea (he used an electronic timer to illustrate his point).

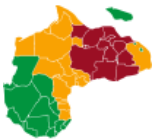
Twenty-five years on, the MHGG continues to be moved by the same heart that pumped Blessed Josepha’s vocation: attentive, courageous, constantly prepared and equipped for action.



(Top photo) Current MHGG-team for Austria and South Tyrol (left to right) Sr. Christa Petra Ahrer, Barbara Weinberger-Zauner, Katharina Maria Ribisch and Hermi Schwanzer (Left photo) The Feast Hall at St. Koloman, Stockerau, where Sisters, MHGG members, and guests gathered for the 20th Hendrina Feast.

(Right Photo) In the spirit of the theme "From the Heart," the MHGG team planted a tree with heart-shaped leaves in the convent garden as a living symbol of their mission.

EUROPE



Where Hope Lives: A Day with Youth 2000 in Dublin

Sr. Carmen Lee, SSps – Ireland, Province of Europe

Young Catholics gathered in Dublin for a day of prayer, encounter, and renewal — SSps from the Europe novitiate community among them to witness it firsthand.

Youth 2000 is a Catholic youth organisation that brings together young people aged 16–35 across Ireland through lively faith festivals, retreats, prayer groups, and other events. Religious sisters and brothers were invited to be present so that young people can see and meet members of different congregations. Sr. Carmen Lee, Sr. Svitlana Matsyuk, and the novices attended the event.

The day on May 2, 2026 unfolded through Adoration, talks, personal testimonies, Mass, confession, and Benediction. Speakers included a bishop, a young person sharing personal testimony, a Dominican, and a woman involved in the Franciscan Renewal Centre in Sligo. Between sessions, there was ample opportunity to mingle and engage with those who wished — or were simply curious — to meet the

What stayed with the Sisters of the Europe novitiate community was the sight of these young people kneeling or sitting on the floor, completely at ease with the Blessed Sacrament at the centre of the room, and clearly not wanting to be anywhere else on earth. It was a beautiful thing. The beach was nearby. They could have chosen otherwise.

The novitiate community had never experienced Youth 2000 at such close quarters before — and came away impressed and inspired, with plans to attend future events. A table was set up at the entrance, where freshly printed QR code bookmarks and postcards were made available to all.

There is, without question, hope for the Church in Ireland.



(Top photo) Sr. Carmen Lee and Sr. Svitlana join fellow members of the European novitiate community at the Youth 2000 gathering in Dublin.

(Left photo) Religious congregations set up displays, sharing information about their communities and mission.

(Right photo) Moments of stillness and Adoration anchored the day's program of prayer and encounter.



Chapel Pharmacy: Bringing Healing to the Hills

Sr. Roselene Ventura, SSps –Province of the Philippine South

Through a cell phone-linked chapel pharmacy and trained Indigenous health volunteers, Higaonon communities in the Philippines receive free medical care, thousands of checkups, and continuous spiritual formation.

In the remote mountain communities of Malitbog, Bukidnon, a simple ministry called “Botika sa Kapilya” (Chapel Pharmacy) brings hope and healing to Indigenous families with little access to medical care.

The program is a collaboration between the Missionary Sisters Servants of the Holy Spirit (SSps) and Jesuit physician Fr. Alberto “Tex” Paurom, MD, SJ. Residents from 12 Indigenous communities have been trained as Empowered Catholic Health Workers (ECHW). These volunteers make home visits, check patients’ vital signs, and relay symptoms to Fr. Tex via a pharmacy chat group on cell phones, enabling consultations through messages or video calls. Fr. Tex then gives instructions and prescriptions remotely.

Every two months, the health workers and sisters Medicines are prepared and distributed from a small pharmacy in the sisters’ convent in Malitbog. All free of charge. This makes

meet for ongoing formation. These gatherings incorporate faith sharing and catechesis with health updates and training, fortifying both spiritual life and healthcare mission. They are also opportune times for dispensing medicines and distributing supplies.

Despite unstable internet connections and difficult mountain roads, the ministry has become a beacon of hope for many Higaonon families, who freely express their gratitude. Beyond healthcare, the program strengthens the Church’s pastoral mission, helping communities feel seen and constantly cared for.



(Top photo) The volunteers engage with patients where it matters most — in the comfort of their own homes.

(Left photo) Fr. Tex shares a moment with Indigenous health workers at the heart of the program.

(Right photo) Sr. Roselene (left) and Sr. Nimfa lead a formation program, equipping the community health workers with the knowledge, and spirit, to serve.



When Cleaning a Mosque Becomes a Mission

Sr. Marieta Melburan, SSpS – Province of Flores West, Indonesia

Joining Muslim neighbors in daily work and even cleaning a mosque, SSpS formandi in Bima discovered that mission is built not on words, but on presence.

The Live-In Program of the SSpS Flores West formandi, formators, and the SVD/SSpS Bible Center Team, held at St. Yusuf Raba Parish, Bima, from April 25 to May 3, 2026, became more than a missionary formation experience. Divided into small groups and assigned to various Basic Ecclesial Communities (KBGs), the participants lived with local families, sharing in their daily lives. Through this immersion, the program became a living witness of dialogue, solidarity, and harmony among people of different faiths and cultures.

This year's live-in aimed to strengthen the missionary spirit and character of the postulants, novices, and juniors while celebrating the 25th anniversary of the Flores West Province. By immersing themselves in the lives of ordinary people, the participants learned to encounter God in everyday realities and relationships with others.

One inspiring experience came from the Basic Ecclesial Community (KBG) St. Elisabeth, a small Christian neighborhood located next to a mosque. There, Sr. Yovita Ngodhe, together with Novice Osin and Postulant Itak, actively joined a communal cleaning activity at the mosque and its surroundings. Alongside Muslim mothers from the community, they cleaned, worked, and shared joyful conversations in an atmosphere of mutual respect and friendship.

This simple yet meaningful act reflected the true spirit of unity in diversity. It showed that religious harmony is not merely a slogan but a concrete action lived out daily. The experience became a powerful witness that mission today also means building bridges of peace, compassion, and cooperation with people of other faiths.



(Top photo) The Sisters immersed themselves in the Muslim neighborhood, helping in their daily routines, and in doing so cultivating meaningful friendships.

(Left photo) With Muslim mothers, the Sisters helped clean the mosque and its surroundings, and shared stories and laughter in-between.

(Right photo) Mission today means building bridges of peace, compassion, and cooperation with people of all other faiths



ASIA-PACIFIC

Seirie Café: More Than Just Coffee

Sr. Cecilia, Momoko Katayama, SSpS
Province of Japan

In a repurposed kindergarten in Japan, the Missionary Sisters Servants of the Holy Spirit open a small café where coffee and conversation gently prepare the ground for the Gospel—without ever forcing it.



Since 2016, our closed kindergarten has been repurposed as the "Seirei Mission Center" (Seirei means "Holy Spirit" in Japanese) and opened to the neighborhood. Since December 2025, a café called "Seirei Café" has been held there.

The café deepens relationships within the local community. The sisters welcome guests, take their orders, and sit with them at the tables, sharing time and conversation. A warm, homey atmosphere unfolds as people gather over homemade cakes and tea, creating a natural, open space for encounter. This has helped build a community of encounters.

Many participants are not Christians, yet they return month after month. For us, this ongoing relationship with local people is new and deeply encouraging. Quietly, the café has become a place people look forward to—where they feel at ease.

There is also a talk given by a sister, prepared with those who gather in mind. Most participants are familiar with the convent in their neighborhood. Therefore, we do not directly speak about Christianity or biblical teaching but, using themes close to everyday life, gently open toward the Gospel message. For example, when the meaning behind Christmas—long celebrated culturally in Japan—is rediscovered, participants often express recognition and understanding. In this way, these stories are no longer distant religious narratives but become personally meaningful in daily life.

People from different backgrounds sit together with the sisters, sharing conversation. A quiet sense of unity beyond differences becomes visible, and "unity in diversity" is experienced in daily life.



(Top photo) A former kindergarten serves a new purpose as Mission Center, and is now known to regulars as "Seirie Café."

(Left photo) Over homemade cakes and tea, monthly visitors gather, converse, and experience a place where they have come to feel a strong sense of belonging.

(Right photo) The Sisters welcome guests, take their "orders," and sit with them — turning every get-together into real connection



One Family, Endless Faith

Sr. Lalitha Rosali, SSps – Province of India, South

On a hospital campus in India, Hindu, Christian, and Muslim patients, students, and staff pause before a statue of Mary, pray together in a Zen Zone where all symbols sit side by side, and discover that the Bhagavad Gita, Bible, and Quran all teach the same thing: love.

The campus of Holy Spirit Hospital and Institute of Nursing Education in India beautifully blends faiths and cultures. Simple daily practices foster true unity.

Who can guess anyone's religion? It does not matter. God hears all prayers. On the first floor near the operation theatre, a statue of Mother Mary offers quiet comfort. Worried families from every background pause there, holding their own faith while respecting others.

In the prayer room called the Zen Zone, symbols from all religions sit side by side in peace. Hindus, Christians, Muslims, patients, families, students, and staff come together. Students sit beside faculty; aunts pray next to uncles; visitors beside workers. Everyone finds calm. Divides fade, and shared humanity shines.

The student handbook says it best: the Bhagavad Gita, Bible, and Quran all teach one thing—love. This love unites us. Staff and students read these words and feel valued, no matter their beliefs.

The quarter-hour prayer embodies "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam," which means the whole world is one family. This inclusive practice urges everyone to pray together with open hearts. Students grow close. Staff carry peace to their work. Patients feel the care. Laughter rings out, hands join, and joyful tears fall.

Faith accepts all. It builds credibility and invites collaboration. Creativity becomes part of the mission. The campus shows diversity's true beauty: not everyone the same, but all wrapped in love. As SSps sisters, this is lived every day. One family, many ways to see God, united in service.



(Top photo) On this campus, blending faiths and cultures is not policy; it is simply how life is lived. Unity needs no introduction, it is quietly practised every day.
(Left photo) Sr. Sangeeta Toppo, SSps, celebrates the Eucharist. Every difference is welcomed to the same table. Near the operating theatre, a statue of Our Lady.
(Right photo) Hindu lamps, Christian crosses, and Buddhist dharma wheels share the space, and the peace. The Bhagavad Gita, the Bible, and the Quran open to different pages and arrive at the same word: Love.



When the Spirit Leads: Listening as Mission

Sr. Arnolda Kavanamur, SSsP – Region of Papua New Guinea

Mission begins not with a plan, but with the grace to listen — and trust that the Spirit has already gone before us.

When I was invited to facilitate the Provincial Chapter of the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart Sisters in Papua New Guinea, I hesitated. I had never facilitated a Chapter before. Yet when Sr. Dorothy Patiu said, "We will support you," I recognised the Spirit's invitation — and I said yes.

The chapter theme, "Embrace the Reality: A Call to Mission," became our shared path. Preparation itself was prayer. Reading through community and province reports, I encountered stories of resilience, struggle, and faithful service — stories that echoed our own SSsP mission. Different charisms, one mission.

In Vunapope, East New Britain Province, the opening ritual spoke deeply. On the first day, each sister, called by name, processed to the rhythm of the kundu drum, planting a seed and carrying a seedling. A simple, yet profound truth: we are rooted in reality and entrusted with life.

As facilitator of the chapter from May 3 to 9, I chose to listen. What unfolded was not a meeting but a lived liturgy — honest conversations, deep silences, and moments of grace. Embracing reality meant naming both challenges and hope. Within this, the call to mission became clear: not to do more, but to be more — more present, more faithful, more attentive, more courageous.

I came thinking I had to hold the chapter together. I left knowing the Spirit was holding all of us.

The call remains: to embrace reality with honesty, to listen before acting, to walk with people in their struggles and hopes, and to trust that the Spirit is already at work. Mission today asks not for perfection, but for presence.



(Top photo) Sr. Arnolda Kavanamur (far left, seated) with the sisters of the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart in Vunapope, East New Britain Province, PNG.
(Left photo) The sisters render a prayer in song. (Right photo) During the opening mass, the sisters dance during the offertory.





A Taiwan Girls' School Finds Mary and Mother's Day Entwined

Chen Chin-Hui - Director of General Affairs, Shuguang Girls High School - Taiwan

Shuguang Girls High School in Taiwan holds festive, yet reflective, Marian procession and flower offering program on Mother's Day 2026.

Summer is a season filled with gratitude as much as warmth. To welcome the Month of May and celebrate Mother's Day, Shuguang Girls' High School in Hsinchu, Taiwan held a "Marian Procession and Flower Offering / Blessing Ceremony" on the morning of May 8, 2026.

Organized by the Campus Ministry Office, the event was hosted by Sister Huang Shu-Hui and Principal Chen Chin-Hui. All teachers and students were invited.

The atmosphere was solemn as the school proclaimed heartfelt salutations to the Virgin Mary and to mothers everywhere. Then students, sisters, teachers, the administrative team, and the parents' representative took part in a program that was both festive and reflective, with flower offerings, prayers, and a thanksgiving ceremony.

While slowly walking around to the beautiful melody of "Ave Maria," students held flowers and blessing cards to give away. This, with prayers recited from the stage, evoked a powerful feeling that helped everyone feel the peace that can only come from maternal love. In quiet reflection, students then wrote blessings for their families, country, and the whole world..

Hosts and guests alike took away the lesson of a mother's love mirroring that of the Virgin Mary, silently giving and constantly protecting. Let us learn from this gentle strength and be thankful for everyone—anyone—who puts our welfare above theirs. Let us pray that all these mothers live in as much peace, comfort and happiness as they deserve.



(Top photo) Sr. Valentine Oei, SSpS, presides over the Dance and Flower Offering Ceremony to honor the Queen of May.

(Left photo) Sr. Felisa Liou, SSpS, Regional Leader, hands out Documents of Gratitude to Shuguang teachers and staff.

(Right photo) Students dressed in white pose for a snapshot with Sr. Josephine Chen.



Network Against Human Trafficking in Argentina

Sr. Vilma Ester Robles, SSsP – Province of Argentina North

A local rally in Buenos Aires has grown into a nationwide movement, with consecrated women and laypeople across Argentina joining forces to fight human trafficking.

This pastoral service experience within the Kawsay Argentina Network began in 2015, when the Consecrated Life community of the Northwest Argentina (NOA) Region declared the fight against human trafficking and exploitation a top priority, expanding the network beyond Buenos Aires.

Kawsay, which operates within the Argentine Conference of Religious Men and Women (CONFAR), performs its function through prevention, awareness-raising, and collaboration with other organizations to urge authorities into action. Its expansion was helped along by consecrated persons and laypeople who, deeply moved by the suffering of enslaved men, women, and children, answered the Holy Spirit's call to the task.

Following the guidelines of Talitha Kum, members pooled experiences, gifts, and charisms, organized into provincial teams, and started walking together in shared responsibility. The network conducted awareness initiatives in public, parish, and diocesan settings: training workshops, written and audio-visual

materials, and events with government and non-government organizations. Kawsay quickly became a go-to resource, thanks to members' prior experiences, willingness to learn, collective fundraising, and generous outside support

The network conducted awareness initiatives in public, parish, and diocesan settings: training workshops, written and audiovisual materials, and events with government and non-government organizations. Kawsay quickly became a go-to resource, thanks to members' prior experiences, willingness to learn, collective fundraising activities, and generous support from a non-continental congregation.

Today the network is confronted with new forms of trafficking and continues to face broken families mourning the missing. The problem remains "an open wound in the heart of the Church," with 125,000 victims worldwide, 30,000 of them minors. But Kawsay is undeterred and stays rooted in Christ's words, "I have come that they may have life, and have it abundantly" (Jn 10:10).



(Top photo) SSsP sisters and members of partner organizations take to the streets of Argentina in solidarity against human trafficking

(Left photo) Sisters bring the fight against trafficking into homes and communities through the reach of radio.

(Right photo) One clear message drives every activity: Human trafficking is a crime against the freedom that every person is entitled to.



Two Congregations, One Purpose

Sr. Maria Percila Vieira, SSpS – Province of Brazil North

In the Amazon region of Brazil, two religious congregations have joined forces to see indigenous peoples through on a mission of life, dialogue, and service.

Inter-congregational initiatives represent a growing movement within the Church in Brazil that brings together different spiritual families for projects that strengthen mission and address society's challenges. These initiatives foster missionary cooperation, better service to those most in need, and the sharing of each congregation's charisms.

The Missionary Sisters Servants of the Holy Spirit (SSpS) embraces this approach as a valuable witness to Christian unity. One example is the Awã Community in Tocantínia, Tocantins, in the heart of the Amazon Region, where sisters accompany indigenous peoples, supporting their struggles and respecting their traditions.

Sister Rosilety Cruz of the Congregation of the Most Precious Blood (IPS) relates her experience of living and working alongside the SSps. "The inter-

congregational mission allows us to immerse ourselves in the dynamism of the Holy Trinity, where communion and love are found. Being part of this mission is a great joy."

For Sr. Rosilety, diversity is a source of enrichment. "Our home is a tent whose doors are open. Our presence as an inter-congregational community is a constant quest to bring to life the words of Jesus: 'I have come that they may have life, and have it abundantly' (John 10:10)."

Sr. Maria Percila Vieira, SSps, adds that accompanying indigenous peoples means sincere welcome, active listening, and exchange of knowledge. "Being with indigenous peoples means placing ourselves at their service — supporting the strengthening of their culture, respecting their heritage, and walking with them in their struggles and achievements."



(Top photo) With the youth of St. Sebastian Parish in Tocantínia, Tocantins State, Brazil.

(Left photo) A visit with Sr. Miriam Altenhofen. (Left) Sr. Maria Percila Vieira, SSps; (Right) Sr. Rosilety Cruz, IPS

(Right photo) A mission of presence: walking with indigenous peoples, honoring their culture and accompanying their journey



Sowing and Sewing Together: Ten Years of Mission

Sr. Vilma Ester Robles, SSsP – Province of Argentina North

The SSsP presence in Los Blancos, Salta, Argentina has birthed a community that is more united, more free, and more aware of its collective strengths.

"To make us feel that we are not alone on this journey of faith." These words, simple yet profound, capture the essence of what we have experienced in Los Blancos, Salta, since the Missionary Sisters Servants of the Holy Spirit first arrived in 2013. As one of those blessed to have walked alongside them from the start, I am compelled to share what their presence has meant for our community.

To know the Sisters is to step into a mosaic of life — varying ages, nationalities, and ways of serving. Yet within that rich diversity, one purpose shines brightly: to be a living reflection of God among us. Their mission knows no boundaries. They have embraced children, young people, and adults with a genuineness that broke down cultural walls, and a dedication so inexhaustible, that indigenous and criollo people found themselves on equal ground.

As with any seed sown with deliberate care, the fruits were not immediately visible. But the Spirit works in the depths, at its own pace. Today, we witness with joy how that presence has steadily transformed our reality — a consistent reminder that perseverance is the language of love.

One vital sign of this blossoming is the Wednesday Sewing Workshop, which gathers the women from the Wichi community. Amidst fabrics, threads, and light banter, some priceless things emerge. We find time for ourselves, a space for connection. We create joy and laughter that carry us through the week.

The Sisters do not simply accompany us; they prepare us to discover our individual gifts and collective strengths, and invite us to serve according to our abilities. Thank you, Sisters, for teaching us that in faith, the greatest joy is walking together.



(Top photo) Women from the Wichi community of Los Ranchitos join the Wednesday Sewing Workshop — a space for sharing, laughter, and renewal.

(Left photo) The Sisters walk alongside every member of the community, drawing out individual abilities and inspiring people to serve.

(Right photo) No borders, no barriers — the Sisters embrace children, youth, adults, and indigenous communities with equal warmth and the same pure vision.



Sr. Veronika Theresia Remembered after 10 Years

Sr. Ewa Piegdon, SSPS – Uganda, Region of Ethiopia

Ten years after her passing, Sr. Veronika Theresia Rackova, SSPS, is being accorded supreme recognition for her sacrifice in South Sudan, which continues to inspire all who knew her.

It has been a full decade since our dear Sister Veronika, a medical missionary, was killed by a soldier's bullet after she saved a pregnant woman in labor. She was shot near a checkpoint on her way back to the convent from a hospital where she had brought the woman. Thus was a life devoted to others snuffed out on May 20, 2016 by violence, leaving unanswered questions, grief, and memories that still resonate in the missionary world.

Last May 20, Rev. Alex Lodiong Sakor Eyobo, Bishop of Yei Diocese, priests, SSPS sisters, and the faithful, gathered for a Eucharistic celebration at Sr. Veronika's grave in St. Joseph's Parish, Lutaya, Yei, South Sudan, to honor her memory and give thanks for her life and dedication, which ended in the shedding of her blood.

Church leaders and people in Yei have called her a martyr. At the death anniversary Mass, Bishop Alex announced plans to initiate a cause for her beatification. He also proposed the construction of a memorial shrine at the site where she was felled.

The event was both an occasion for mourning and celebration of the values that the beloved missionary and medic lived by.

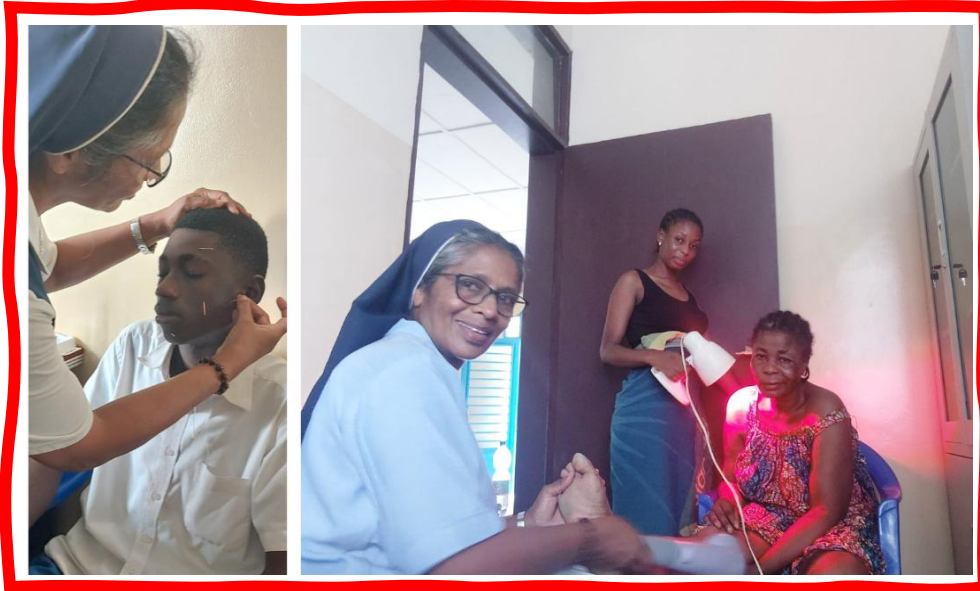
A decade later, St. Veronika continues to inspire everyone whose lives she touched through the kindnesses she shared, and in the compassion she exuded. People still speak of her love for the most vulnerable, her courage, and the comfort she brought in moments of despair. Her spirit will always live in our hearts.



(Top photo) After a memorial Mass at the graveyard of Sr. Veronika beside St. Joseph Parish in Yei, South Sudan..

(Left photo) She will be remembered for her dedication to serve mothers and children.

(Right photo) Sr. Veronika during a visit with the family of a patient.



Acupuncture Comes to Bandundu, Congo

Sr. Leema Rose Savarimuthu, SSsP – Congo, Region of Ethiopia

In Bandundu, Democratic Republic of Congo, an SSsP sister is bringing an ancient healing to bear on the chronic pain and emotional suffering of those who have long run out of options.

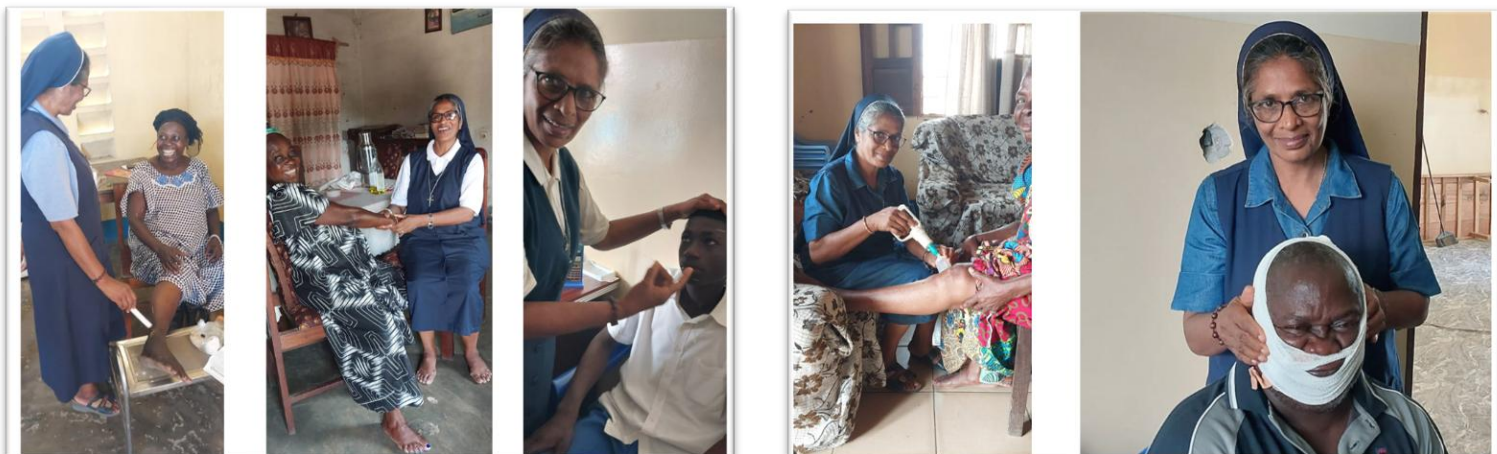
Introducing acupuncture to Bandundu was not without its challenges. When Sr. Leema Rose presented her professional credentials and demonstrated the practice to local government officials, permission was granted to offer the service in Catholic hospitals. After an initial placement in a sisters-run physiotherapy department, the SVD-run Divine Verbe Hospital formally launched the service on 29 January 2026, the Feast of St. Joseph Freinademetz.

The patients who arrive have often exhausted conventional treatments. Many carry chronic muscular and nerve pain, skin diseases, and deep emotional suffering rooted in stress and unresolved trauma. Acupuncture works on the five elements of the universe that govern the body's balance. Needles inserted at specific points release endorphins, restoring energy and emotional well-being. Cupping therapy releases blocked energy, while breathing

exercises, positive affirmations, and laughter support cognitive and spiritual recovery.

Each session becomes a psycho-spiritual encounter. As needles or cups are placed for twenty to thirty minutes, Sr. Leema Rose counsels patients, teaching them Scripture-rooted affirmations on forgiveness, healing, and hope. Most patients are Christian, and many speak of lasting relief — not just physical, but interior.

When chronic pain lifts and light returns to a patient's eyes, it is received as pure gift. Plans are already underway for a herbal garden to expand this ministry of total healing.



(Top photo) Sr. Leema Rose, SSsP, who introduced acupuncture ministry to Bandundu, Democratic Republic of Congo.

(Left photo) Patients receive acupuncture, cupping, and other therapeutic treatments at the Divine Verbe Hospital.

(Right photo) Each session offers not only physical relief but also a moment of counselling, prayer, and spiritual encounter.

Generalate News

Congregational Leadership Team



Sr. Miriam
Altenhofen



Sr. Mariana
Camezzana



Sr. Mikaelin
Bupu



Sr. Tressa
Sebastian



Sr. Kreti
Sanhueza



Sr. Natalia
Tóthova

**Staying
connected
in life and
mission**

Constitution Art. 649

The General Visitation is a special time of religious-missionary renewal for each sister and community. It helps to keep the life and work of every Sister directed towards our common goal in harmony with the Constitutions of our Congregation. The general visitation should give the general administration a realistic picture of the conditions and needs of the various areas of the Congregation.



Sr. Kreti and Sr. Mikaelin – Province of Philippines North
April 15-June 1, 2026



Sr. Mariana Camezzana – Province of USA
April 18 – June 4, 2026



Sr. Tressa and Sr. Natalia – Province of Argentina
April 30 – June 27, 2026



Sr. Mikaelin at the ASPAC Leaders' Assembly – Taiwan
June 3-11, 2026

FACTS & PHOTOS AROUND THE GLOBE



PENTECOST – Steyl, The Netherlands



TRINITY SUNDAY – Mozambique



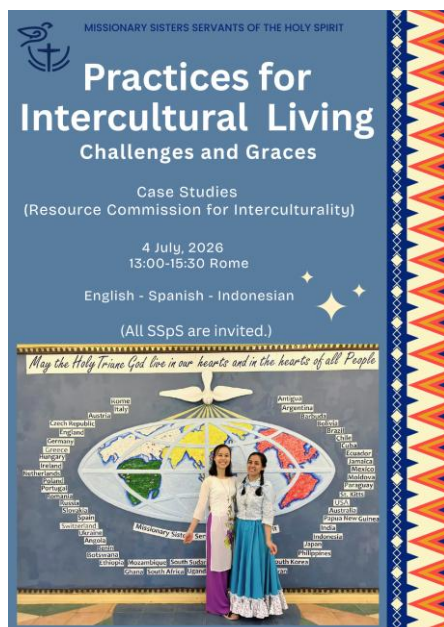
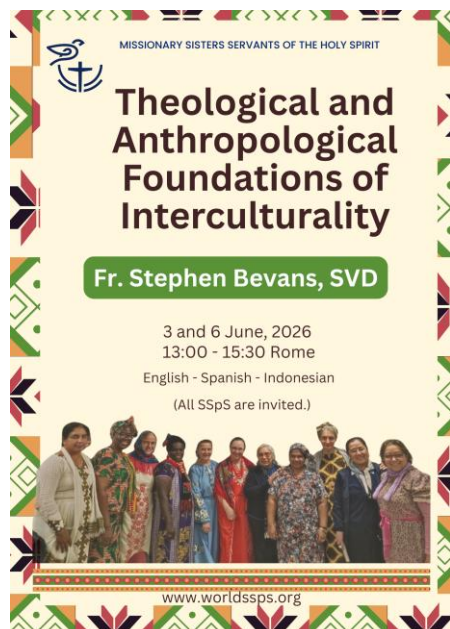
CORPUS CHRISTI – Raciborz, Poland



EUROPE Community Leaders' Assembly - Steyl



Training for Educators – Misiones, Argentina



Called by the Holy Spirit
To serve and proclaim
In so many peoples and cultures
To sow God's love

In every corner of the mission
A hope blossoming
In the strength of our vocation
We learn to live

Unity in diversity
Our mission is to love
We are the light of the Spirit
Called to serve and care
Every people, every story
It is richness in communion
We are sisters walking together
With faith in the same heart

At school, in the community
In silence or in prayer
We bring peace and hope
With tenderness and dedication

Each culture is a gift
Each life has value
Together we form a mosaic
Built by love

Guided by divine light
We continue with joy
The Spirit strengthens us
In each new day

Unity in diversity
Our path is to serve
With respect and welcome
We make love blossom
As missionary sisters
We go together Announcing

That the Holy Spirit
Calls us to unite and love

LIVING UNITY IN DIVERSITY

As we journey together through our congregational theme for 2026, Unity in Diversity, the Congregational Leadership Team organized a series of webinars to deepen this reflection.

These webinars offer a space for encounter, learning, and dialogue — exploring what it truly means to live and minister across cultures as one Congregation, animated by the same Spirit. They are an invitation to go beyond tolerance and embrace the richness that each Sister, each province, and each culture brings to our shared mission.

Our congregational website, worldssps.org, is alive with this theme. Visit it to discover the stories and personal narratives shared by Sisters from around the world — testimonies of how Unity in Diversity is being lived out in communities, ministries, and daily encounters across continents.

A song composed specially for this year's theme is now available on all congregational platforms. Listen to it, pray with it, and share it widely — you can find it on our Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube channels.

SSpSWW Team

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Formatting:	Sr. Elaine Faith Taneo, SSpS

SSpS Worldwide E-Newsletter

Thanks to all the Sisters,
Provinces and Regions who
contributed to the SSpSWW
E-Newsletter No. 218.

Contact:
sspsww@worldssps.org
Thank you!



Across Cultures, Around One Table: Far from Home, Yet at Home

Sr. Lucy Duhlman, SSsP, is an Indian missionary who arrived in Vietnam last November 2025. She celebrated for the first time the **Tết** Vietnamese new year. She shares her personal story.

The Hostels Where Diversity Finds a Home : Bridging Cultures in India. In the boarding houses of Odisha, the tears of young students leaving home give way to the laughter of a new family, forged in the rich diversity of tribe, language, and tradition.



In Taiwan, a Culture of Dialogue Turns Diversity Into Harmony.

In a small island nation where temples, churches, and mosques share the same streets, the Sisters of the Holy Spirit at Fu Jen Catholic University have spent decades turning everyday encounters into a quiet but powerful culture of interfaith dialogue.



What does unity look like when you are different? Ten sisters in a community in Korea, five nationalities, and one Spirit: A firsthand account of witnessing God's love in a divided world.

